

**AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
February 2, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.**

The Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) met at the Amador County Transportation Commission Offices, 117 Valley View Way, Sutter Creek, California on the above date, and the following proceedings were had, to wit:

**Present on Roll Call:**

Brian Oneto, Chairman  
Jon Colburn, Vice Chairman  
Dominic Atlan  
Richard Forster  
Dave Richards

**Absent:**

Tim Murphy (due to illness)

**Also Present:**

John Gedney, ACTC Executive Director  
Allison Platt, ACTC Transportation Planner  
Cindy Engel, ACTC GIS Coordinator  
Nancy Champlin, ACTC Administrative Secretary  
Patricia Maggie Amarant, Amador Transit General Manager  
Carl Baker, Office of Rural Planning, Caltrans District 10

**AGENDA:**

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Richards, and carried to approve the Agenda as presented.

Ayes: Oneto, Colburn, Atlan, Forster, Richards

Noes:

Absent: Murphy

**PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** Commissioner Colburn asked if federal funding might be affected if California became a sanctuary State. Commissioner Forster commented that Amador County's Counsel is investigating and will include the Amador County Sheriff's office in the discussions. If the legislature passes a law to become a sanctuary State, it is not known if the County would be able to pass a resolution declaring they are not a sanctuary county. Commissioner Atlan also commented on federal marijuana laws differing from State laws and if that could put the County at risk of losing federal funds.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

At 9:15 a.m. the Chairman called for a closed session as noticed for Conference with Legal Counsel (Government Code §54956.9). At 10:45 a.m. the Chairman resumed the regular session of ACTC and reported that direction was given to staff.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Federal Land Access Program (FLAP):** Commissioner Richards commented on the poor condition of the roads in El Dorado National Forest. Mr. Gedney noted that the Forest Service takes care of their own properties. This program is an opportunity for the County and Forest Service to partner. The Pine Grove Corridor Improvement Project through SR 88 may be submitted for a FLAP grant as it does lead to federal lands. Ms. Platt is discussing this program with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) today and at a meeting scheduled with the County and the El Dorado National Forest Service on February 8. Staff at the El Dorado National Forest Service have noticed that last year the recreation access sites within the County were over, or at capacity, during the summer which was a new issue for them. Chairman Oneto would also like Fiddletown Road discussed as a funding candidate at this meeting. Commissioner Forster commented that he had given information to the County's Planning Director about a funding program for roads that connect to, or are adjacent to, federal lands. He will also forward the information to ACTC staff.

Carl Baker explained that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has three programs that are funded through the Federal Lands Highway Division: (1) The Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) funds facilities outside of federal lands that provide access to federal lands, (2) The Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP) is for federal agencies for transportation within their lands (e.g., El Dorado National Forest), and (3) The Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) for facilities on Tribal lands (a special program that includes Indian lands under the Bureau of Indian Affairs) All of those jurisdictions have places where they intersect and pass from a local road or State highway onto a Forest Service facility. Funds given out through these programs are coordinated. The FLAP "Call for Projects" applications are due in April. Caltrans wants to make sure that they are capturing all the needs in a Collaborative Long Range Transportation Plan (CLRTP) even if a project is not ready. Mr. Baker added that the Pine Grove project would be eligible for funding from the FLAP if it was submitted and chosen. Transit, multimodal, bicycle/pedestrian, and economic uses of federal land are also eligible projects. There is a considerable amount of federal land in the five mountain counties that District 10 represents.

**Committee Appointments:** Commissioner Colburn commented that between ACTC and AT he has been placed on six committees and asked if there should be a provision for an alternate. Mr. Gedney noted that it has been done informally in the past. Chairman Oneto noted that some of the committees may only meet once a year. Commissioner Colburn agreed to remain on the committees.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Richards, seconded by Commissioner Forster, and carried to approve the Consent Agenda as discussed.

Ayes: Oneto, Colburn, Atlan, Forster, Richards

Noes:

Absent: Murphy

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**Update on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Mapping Assistance to the County's Tree Mortality Planning Effort:** Ms. Engel reviewed her staff report and gave a summary presentation on the work she has been doing to create maps for the tree mortality effort in Amador County. She joined the planning team in October of 2016. It was suggested that dates and communities be added to the maps. Elevations and slope can also be added to the maps when needed. Ms. Engel will be presenting this information at the next Tree Mortality core planning meeting.

**Unmet Transit Need Preliminary Assessment and Methodology:** Mr. Gedney and Ms. Platt reviewed the assessment methodology and budget allocation request as presented in the staff reports. Ms. Platt advised that the population data is from the 2010 census and Lone's Mule Creek State Prison population has been taken out. When discussing the Lone/Camanche route, Chairman Oneto asked if the route does not reach a 10% farebox ratio, does the Commission have the discretion to keep or drop the route. Mr. Gedney replied that one criteria of the reasonable to meet definition states that the Commission can accept a route with a farebox ratio between 6% - 10%. Provisions in the Transit Development Act (TDA) allows the cost for new services to be excluded for up to three years. There is flexibility in the criteria that ACTC has established.

Commissioner Forster suggested that increased maintenance of the buses be tracked because of the current conditions of the roadway. Chairman Oneto also commented on the wear and tear on the road that will be caused by additional bus use. Commissioner Atlan commented that it would be good to include Camanche as it is a major village in the County and does not have current bus service.

Commissioner Forster asked who interpreted the report and Ms. Platt replied that it was herself, Mr. Gedney, and Ms. Engel. She added that the final report will include visual maps that will show potential ridership. Mr. Gedney added that ACTC staff also met with Amador Transit staff and the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) on how to initiate the Lone/Camanche route. It was the consensus that the route needed to be five days a week, if possible. The costs were extrapolated based on current transit performance (cost per mileage and cost per hour) as shown in the report. Mr. Gedney noted that there is now a methodology and tool that can be used to measure the reliability of the estimates.

Commissioner Atlan asked what the previous ridership was on the Lone/Camanche route prior to 2011. He would like a comparison of that ridership to what is being forecast. He added that a way to avoid delays on this route might be to go through Lone first and then on the next run go through Camanche first (e.g., the morning route one way and the afternoon route the other way).

Commissioner Forster asked if it was realistic to adjust the schedule on the day of the food distribution. Ms. Amarant said that is being discussed and considered.

Commissioner Colburn asked if there were any studies that indicate how many commuters go out of the County. Mr. Gedney replied that there is a planning package produced every four years after each census and it includes journey to work data. Ms. Platt added that Amador Transit recently hired LSC Consultants who will be conducting an intercity service feasibility study and will be gathering

information via a survey to better understand where Amador County residents are commuting and their urban connection needs for transit.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Richards and carried to approve staff recommendations to approve the unmet transit need assessment methodology and approve budget allocations as determined by the preliminary unmet transit needs assessment.

Ayes: Oneto, Colburn, Atlan, Forster, Richards

Noes:

Absent: Murphy

**ACTC Commissioner Reports:** Chairman Oneto thanked Caltrans for taking down the tree near the road south of Drytown before it became a hazard.

Commissioner Forster commented that the Board of Supervisors voted to send a letter of support for Assembly Bill (AB) 1 and Senate Bill (SB) 1 with a preference for AB 1. He also commented that there is a section of road below Kirkwood that needs flashing lights to slow traffic down due to the potholes in the roadway. He added that Amador County did not get listed in the emergency proclamation by the Governor requesting funding to help repair the roads during the recent storms. The Board of Supervisors are working through the Amador County Sheriff's office and Caltrans District 10 in order to be listed on the disaster declaration. Commissioners Colburn and Atlan also commented on damage to the cities that was not just limited to the roads but included ditches, creeks, etc.

Commissioner Colburn asked about AB 1 and SB 1 and if the dollar amount listed for Amador County was total or new money. Mr. Gedney replied that he believes that is new revenue. Commissioner Forster will have the Board of Supervisors Clerk forward the full analysis of SB 1 from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) to the cities and ACTC.

**ACTC Reports:** Mr. Gedney commented on an Executive Order from the new federal administration regarding expediting environmental reviews and approvals for high priority infrastructure projects. Secretary Kelly from the California State Transportation Authority (CalSTA) held a conference call and asked all the regions in the State to submit high priority projects in the event of a fiscal stimulus from the federal government. ACTC submitted the SR 88 Pine Grove Improvement Project as it has cleared the environmental process.

Mr. Gedney also noted that Assembly Member Bigelow has introduced AB 174 which would require one voting member of the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to reside in a county with a population of less than 100,000. Mr. Gedney will draft a letter of support for the Commission to approve at the March meeting.

Commissioner Colburn welcomed everyone to Plymouth's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on February 10 at 2:00 pm.

**Caltrans Report by Carl Baker:**

- The 2017 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) guidelines have been adopted. The biggest change was to separate the guidelines for the smaller rural agencies, like ACTC, from the metropolitan planning agencies.
- There will be Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) webinars for agencies on February 9 and 16.
- There will be changes in the State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) which is a Caltrans funding program used to improve and maintain the highways. Starting with the 2020 SHOPP, Caltrans will be implementing Asset Management. The greater needs will be looked at and locations identified to see what else may be needed such as pavement, culvert needs, etc. Caltrans District 10 will have an Asset Manager give a presentation to ACTC later this year.
- Work on projects now have an emphasis on complete streets. This includes (but is not limited to) improvements to pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities that can be incorporated into projects. Caltrans is looking through the various plans to see what needs the region and local agencies have identified.
- Mr. Gedney met with Caltrans management and the SR 16/49 merge issue has been elevated with traffic safety.
- Commissioner Richards will email information to Mr. Baker regarding the crosswalk incident near Mel & Faye's Diner in Jackson. Mr. Baker noted that safety improvements at crosswalks have to meet a warrant in order to be funded and installed by Caltrans. There is one improvement called the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) that can be installed without a warrant but has to be funded by a local agency and an encroachment permit is required.
- Mr. Baker will make a site visit to the ditch in Lone to understand the problem.
- For a two lane highway, it is an exception to post a speed limit higher than 55 mph. A change to 65 mph is based on how long a segment is, such as with SR 16. The Sutter Creek/Amador City Bypass was too short to post a higher speed limit. Commissioner Atlan commented that SR 124 is posted as 65 mph in one location and it is shorter than the Bypass. Mr. Baker will check with traffic safety.
- The electrical staff at Caltrans has made adjustments to the SR 88/Ridge Road intersection stop lights.
- More information is needed regarding ongoing maintenance at the Vista Point in Jackson and who would be responsible.
- If the City of Plymouth would like a crosswalk on SR 49, let Mr. Baker know the location and he will talk with traffic safety.

Commissioner Forster asked about the intent of the Asset Management program and Mr. Baker replied that under the new federal funding authorizations, Caltrans is required to put an Asset Management program forward. Increasing efficiencies and delivery of projects should also help manage a project as an asset and have better coordination among departments. Mr. Gedney added that Caltrans is talking about including local agencies in the discussions as preliminary initiation documents are being prepared for projects.

**Claims:**

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Richards, and carried to approve the revised claim list.

Ayes: Oneto, Colburn, Atlan, Forster, Richards

Noes:

Absent: Murphy

**Adjournment:**

At 11:45 a.m. the Chairman adjourned the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, March 2, 2017, at the Amador County Transportation Commission Offices, 117 Valley View Way, Sutter Creek, California.



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Brian Oneto, Chairman  
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:



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Recording Secretary

(Note: Copies of referenced documents are available at the ACTC office.)