



El Dorado County/City of Folsom
Joint Powers Authority Meeting



Wednesday, April 15, 2009
9:00 a.m.

**El Dorado County Development Services Department
2850 Fairlane Court
Placerville, CA 95667**

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- I. Call to Order: Director Morin called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.
 - II. Pledge of Allegiance was waived as there was no flag in the meeting room.
 - III. Roll Call
Present: Director Morin, Director Sheldon, Director Knight, and Director Nutting
Absent: None
Staff Present – City of Folsom: Dave Miller, Community Development Director, Gail Furness dePardo, Planning Manager, and Tom Garcia, Senior Transportation Engineer, Public Works
El Dorado County: Roger Trout, Development Services Director, Jim Ware, Transportation Department Director, and Russell Nygaard, Deputy Transportation Director
 - IV. Introduction of Guests: Paul Raveling, El Dorado Hills Citizens Alliance and Bill Bryant
 - V. Approval of Minutes: July 16, 2008.

Director Morin was the only current member of the JPA who was also a member on July 16, 2008. Therefore, approval of the Minutes will not be possible. Director Morin informed that the Minutes are accurate and they were circulated for informational purposes.
 - VI. Status of Active Development Projects and Long-Range Projects in Each Jurisdiction

A. Red Hawk Casino Opening

Roger Trout provided a summary of the Red Hawk Casino Opening. The El Dorado County fought the opening of the casino for several years. In September 2006, a settlement agreement was reached between the County and the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians. The Red Hawk Casino opened in September 2008. The most dramatic impact of the opening was traffic along Highway 50 at the casino off-ramp the days of the two grand openings. Planning has received a number of inquires regarding hotel development since the casino opened. To date, no permit applications have been received.

An upcoming project from El Dorado County Development Services is an update to the County Zoning Ordinance. Public hearings on the proposed revisions will be held in 2010.

Mr. Trout reported that El Dorado County expected to see an upturn in permit activity in March, April and May, 2009. This increase has not yet been seen. Director Morin reported that Folsom has seen a recent increase in permit activity. Folsom attributes their increase to a rush to file permits before a fee increase which will be implemented at the end of April.

B. Folsom Sphere of Influence

David Miller, City of Folsom Community Services Director, presented a summary of current and proposed activity. Color maps of the Sphere of Influence (SOI) were circulated. Quarry truck traffic is a major issue. Up to 20,000 trucks per day move through the SOI. Rail and conveyor options, for at least part of the distance, are being considered. Currently, there exist only three access roads to Highway 50: Prairie City Road, Oak Avenue and Scott Road. Other land routes are also being considered.

Supervisor Nutting feels that there should be an expressway through the SOI. Director Sheldon explained that Easton Valley Parkway runs parallel to Highway 50 and is being constructed as an expressway. BRT (bus rapid transport) lanes have been planned along the route.

Director Nutting asked if extending the light rail along Highway 50 into El Dorado County has been explored. Tom Garcia, City of Folsom Senior Transportation Engineer, replied that a study was conducted and is still on the books. Nothing precludes an extension of light rail somewhere down the line. The BRT lanes can be converted to light rail.

Russell Nygaard, El Dorado County Department of Transportation Deputy Director, stated that studies conducted by El Dorado County DOT consider the SOI and impact on traffic.

VII. Transportation Planning

A. S.E. Capital Connector Status

Mr. Garcia presented the status report. The EIR contract has been awarded. El Dorado Hills outreach has begun. EIR plans have been submitted to the Sacramento Board of Supervisors for the plan to widen White Rock Road. Bill Raveling does not think that White Rock Road is viable for the connector. Folsom and the City of Rancho Cordova are in the planning phase for an expressway or limited access road. There is a high level of interest in the communities for a connector road, with the jurisdictions interested in working together.

B. Status of 50 Mobility Coalition

Mr. Garcia reported that meetings are ongoing. Work focuses on prioritization of projects. The plan is for development fees to pay for projects. All jurisdictions, from Elk Grove to El Dorado Hills, have indicated interest in working together, with both private and public support.

VIII. El Dorado County Transportation Projects

A. Update on U.S. 50 HOV Lanes

Jim Ware, El Dorado County Transportation Department Director, presented the summary. The contract for Phase 1 (El Dorado Hills to Bass Lake Grade) was awarded last fall. DOT is currently working through minor construction issues that were in place before the project began. Project is moving forward.

Another project, that will be listed in the next few months, runs from Bass Lake Road to Cameron Park. Tribal revenue will provide funding.

B. Silva Valley Parkway Interchange

Mr. Ware reported that the traffic study is now completed. This was the last hurdle to recertify the EIR that was created in 1989/1990. DOT is currently moving forward with the new traffic study. Geometrical approval drawings are in their final stage. The timeframe of the EIR will be determined once it is determined what the EIR revisions must include, addendum or supplemental. Half of the funds for the project are set aside from TIM fees. A number of local road projects have to be completed before work on the interchange can commence. These projects are being pushed forward right now.

C. Saratoga Way

Mr. Ware stated that the EIR draft will be released for public comment shortly. Design plans are 30 to 50 percent complete. The project is funded by TIM fees and is currently on hold because of a decrease in TIM fee revenue. Citizens are anxious for the completion of the project. Director Sheldon stated that this project, once completed, will assist with traffic moving to the Folsom businesses.

D. White Rock Road

Mr. Ware reported that phases including four lanes from Manchester Drive to Latrobe Road and two east bound lanes from the El Dorado County line to Manchester Drive are now completed. The remaining phase includes two west bound lanes extending to the county line. Director Morin asked about the massive work on Latrobe Road. Mr. Ware reported that Latrobe Road was widened from four to six lanes from White Rock Road to Highway 50. Also, Latrobe Road is being widened from entrance two to entrance three into the business park and some curves are being straightened.

IX. Folsom Transportation Projects

A. Empire Ranch Interchange

Mr. Garcia reported that the EIR is complete. Initial plans were to move forward on this project. However, when the SOI progressed in its planning, it showed that the Empire Ranch Interchange was last on the list of priorities. The first project will be improvements to the Bidwell Interchange, allowing for truck traffic and increased circulation for commercial development along the Highway 50 corridor. The next project will be work on a new interchange on Oak Avenue, a major undertaking for the City. The SOI pushes need for Empire Ranch Interchange to 2027.

B. White Rock Road

Mr. Garcia summarized current progress. The final EIR has been issued. Concerns regarding SOI access roads are currently being resolved. The first phase will be from Sunrise to Prairie City Road. Director Knight asked for a presentation on the scope and timing of the project at the next meeting. Mr. Garcia will provide.

C. Rock Quarries on White Rock Road

This issue was discussed in Item VI. B., above. Director Nutting asked for clarification on the volume of aggregate that move along El Dorado County roads. Mr. Miller stated that 30 percent of the aggregate moved along El Dorado County roads. Mr. Garcia reported on the three quarries projects. Teichert has circulated the EIR for comments. Folsom and others

have submitted comment letters. These letters will be provided to the El Dorado County Directors. It is anticipated that production at Teichert will commence in 2010. Granite is conducting the EIR study. DeSilva Gates has begun work on their EIR.

D. Roads South of White Rock Road

Mr. Garcia reports that the City of Folsom is working with Sacramento County to realign Scott Road and others to align with Prairie City Road.

X. Public Comments

Bill Bryant expressed concern that the noise issue at Mather is not on the Agenda. Ms. Furness dePardo stated that no update was available for this meeting. Folsom staff has met locally with the FAA to look at flight arrival alternatives. A subsequent conference call is scheduled for this week and more information will be available for the next JPA meeting. Director Nutting requested a chronology of events and outline of the Mather noise issue.

Paul Raveling, El Dorado Hills Citizens Alliance, stated that there is an annoyance problem at Mather, not noise problem. He has developed a PowerPoint presentation and requests inclusion on a future Agenda to present. Mr. Raveling also feels that El Dorado Hills Citizens are under represented in local affairs. Supervisor Knight took exception to the comment as he represents the citizens of El Dorado Hills.

VIII. Communications - None

IX. Next Meeting

A. Next Meeting

The next meeting would regularly be scheduled for July 15, 2009. Director Knight cannot attend on this date. Staff will poll members for an alternate meeting date.

B. Items for Next Agenda

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair.

X. Miscellaneous

Director Nutting asked if the City of Folsom anticipated property tax growth for the next fiscal year. Director Morin stated that the projection is flat-line. Housing values have dropped some, but an increase in commercial activity has made up for some of this drop. Sales tax projections are worse due to store closings, notably in the Folsom Auto Mall.

Director Nutting solicited support for Assembly Bill 1066. The Bill extends the Timber Harvest Plan from three years to 10 years. Director Nutting encouraged those present to call Nancy Skinner's office to express support of the Bill. Director Morin asked Director Nutting to have information forwarded to his office and he will be happy to assist.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.