San Diego Association of Governments - TransNet Program

INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

April 14, 2010

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 1

Action Requested: APPROVE

MEETING SUMMARY FOR THE MARCH 25, 2010, INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

File Number 1500100

Attendance

Committee Members:  
Hamid Bahadori, Chair  
John Meyer, Vice Chair  
Jesus Garcia  
Carolyn Lee  
Jim Ryan

Absent:  
Kevin Cummins  
Tracy Sandoval  
Gary Gallegos

Staff:  
Kim Kawada  
Renee Wasmund

The meeting of the TransNet Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (ITOC) was called to order by Chair Bahadori at 9:36 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY

Action: Upon a motion by Jesus Garcia and a second by Vice Chair John Meyer, the ITOC approved the February 24, 2010, meeting summary.

Mr. Garcia requested more detail in the ITOC meeting summaries, specifically to include requests made by ITOC members and a summary of any key issues raised.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS/MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

Vice Chair Meyer provided a status report on the recent meeting of the audit evaluation subcommittee and noted that interviews were scheduled for April.

The meeting was adjourned for a fire drill. Chair Bahadori reconvened the meeting at 9:56 a.m.
REPORTS (3 through 9)

3. FY 2009 TransNet INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S ANNUAL REPORT AND DRAFT AUDIT REPORTS (ACCEPT)

All recipients of TransNet funds are required to undergo an annual compliance audit. The independent audit firm of Caporicci & Larson has completed its field work and reported on the results of the FY 2009 TransNet compliance audits.

Lisa Kondrat-Dauphin, Senior Accountant (Acting), introduced the item.

Ken Pun of Caporicci & Larson presented the item.

In the discussion of the re-indexing of Maintenance of Effort (MOE) levels for future fiscal years, Chair Bahadori noted that local agencies should be aware that while their MOE were indexed to lower levels as part of the FY 2009 audit process, in future years the MOE may be increased to higher levels as well.

Action: Upon a motion by Carolyn Lee, and a second by Vice Chair Meyer, the ITOC accepted the independent auditor’s report of compliance audit results for incorporation into the ITOC draft annual report to be presented to the Transportation Committee.

4. PROPOSED FY 2011 ITOC ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET (RECOMMEND)

In accordance with the TransNet Extension Ordinance, the ITOC must submit an annual operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year to the Board of Directors for approval 90 days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year.

Ms. Kondrat-Dauphin presented the item.

Action: Upon a motion by Vice Chair Meyer and a second by Jim Ryan, the ITOC recommended that the Board of Directors approve its FY 2011 annual operating budget.

5. SENIOR MINI-GRA NT REVIEW AND PROPOSED REVISIONS TO AWARD PROCESS (DISCUSSION)

Staff reported on the status of the TransNet Senior Mini-Grant program in its first two years of operation. The report also provided recommendations on proposed amendments to the competitive grant process for the next call for Senior Mini-Grant projects, which is anticipated to occur later this year. The presentation included representatives from a sample of Senior Mini-Grant recipients.

Oswaldo Perez, Regional Planner I, presented the item.

Alane Haynes, Accessible Services Administrator, North County Transit District (NCTD), and Alana Burkett, NCTD Mobility/Travel Trainer, presented the details of the NCTD Mobility/Travel Training Program that received TransNet Senior Mini-Grant program funding.

Another grant recipient, Mac McGee, Executive Director, All Congregations Together (ACT), presented the details of the ACT ComLink Transportation Project.
The ITOC members expressed their concerns that both of these programs may not be serving a sufficient number of senior/disabled persons to be cost-effective services. The ITOC also requested that staff provide ridership and cost per ride or cost per passenger data to the ITOC as part of future status reports on the TransNet Senior Mini-Grant program. Chair Bahadori directed staff to express to the Transportation Committee the concerns of the ITOC regarding the low number of trips and people served with these two grants.

A third grant recipient, Judy Stern, Human Services Manager, City of La Mesa, presented the details of the La Mesa Rides4Neighbors Program.

The ITOC members commented that this program was an excellent example of a grant-funded project that is serving the senior/disabled community consistent with the purpose of the grant.

**Action:** This item was presented for discussion.

6. **2050 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN: PROPOSED TRANSIT SERVICES PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA AND TRANSPORTATION PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA WEIGHTINGS (DISCUSSION)**

SANDAG staff provided a report on the proposed draft evaluation criteria and criteria weightings. This will include refinements that have been made by the Transportation Project Evaluation Criteria Ad Hoc Working Group. ITOC members were asked to discuss and provide feedback on the proposed evaluation criteria and criteria weightings.

Scott Strelecki, Regional Planner II, presented the item.

Elisa Arias, Principal Regional Planner, provided additional details about how projects are ranked using the evaluation criteria and the other factors that are considered when developing the proposed RTP network alternatives and the phasing of projects and services.

**Action:** This item was presented for discussion.

7. **2008 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: AMENDMENT NO. 22 AND UPDATE ON TransNet AND PROPOSITION 1B FUNDING EXCHANGES (INFORMATION)**

On July 25, 2008, the Board of Directors adopted the 2008 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP), the multiyear program of proposed major highway, arterial, transit, and bikeway projects in the San Diego region covering the period FY 2009 to FY 2013. SANDAG processes amendments to the RTIP generally on a quarterly basis and occasionally on a more frequent basis as circumstances arise. Two projects were identified as needing an amendment due to timing related issues. The Transportation Committee is scheduled to take action on Amendment No. 22 to the 2008 RTIP at its March 19, 2010, meeting.

Michelle Merino, Financial Programming Analyst II, presented the item.

**Action:** This item was presented for information only.
8. TransNet PROGRAM REVENUE ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL MARKET STATUS (INFORMATION)

SANDAG provides a short-term forecast of revenues available under certain TransNet programs for transit and local agencies on an annual basis. This report provided the same information for the entire TransNet program for the period FY 2011 to FY 2015. This item also included the monthly briefing, which is intended to keep the ITOC informed about the latest developments in the financial markets, the economy, and the strategies we are exploring and implementing to minimize possible impacts to the TransNet program.

Sookyung Kim, Manager of Financial Programming, presented the latest revenue estimates for the transit operators and the local agencies.

Lauren Warrem, Finance Director (Acting), presented the latest developments in the financial markets and the SANDAG variable rate debt program.

Marney Cox, Chief Economist, presented updates on the forecast methodology and the state of the economy in California and the impact on our region.

Action: This item was presented for information only.

9. UPDATE ON SOLICITATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE TransNet INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (INFORMATION)

Staff provided an update on the status of the solicitation of the applications for two members on the ITOC. In addition, staff provided information about conflict of interest provisions for ITOC members.

Kim Kawada, TransNet and Legislative Affairs Program Director, introduced the item and provided an update on the recruitment process.

Julie Wiley, General Counsel, presented the information on conflict of interest provisions that apply for ITOC members.

Chair Bahadori commented that the environmental position may be difficult to fill and directed staff not to delay moving forward on filling the business position if there are a sufficient number of candidates. He stated that the recruitment efforts for the environmental position could be extended, if needed.

Action: This item was presented for information only.

10. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

The next regular ITOC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 14, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. Chair Bahadori noted that he would be in Sacramento and would not be able to attend the next ITOC meeting. He directed the clerk to poll the members for availability to meet on this date.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bahadori adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m.