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**TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD**

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Meeting Date: September 15, 2009 **Start Time:** 2:05 p.m. **Adjournment:** 3:31 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Linda L. Koop (Chair), Sheffie Kadane (Vice Chair), Jerry Allen, Tennell Atkins, Carolyn R. Davis, Angela Hunt, Delia Jasso, Pauline Medrano, Ron Natinsky, Vonciel Jones Hill

Committee Members Absent:

None

Other Council Members Present:

Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine Caraway

City Executive Staff Present:

Jill Jordan, Assistant City Manager
A.C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager

TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes for August 11, 2009 and August 25, 2009

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Motion was made to approve the corrected minutes for the August 11, 2009 meeting subject to any further corrections. Corrected minutes were approved as submitted.

Made by: Kadane Seconded by: Atkins Passed unanimously

Motion was made to approve the minutes for the August 25, 2009 meeting subject to corrections. Ms. Hill requested that the minutes be revised to remove hyphen in her name. The minutes were approved with the correction to Ms. Hill name.

Made by: Atkins Seconded by: Kadane Passed unanimously

2. RTC Sustainable Development Call for Projects – Project Recommendations

Presenters: John Brunk, Assistant Director, Public Works and Transportation
PM Summer, Senior Planner, Public Works and Transportation

Mr. Summer provided an overview of the RTC Sustainable Development Program, and briefed to the Committee on the process used to solicit private sector project proposals then evaluate and rank the projects. Staff asked the Committee to endorse the recommended projects for submission to NCTCOG by the October 2, 2009 deadline. Karl Stundins and Sue Housel from Economic Development helped answer Committee questions on specific projects.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Ms. Davis asked if all the projects submitted were around train or light rail transit stations. Mr. Summer confirmed that many were near rail transit stations, however, some were located along bus routes as well. Ms. Davis asked if all the submitted projects would be awarded funding. Mr. Summer stated that it was likely that only about a third of the submitted projects would be approved for funding. He explained that the City's recommended projects would be submitted to the North Central Texas Council of Governments for review. The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) would then decide which projects would be funded.

Motion was made to endorse the recommended project list as presented to the Committee.

Made by: Allen Seconded by: Davis Passed unanimously

3. Taxicab Task Force Status Report – Temporary Modification of Insurance and Age Limit Requirements

Presenter: John Brunk, Assistant Director, Public Works and Transportation

Due to a conflict of interest, Ms. Koop was not present in the briefing room for this item.

Mr. Brunk provided an update on the Taxicab Task Force and presented a proposal to temporarily modify insurance and age limit requirements that was originally presented to the Committee on June 8, 2009. Staff requested that the Committee either endorse the changes and move it forward to full Council, or reject the proposals and instruct the Taxicab Task Force to continue its work.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

Mr. Kadane asked if the City of Dallas changes its insurance requirements such that they don't match the requirements of DFW Airport, can Dallas taxicabs still serve the airport. Mr. Brunk stated that if the Dallas Council takes action to change the current insurance requirements, the proposal would be taken to the Airport Board for their consideration. However, DFW Airport representatives have stated that they will not change their insurance requirements unless both Fort Worth and Dallas make the same change. A taxicab would be able to drop off passengers at the Airport if the

insurance requirements were different but would not be able to pick up passengers at the Airport.

Mr. Atkins asked that the Committee not forget that we are making rules that affect the region, not just Dallas and Fort Worth. Mr. Brunk stated that one of the primary goals of the Task Force was to look at the Taxicab issues from a regional perspective.

Ms. Hunt asked what percentage of Dallas taxicabs go to DFW Airport per day. Mr. Brunk indicated that staff didn't have that number available. Ms. Hunt asked if there was a general consensus that we have an over abundance of taxicabs in our area. Mr. Brunk stated that the general consensus was that we do have too many taxicabs. Ms. Hunt stated that she has reservations about lowering any of our standards. Ms. Hunt asked if Fort Worth was interested in making these same changes being discussed. Mr. Brunk stated that the representative from Fort Worth supports keeping the current standards.

Ms. Davis asked about Fort Worth's standards. Mr. Brunk responded that Fort Worth requires \$500,000 in liability insurance and has a 5-year age limit on taxicabs. Ms. Davis asked if taxicab companies might go out of business. Mr. Brunk stated that given the current economic recession and overabundance of taxicabs, it was possible that some of the smaller companies may go out of business in the next few months. Ms. Davis asked why there would not be enough taxicab business with the NBA All-Star game, NFL Super Bowl, and new Convention Center Hotel. Mr. Brunk indicated that although special events would bring taxicab business, the day-to-day business would not necessarily be enough to support all the currently permitted taxicabs.

Ms. Jasso stated that she is concerned about the total number of cabs within the City.

Mr. Allen stated his support for the current requirements and that he is in opposition to lowering those standards.

Mr. Natinsky stated that he is in opposition to lowering current requirements, but indicated his support for moving towards a regional approach.

Motion was made to maintain the current requirements of \$500,000 combined single limit for liability insurance and five years for the taxicab age limit.

Made by: Natinsky

Seconded by: Allen

Passed unanimously

4. Love Field Modernization Program Bond Financing Preparations

Presenter: Dan Weber, Director, Department of Aviation

Mr. Weber provided a brief overview of the Love Field Modernization Program bond financing preparations. The Department of Aviation asked that the Committee recommend approval of their request to authorize the City Manager to execute a supplemental agreement with Unison Consulting Group to conduct a Bond Feasibility Study.

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation:

This item was briefed to the Council's Budget, Finance and Audit Committee earlier in the day. There was no further discussion.

Motion was made to recommend approval and move this item forward for full Council consideration on September 23, 2009.

Made by: Hunt

Seconded by: Atkins

Passed unanimously

Linda L. Koop (LB)

Linda L. Koop, Chair
Transportation and Environment Committee