

**AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
December 7, 2017 – 9:08 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:

Tim Murphy, Acting Chair
Patrick Crew, alternate for Richard Forster
Dominic Atlan
John Plasse

Absent

Brian Oneto, Chairman (due to illness)
Jon Colburn, Vice Chairman (mtg. conflict)

Also Present:

John Gedney, ACTC Executive Director
Patricia Maggie Amarant, AT General Manager
Nancy Champlin, ACTC Administrative Secretary
Carl Baker, Office of Rural Planning, Caltrans District 10

AGENDA:

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Atlan, seconded by Commissioner Crew, and carried to approve the Agenda as presented.

Ayes: Crew, Murphy, Atlan, Plasse
Noes: None
Absent: Oneto, Colburn

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mark Thomas Agreement for a Systemic Safety Analysis Report (SSAR): Commissioner Atlan asked what the consultant fee was and Mr. Gedney replied that this is a coordinated effort between ACTC and Calaveras Council of Governments (CCOG) with each agency contributing \$37,500 and the contract not to exceed \$75,000.

Gary Reinoehl, Upcountry resident, commented that there was a discussion during a workshop that many accidents are not reported in rural counties. Mr. Gedney noted that when ACTC staff met with Caltrans and CCOG, they learned that Tuolumne County had done a similar analysis and worked directly with the California Highway Patrol to identify locations that do not show up in their database.

2018 Grant Opportunities: Commissioner Plasse asked if the Commission should be involved in determining what grants should be submitted. Mr. Gedney replied that ACTC had submitted three planning grants in October and just received notice that we were awarded the transit intern grant. The Commissioners discussed if there should be a process to advance an application for submittal. Mr. Gedney proposed two possible grant applications. One would be a focus on resubmitting a solar electrification planning grant for transit which would include Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and a broader inclusion of the waste management and County fleet. A second would be to pursue a transportation funding strategy that would look at disparate funding sources coupled with the recent pavement condition index report to look into sustained funding for road maintenance. Commissioner Plasse noted that there had been a previous investigation into using a local CNG refueling station if diesel fleets in the County could be replaced. However, this would require a large capital outlay for new trucks. A CNG station would help in meeting emission standards.

Acting Chair Murphy commented that the public needs to be aware of what is being discussed. ACTC staff will also be discussing grant opportunities and suggestions for submittals with ACTC's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). ACTC Transportation Planner Allison Platt noted that ACTC staff will be using the SSAR to develop Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) applications.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Crew and carried to approve the Consent Agenda as discussed.

Ayes: Crew, Murphy, Atlan, Plasse

Noes: None

Absent: Oneto, Colburn

REGULAR AGENDA:

FY 16/17 Amador Transit Farebox Recovery Ratio: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. Commissioner Plasse asked about the difference between last year's 13.6% recovery and this year's 11.6%. Mr. Gedney replied that the difference was due to the cost of the Sacramento service being listed as revenue and not as a reimbursement of the cost. Commissioner Plasse asked what the rate is on Amador Transit advertising and Ms. Amarant replied that it is split 50:50 with the agency who handles all of the contracts and duties. AT staff time is not involved.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Atlan, and carried to approve the Amador Transit farebox recovery ratio calculation of 11.6%.

Ayes: Crew, Murphy, Atlan, Plasse

Noes: None

Absent: Oneto, Colburn

Draft Fiscal Audits for Amador Transit and ACTC: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. He noted that a Finance Committee meeting had been held with the auditor (Ingrid Shepline/Richardson & Company, LLP), Certified Public Accountant Cathy Castillo, Commissioner Plasse, and ACTC staff. Commissioner Plasse commented that the audit was very clean and issues from the previous year have been

addressed. Ms. Shepline noted that CalPERS requires all agencies with less than 100 employees be in a pool (agencies can have their own side fund, but the main pension plan is part of a pool).

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Atlan, seconded by Commissioner Crew, and carried to approve the draft Fiscal Year 2016/17 audits of Amador Transit and ACTC.

Ayes: Crew, Murphy, Atlan, Plasse
Noes: None
Absent: Oneto, Colburn

2018 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) Adoption and Submittal to the California Transportation Commission: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. There was an extended discussion among the Commissioners regrading programming the funds and their concerns about future funding. ACTC would be authorizing the County to proceed into Right of Way beginning in July of 2018, but would not have to expend any funds at this time. The project is within reach presuming the County receives Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant funding or Caltrans District 10 continues to help with State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) funding. We may know about SHOPP funds when the next RTIP is submitted in two years. The Commissioners are being asked to commit (earmark) the balance of the Regional Surface Transportation Funds (RSTP) and the next two years of allocation toward the Pine Grove corridor project. It is not the action of programming funds, but the actual expenditures and deadlines that determine if the money is locked in. Acting Chair Murphy emphasized that it is up to the Commissioners on how the money is spent. If grant money is not received, then these funds can be used for other purposes and a Plan B will need to be developed.

Mr. Baker commented that the closer a project is to having it ready to construct, the more competitive it is in efforts to obtain funding from Caltrans. Having the environmental phase done on a project is a significant achievement.

Gary Reinoehl commented that he understands the concerns of spending regional money on State highways, but most of the towns in the County have a highway going through their main streets. Local land use decisions also affect the density and congestion on highways, such as in Pine Grove. He believes that both the County and this jurisdiction have some responsibility to improve, as best they can, the conditions on the highways going forward. Local groups have been willing to write support letters for grant applications. He hopes the Commission will help this project move forward.

Motion: It was moved by Acting Chair Murphy, seconded by Commissioner Crew, and carried to approve the Amador County 2018 Regional Transportation Improvement Program, with commitments from the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP), Regional Traffic Mitigation Fee Program (RTMF), and the County's Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA) funds as described, and direct its submittal to the California Transportation Commission.

Ayes: Crew, Murphy, Atlan, Plasse
Noes: None
Absent: Oneto, Colburn

At 10:25 a.m. Acting Chair Murphy called for a ten minute break.

Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing (10:35 a.m.) - Acting Chair Murphy opened the public hearing. Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report.

Karyn Gregorius, Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) Chair, acknowledged how challenging it is to provide public transit in a rural setting. She thanked the Commission and Amador Transit for working with the community to maintain a reliable transit system. She noted that safety-net programs are in place in the community that are federally funded, State funded, County funded, and individually funded. There is a requirement through the State and federal process to provide access to the safety-net programs in the form of providing transportation. Ms. Gregorius commented on the history of the SSTAC members and who they represent. She invited Commissioners to attend one of their meetings to understand the collaboration that is involved. She then reviewed the information provided on the "SSTAC 2018/19 Transit Recommendations."

There was no additional public input received.

Commissioner Atlan commented that he appreciated the hard work that went into the chart. He would like to see the item regarding more bus service to lone moved up to the short term need (the item that includes Camanche could remain long term). There are 100 homes being planned in lone by the summer of 2018. Ms. Gregorius clarified short term as a service that could possibly be implemented in the next fiscal year. She understands that SSTAC is an advisory committee who makes recommendations to the Commission for their decision on what should be implemented. She explained the Camanche/Valley Springs route was added after a discussion on the lack of connectivity between Calaveras and Amador transit routes.

Acting Chair Murphy commented that with limited resources, the first priority should be to provide service to people who don't have options either because of disability, lack of resources, etc. In discussing Dial-a-Ride, Ms. Amarant clarified that service is a curb-to-curb service and it is not available to upcountry, lone, or Plymouth. In order to provide that service to those areas, it would be beneficial to have a separate base. Decisions would also need to be made regarding vehicle size. There would need to be an evaluation to determine if residents in those areas are being served by other means (e.g., Amador Rides). Amador Transit does offer a 3/4 mile deviated route to pick up a passenger. However, passengers do have to adjust to the bus schedule.

Commissioner Plasse agreed that it is good to emphasize those transit aspects that address people with a definitive need and that working with local agencies on pedestrian and bicycle routes to transit projects is common sense. He asked Ms. Amarant to provide ridership analysis/performance reports on each route from the past "2015/16 Implemented Services" at the next Amador Transit meeting. This would be the two-year window where routes are not calculated after a new service is put into place. He would also like performance information on the Dial-a-Ride expansion to Ridge Road. This information can be used to show how adding additional routes has worked in the recent past. He also asked about revenue shown from Amador Rides in the farebox calculation and Ms. Amarant replied that sponsorship donations have been received from Sutter Amador Foundation and the Rancheria.

Mark Bennett, SSTAC member, commented that he has spent a great deal of time looking at our system and that the basic problem is structural. People are going from an outlying community to the County core and back. An efficient system has seat turnover which we do not have. We also don't have two-directional travel. It was his suggestion that an additional non-commute service to Sacramento go through lone. This would induce people in lone to use the bus to go to Sacramento because they would not have to backtrack from lone to Sutter Hill to Sacramento. It was also his suggestion for a route from lone to Valley Springs that would allow for two-directional riders and if it was connected with an lone stop on the bus to Sacramento, it would also induce ridership.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Atlan, and carried to direct ACTC staff to explore Short Term Identified Transit Needs in addition to "Restore bus service to lone (currently three runs per day) from the Longer Term Identified Transit Needs category.

Ayes: Crew, Murphy, Atlan, Plasse
Noes: None
Absent: Oneto, Colburn

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Tree Mortality Update Presentation: Mr. Gedney introduced ACTC GIS Coordinator Cindy Engel who provided a slide show to update the work being done with the tree mortality task force and the mapping she has generated. Commissioners thanked Ms. Engel for her involvement in this project in addition to the help she provides in collaborating with other agencies.

ACTC Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Atlan commented that the lone City Council received a presentation on their road project (previously referred to as WIRIS) and ACTC will receive the same presentation.

ACTC Reports: Mr. Gedney reported that ACTC staff and their partners for the Systemic Safety Analysis Report will be having a kick-off meeting on Monday with the consultant. Alpine County has also expressed an interest in participating and are offering Rural Planning Assistance (RPA) money if the plan can be augmented. ACTC staff is working with Caltrans to make sure the funding for the plan is appropriate as it may lead to engineering work that can be used to apply for a Highway Safety Improvement Project (HSIP) application. He added that ACTC was awarded \$50,000 for a transit intern grant. ACTC staff will work with Ms. Amarant and the SSTAC on the various duties for the intern including review of transit needs.

Caltrans Report by Carl Baker:

- District 10 received a request from the Upcountry Council to have a speaker.
- There was a request from the public to look at pullouts or passing lanes on SR 49 north of Plymouth. That request was forwarded to the Traffic Safety Branch and to ACTC to determine if there would be a need to add an operational project to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) in the future.
- The high country projects on SR 88 have gone into suspension.
- There was a request for a safety investigation at the Pioneer Elementary School.
- District 10 is working with ACTC staff to coordinate with the City of Jackson on a sidewalk project.
- Congratulations on receiving the transit intern grant.

- The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines have been released for public/agency review. This is related to Senate Bill 743.
- The draft project list for the 2018 SHOPP is open for comment. In Amador, there are projects for collision reduction, upgrading guardrails, bridge preservation, and large culvert projects on multiple routes. The total dollar amount for Amador is \$18 million.

Claims:

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Crew, and carried to approve the revised claims.

Ayes: Crew, Murphy, Atlan, Plasse

Noes: None

Absent: Oneto, Colburn

Adjournment:

At 11:45 a.m. the Acting Chair adjourned the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, January 4, 2018, at the Amador County Transportation Commission Offices, 117 Valley View Way, Sutter Creek, California.



Tim Murphy, Acting Chair
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

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