ALAMEDA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS'
TRANSPORTATION/ PLANNING COMMITTEE

Monday, July 31, 2017
9:30 a.m.

Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Chair
Supervisor Nate Miley

Location Board of Supervisors Chamber – 5th Floor
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Summary/Action Minutes

I. Update on SB-1, Transportation Funding for Unincorporated Alameda County
Attachment

Daniel Woldesenbet, Director, Public Works Agency, presented a PowerPoint presentation on SB-1 Transportation Funding for Alameda County.

SB-1, Transportation Funding Bill will provide $5.2 billion a year for funding transportation projects statewide. It includes a .12 cents per gallon gas excise tax increase, .20 cents per gallon diesel excise tax increase, a $25-$175 annual “Transportation Improvement Fee” based on vehicle value. $100 annual fee for zero emission vehicles, reset price based excise tax at .17 cents per gallon. The new fuel taxes are set to begin in November 2017, with the value-based transportation improvement fee beginning in the Spring of 2018. The price-based excise tax will be rest on July 1, 2019 and the new zero emissions vehicles fee will begin in 2020.

Purpose:
☑ Report progress
☐ Advocacy or Education
☐ Request Transportation and Planning Committee recommendation
☐ Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

II. Discussion of Positive and Negative Impacts of Measure D on Agriculture
Attachment

Liz McElligott, Assistant Director, Community Development Agency, presented a memorandum regarding a discussion of positive and negative impacts of Measure D on Agriculture.

The save Agriculture and Open Space Lands Initiative (Measure D), approved by the Alameda County electorate in November 200, amended portions of the East County Area Plan (ECAP) and the Castro Valley General Plan (CVGP) pertaining to agriculture and open space. The first stated purpose of the Measure D is “to preserve and enhance agriculture and agricultural lands and to protect the natural qualities, the wildlife habitats and the watersheds from excessive or harmful developments. Staff has been asked to explore whether the Measure D has been successful in fulfilling its purpose or if unintended consequences have negatively impacted agriculture over the almost 17 years the Initiative has been in effect; and to develop options the County can consider to address any negative impacts that may have occurred.

Section 23 of Measure D states that, “The provisions of this ordinance may be changed only by vote of the people of Alameda County, but adds that “The Board may also make technical or non-substantive modifications to the terms of the ordinance for purposes of reorganization, clarification or formal consistency within a Plan.”
Options for the Board to consider for any modifications to Measure D include:

1) Change Measure D through a technical non-substantive amendment
2) Change the definition of the type of structure to which the Floor Area Ratio provisions of Measure D apply
3) Amend Measure D through a ballot initiative

The Community Development agency requests the Transportation & Planning Committee to take public testimony and provide direction to staff on how to proceed with potential amendments to Measure D.

Speakers

Rex Warren stated that he and others are asking for changes to be made to enhance the economic viability of sustainable agriculture in the County, specifically an increase in the agricultural enhancing commercial uses as defined by the ordinance to accommodate the 21st century agricultural industry including cannabis industry, microbreweries and accessory dwelling units.

Chuck Moore, land owner, stated that he is very much involved in agriculture in the community. He believes that the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) is hurting the agricultural community and Alameda County is losing businesses to other counties. Mr. Moore supports making changes to Measure D to enhance agriculture.

Larry Gosselin, land owner, stated that Measure D fails to meet its stated purpose. Mr. Gosselin supports convening a stakeholder group, including a part-time staff member who is an Ag advocate to develop an agriculture enhancement strategy.

Jean King thanked the staff for their report and noted that Measure D can only be changed through a ballot initiative.

Amy Roth, land owner and business operator outside of Alameda County, supports the Eastern County community; since Measure D’s passage the ag community has faced challenging definitions in Measure D and supports the land owners affected by Measure D.

Chuck Campos supports convening a stakeholders group with an agricultural expert included.

Dianna Hanna supports a ballot initiative to make any changes to Measure D.

Dick Schneider supports ballot initiative to make any changes to Measure D, however he is amenable to convening a stakeholders group to discuss Measure D.

Purpose:

☐ Report progress
☐ Advocacy or Education
☒ Request Transportation and Planning Committee recommendation
☐ Other:

Recommendation from Transportation & Planning Committee: The Community Development Agency will return to the Transportation and Planning Committee with the proposed formation of a stakeholder group to discuss impacts of Measure D on Agriculture and a timeline.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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