



El Dorado County/City of Folsom
Joint Powers Authority Meeting Minutes



Wednesday, January 19, 2011
9:00 a.m.

El Dorado County
Library Conference Room
345 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

1. Call to Order

Director Morin called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

There was no flag in the room. The Pledge of Allegiance was waived.

3. Roll Call

Present: Director Knight, Director Sheldon and Director Morin

Absent: Director Nutting

4. Introduction of Guests

Individuals will introduce themselves as they present.

5. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 26, 2010, meeting were unanimously approved.

6. Status of Active Development Projects and Long-Range Projects in Each Jurisdiction

A. Folsom Sphere of Influence and Pending Annexation

Everett Palmer, Assistant City Manager/Administrative Services Director, City of Folsom, presented. The EIR will be released for public review on or about May 1. Public review will last 30 days. The next step will be certification by City of Folsom City Counsel. The EIR is planned for submission to LAFCO by the end of summer 2011. Final annexation should be completed by the end of this calendar year.

7. Transportation Planning

A. Capital South East Connector Status

Richard Lorenz, Public Works Director, City of Folsom, presented. The administrative draft EIR is nearly complete and will be released for public review in the next few months. Staff is working closely with impacted/concerned communities in various jurisdictions. Meetings have occurred in El Dorado County with residents and businesses along White Rock Road. Staff also met with citizens in the Sheldon area. The Connector JPA recently met with representatives from Four Seasons. Director Knight asked if the changes in the SACOG Metropolitan Transportation Plan impacted this project. Mr. Lorenz replied that a dialog between Connector staff and SACOG continues and work is in progress.

B. Status of 50 Mobility Coalition

Mr. Lorenz presented. The coalition was formed several years ago as a public/private partnership whose goal is the support and promotion of projects designed to relieve congestion along the Highway 50 corridor. The coalition includes El Dorado County, City of Folsom, Sacramento County and, until recently, the City of Rancho Cordova. Progress has been made. Current efforts center around securing funding for future projects. Funding sources include State and Federal grants and fee programs. Folsom is currently developing a fee program. Grant funds already received are managed by Sacramento County. The location of the current project is White Rock Road between Prairie City Road and Scott Road.

Mike McDougal, MGM properties, spoke. MGM properties is one of the original private-sector members of the Highway 50 Mobility Coalition. Mr. McDougal hopes Rancho Cordova will return to the coalition. He also feels that an update on the Coalition should be presented to the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors. MGM advocates fee programs in all jurisdictions, with each jurisdiction's contribution varying based on location of the project.

Martha Lofgren, Brewer Lofgren LLP, spoke. Her organization has been involved with the Coalition since inception. She feels that help is needed from City of Folsom and El Dorado County officials to encourage the City of Rancho Cordova to re-join the Coalition. The Directors agreed to discuss the Coalition with their colleagues at the City of Rancho Cordova.

Jim Ware, Director, El Dorado County Department of Transportation, stated that DOT plans to present an update to the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors this spring regarding the Coalition, progress made and upcoming plans. Mr. Ware added that El Dorado County received a grant of \$20 million in CMIA funding. This represents approximately 50 percent of the current project costs.

8. El Dorado County Transportation Projects

A. Update on U.S. 50 Auxiliary Lanes

Mr. Ware presented. The contractor is working within the prescribed time limits. Minor delays have occurred due to weather conditions and change orders. Four lanes have been maintained at all times throughout the project. Of the \$20 million allocated for the project, \$4.5 million remained unspent. These funds were reallocated and a change order was approved by CalTrans to continue the SOV lanes almost to Cambridge Road. The project should be completed in the fall of 2011.

B. Silva Valley Parkway Interchange

Mr. Ware continued. The original EIR for the project was approved 20 years ago. A supplement to the original EIR is being finalized and will be issued shortly. DOT is aggressively pursuing the project. Director Knight and Mr. Ware have met with CalTrans to advance the project. There was public comment in favor of plans to continue the bike trails under Silva Valley Road. In response to a question, Mr. Ware explained the new project will include eight-foot shoulders that will be used by bicycle traffic.

C. Saratoga Way

Mr. Ware continued. The project encompasses Saratoga Way from Iron Point Road into El Dorado County. The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors approved the administrative draft EIR. After considerable public comment, DOT asked the BOS to vacate approval due to lack of sufficient funding necessary for responding to the public comments. The project is indefinitely suspended until development impact fees recover and provide funding.

Director Knight raised discussion of Agenda item 10 B – Bike Path Connection Between Iron Point Road and Saratoga Way. Director Knight supports a partnership between El Dorado County and the City of Folsom to create a commuter bike lane linking Saratoga Way with the Silva Valley Parkway. Director Knight suggested that staff could work with the owner of the public property in the area to obtain right-of-way access. The El Dorado Hills Community Services District is also interested in moving this project forward. Director Morin expressed concern that a public outcry may arise if the bike path is constructed now and removed in later years for road expansion. Director Knight suggested that a bike path could be a component of the future road project.

D. White Rock Road

Mr. Ware continued. A State and local partnership grant supplied funding. A traffic light is being installed at the shopping center access, to replace the four-way stop. A grant was also received to widen Silva Valley Parkway just north of Highway 50.

9. Folsom Transportation Projects

A. Empire Ranch Road Interchange

Mr. Lorenz presented. Several years ago, it was thought that Empire Ranch Road would be the next project. However, priorities have shifted and the Oak Avenue Interchange is the current focus. Other priority areas for improvements include Prairie City Road to Scott Road and Bidwell to Scott Road. Empire Ranch Road will be a key project in the future. Director Knight was initially concerned about the reprioritization. However, modeling by CalTrans for access to the El Dorado Hills Business Park from a South-Westerly direction has alleviated his concerns.

B. White Rock Road

Mr. Lorenz continued. Current efforts are associated with the Folsom SOI, ensuring that future improvements align with South East Capital Connector Corridor efforts.

C. Rock Quarries on White Rock Road

Mr. Lorenz continued. A truck route management plan is currently being developed. The plan will identify routes to minimize impacts to the SOI area. Weekly meetings are currently occurring and progress is being made.

D. Roads South of White Rock Road

This item relates to item C above. The update above applies.

10. Discussion/Information

A. Trails and Rails

Director Morin explained that this item relates to the historic rail line between Latrobe Road and Shingle Springs. Mr. Lorenz stated that the City of Folsom is

actively pursuing a multi-use transportation corridor that includes pedestrian routes, bike routes and rail access. A number of groups have expressed interest in preserving and using the historic route. The Sacramento/Placerville Transportation Corridor JPA is working to preserve the route during development activity. Director Morin suggested this item remain on the agenda. Director Knight suggested the executive director of the Sacramento/Placerville Transportation Corridor JPA be invited to the next meeting to address this topic.

B. Bike Path connection between Iron Point Road and Saratoga Road

Clerk's Note: This item was addressed at Agenda item 8 c.

C. Folsom Dam Activity – Green Valley Road and Blue Ravine Road

Mr. Lorenz presented. The project is administered by the Bureau of Reclamation in concert with the Corps of Engineers. The Mormon Valley Dam is the focus of the project. Initially, the plan involved closures of Green Valley Road. A new plan involves a different construction technique that will limit impacts to traffic. Green Valley Road will not be closed. Limited one-way closures will occur during non-peak hours. Director Knight asked if the project will include widening Green Valley Road. Mr. Lorenz replied that the project includes widening Green Valley Road beginning at the intersection of Natoma Road and ending at the El Dorado County line. Director Knight considers this project, along with the continuation of the bike trails, to be high priorities for El Dorado County and the City of Folsom. A member of the public noted that the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce is in the process of identifying projects to support. She feels they would be interested in this process and urged the JPA to contact the Chamber as soon as possible.

11. Public Comment

Bill Bryant commented on Mather Airport. Sacramento County released its financial statement which included funding for Mather Airport. The draft EIR is available for public comment. According to Mr. Bryant's observations, airplanes land at Mather Airport every three minutes, throughout the day and night.

Jim Hartwood, Director of Development, Placerville and Sacramento Valley Railroad, reported that the current plan is for excursion services to operate from Iron Point Road initially to Carson Creek and Deer Creek Bridge. The service is planned for expansion to Latrobe Road by the end of 2011. Eventually, service will connect to Shingle Springs.

Mr. Ware stated that the Highway 50 Mobility Coalition has written letters in support of a number of transportation grants in the region.

12. Communications

There were no communications items to present.

13. Next Meeting

A. Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed for April 20, 2011, City of Folsom, City Council Chambers, 50 Natoma Street, Folsom, CA 95630.

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