

Willowbank County Service Area (WCSA) Advisory Committee

Minutes of the Meeting Held January 19, 2021

Meeting conducted via Zoom, Hosted by Julie Auger

1.	Call to Order: Committee Chair Woods called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.
	Committee Members Present: Liz McCapes, Brian Morrissey, Kent Calfee, Anne Todgham and Olin Woods
	Members Absent: Joanne Roy
	Recording Secretary: Michael Curry
2.	Guests: District 4 Supervisor Jim Provenza, Deputy Supervisor Rich Reed, Temporary County Service Area Liaison Patricia Valenzuela, Caltrans District 3 Deputy District Director Sue Takhar, Caltrans Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Planning Mangers (CMCP) Dianira Soto and John Zu, and Caltrans I-80 Managed Lane Project Manager Jess Avilla
3.	Approval of the minutes. Chair Woods announced that a resident had suggested that Item 5, the Supervisor's Report, be amended to reflect that Mr. Provenza's comments about possible changes in the ordinance were directed to the green waste pick up ordinance and not to the enforcement ordinance. The minutes were adjusted for clarity. MSP (Calfee/McCapes)
4.	Public comments - None
5.	Supervisor's Report: Provenza. District 4 Supervisor reported on the status of COVID-19 vaccinations. The highest priority will be for health care providers; next will be individuals over 65 years of age. At this point vaccinations have been distributed to all County nursing homes. Most of the allotment of vaccines will be distributed to the County's major health care providers, UC Davis, Dignity, Kaiser, and Sutter. The County's focus will be on hard-to-reach populations. The County's goal is to help people and businesses to make it through the pandemic crisis, and to see to it that everyone has access to the vaccine. Provenza reports that the County Health Officer is doing a very good job. Cannabis: There are unresolved issues with respect to the production of cannabis. Central among those is the issue of the minimum distance between residential areas and production facilities. Distances from 600 ft to 1,000 ft have been suggested

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	<p>for rural areas, but the South Davis Citizens Advisory Committee (composed of City and County appointees from the area south of I-80 in Supervisorial District 4) has suggested distances as great as 3,500 feet.</p> <p>Among the major issues in this discussion are crime (Robbery, shooting, burglary, and car chases; in effect, activities that are not routinely found in residential areas.) and odor. Some people hold that the crime issue will be of less significance once it becomes possible for producers to operate in a non-cash system. Among other issues: How many cultivators should be allowed (the maximum now is 78, though only 48 are in production), and whether ancillary activities, such as processing, which may also raise the issue of odor, should be allowed. There will be an open meeting about these issues, and Supervisor Provenza will let WCSA residents know when it is scheduled.</p> <p>Question from the public: Bryan Morrissey, Committee Member, asked whether there is a technology to measure odor. Response: The County will in fact be using a meter to measure the odor produced and will notify growers whose operations are non-compliant.</p> <p>Mr. Provenza recognized Patricia Valenzuela, who will be substituting for CSA Liaison Kim Villa while Ms. Villa is on temporary leave of absence returning in May. Ms. Valenzuela may be contacted at patricia.valenzuela@yolocounty.org</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Caltrans’s I-80 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan (CMCP) and the I-80 Managed Lane Project – Chair Woods introduced this item by acknowledging Caltrans District 3 Director Amarjeet Benipal for asking high level staff to attend the WCSA meeting: Deputy Director Sue Takhar and the respective managers for both the CMCP and I-80 Managed Lane projects were in attendance. Presenting the CMCP were Dianira Soto and John Xu, Caltrans Corridor Planning Managers on Caltrans’s long-range planning document for the approximately 70-mile I-80 segment in Solano, Yolo, and Sacramento Counties. Making the second presentation on the I-80 Managed Lane Project was Jess Avila, Project Manager (PM).</p> <p>Sue Takhar stated that this item would address two current efforts underway by Caltrans, the first, the I-80 CMCP, a planning study with a twenty-year horizon, as required by Federal law. She pointed out that this CMCP will assist in determining multimodal project needs that could be considered as future projects on the approximately 70-mile segment between the Carquinez Bridge and Sacramento Ms. Takhar indicated Jess Avila would present on the Yolo 80 Managed Lane project which is currently underway to design and construct a congestion</p>

relief improvement which will likely result in adding a managed lane from Vacaville through Yolo County to Sacramento.

Ms. Soto, representing the Caltrans office that supports the Sacramento region stated that the draft CMCP report notes that heavy commuter and weekend recreational traffic on I-80 between the Sacramento region and the Bay Area and includes Amtrak's Capitol Corridor train, the busiest rail passenger route on the West Coast (and is the third busiest in the country). The report is necessary element of Caltran's creation of a plan that will reduce congestion and pollution and take advantage of financial and other support from Federal, State, and regional sources. Ms. Soto commented that is expected that the I-80 CMCP is will be completed by November 2021.

Ms. Soto as well as Mr. Xu, representing the Caltrans Bay Area portion of the project in Solano County, emphasized the multimodal aspects of the project, which include not just auto and truck traffic, but also address travel by bus, rail, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities. The two CMCP presenters also mentioned the formation of a very large stakeholders group which includes the participation of the Yolo County Public Works Director and the City of Davis.

At the conclusion of the comprehensive and well-organized report, engaged WCSA Committee Members and residents provided a variety of far-ranging, practical, and creative comments. Artie Lawyer commented that, while his observations might be more germane to the I-80 Managed Lane Project, that he encouraged both the CMCP and the Managed Lane Project planners to strongly consider sound walls along the route between Richards Blvd and Mace Blvd. This comment elicited support from Committee members as well as the public in attendance.

Kent Calfee, recognizing the current right of way constraints along I-80, urged the CMCP planners to consider a second, parallel alignment north or south of the current I-80 freeway which could serve as a bypass for through traffic that could originate at a logical point west of Yolo County and terminate at a suitable location East of Davis, say in West Sacramento at the junction of I-80 and Business 80.

Brian Morrissey commented that, in this COVID period when I-80 traffic volumes have been dramatically altered, it is important for Caltrans to find ways to cope with the inherent forecasting complications. He wondered if the CMCP could be flexible enough to take into account the significant complexity of what the Department is trying to accomplish. Later in the

discussion, Morrissey suggested that perhaps more sophisticated tools be used in the modeling effort; for example, using cell phones to track travel through the corridor.

Marcia Kreith commented that, while it is important to consider multimodal solutions, the reality is that, based on her personal experience, it is very difficult to take public transportation to Sacramento and then make one or two transfers to get to your destination. The time and effort it takes is not acceptable.

Some of the comments by Committee members and Supervisor Provenza led to a discussion of the impacts of I-80 congestion on local congestion problems, specifically, the Mace Mess and what kind of relief could the Managed Lane Project offer to City and County Residents. This is clearly a case where congestion on a mainline Caltrans freeway has, in concert with Google Maps and Waze, created a severe local congestion problem. Supervisor Provenza also expressed concerns about the Davis “choke point” on I-80 in the eastbound direction that occurs at the junction with Hwy 113 where six lanes go to three and problems with the Richards on and off-ramps in the westbound direction. Caltrans PM Jess Avila responded that the Department is aware of these problems and they are being considered as part of the Managed Lane Project. Mr. Provenza indicated that he would continue to raise these issues with the Yolo County Public Works Director and directly through appropriate Caltrans channels. Avila commented that the Managed Lane Project should create better flow on I-80 which should help alleviate problems on Mace, the I-80/Hwy113 choke point, and Richards Blvd.

NOTE: Comments/Questions on the CMCP and Managed Lane Project can be directed respectively to Dianira Soto (dianira.soto@dot.ca.gov) and Nawid Nessar (Nawid.Nessar@dot.ca.gov). Nawid has taken Jesse Avila’s place as the I-80 Managed Lanes PM.

7.

Mace Blvd. Update—Recording Secretary Michael Curry and Committee Member Liz McCapes attended a January 15th meeting of the Mace Reboot Committee formed by Supervisor Provenza. Curry indicated that the various problems with the current proposed, re-design of the Mace Blvd. project were discussed by the group at its recent session, as follows:

When Mace is experiencing heaving traffic due to rerouted eastbound traffic from I-80, El Macero residents are basically trapped at the Main Entrance and to some degree at the South Entrance as well; one lane of traffic in each direction on Mace is insufficient when traffic has been rerouted.

	<p>There is room for both bike lanes and two lanes of vehicular traffic in both directions on Mace, but it would require removal of a line of trees in one location (causing concern for some);</p> <p>While the City is now in favor of a traffic signal at Mace and Montgomery makes sense, it has become evident that signalization intersection at this location is a problem for residents and businesses south of Montgomery, who are trapped when traffic is shunted from westbound I-80 at Middlefield Rd or Tremont near Dixon.</p> <p>Supervisor Provenza commented that, while he thinks there will be an eventual solution, but that it will not be easy to get to a solution and that it will take time and cooperation.</p> <p>Committee Member McCapes indicated that there are solutions, but that some parties may need to give up certain landscaping amenities in favor of providing free flowing vehicular as well as bike traffic, emergency health/safety vehicles, and agricultural equipment.</p> <p>Committee Member Calfee suggested a possible solution to the backup at Montgomery and Mace, which would be to relocate the traffic signal proposed for Montgomery and Mace to Tremont and Mace. Provenza commented that the provision of electricity has been a problem when this solution had been proposed in the past and also a lack of apparent interest from Solano County. He indicated that it may be time to revisit the issue with officials in Solano County. He also indicated that additional participation by City residents would be helpful and that an introductory meeting with the new City Council member from South Davis is planned.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Proposed revision to Recording Secretary Policy--The Chair presented suggested changes by County Counsel Eric May to eliminate multiple reviews, which are probably not a problem, but could be perceived as a Brown Act infringement. MSP (Calfee/Morrissey)</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Budget update—Woods reported that the WCSA fund balance is approximately \$7,172.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Water rates—Calfee reported that the forthcoming Davis water rate plan will be discussed at the City Council’s May meeting. In the meantime, Calfee and Woods are very actively continuing efforts to justify a reduction in water rates for the WCSA.</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Election of Officers Olin Woods was elected Chair. MSP (Calfee/Morrissey).</p>

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	Due to lack of nominations, election of the Vice Chair position was carried over to the March 16th meeting by consensus.
12.	Marcia Kreith: A going away salute to former Vice Chair Marcia Kreith as well as the routine WCSA Advisory Committee Member Comments —The Chair and Committee Members offered salutary comments to former Vice Chair Kreith, thanking her for her service and good wishes for the future. The Chair reminded Members and residents that there is now a vacant seat on the Committee from Oakside and that interested parties should get their applications to the County ASAP. He also announced that the Yolo County Transportation District (Yolobus) has a vacancy on its Citizens Advisory Committee. Interested parties should contact General Manager Terry Bassett (tbassett@yctd.org).
13.	Adjournment to the Next Regularly Scheduled WCSA Advisory Committee Meeting via Zoom: <u>Tuesday, March 16th</u>