

**AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
April 5, 2018 – 10:05 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  
Tim Murphy, Vice Chairman  
Jon Colburn  
Richard Forster  
Dominic Atlan  
John Plasse

**Also Present:**

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

**AGENDA:**

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and unanimously carried to approve the Agenda as presented.

**PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**SR 49/Sutter-Ione Road Safety Investigation Request:** Vice Chairman Murphy thanked Mr. Gedney for drafting the letter. He would also like the letter to stress that this is the primary access for Amador High School and there are many inexperienced student drivers using that intersection.

**Caltrans ADA/Jackson Sidewalk Partnership Project:** Mr. Gedney noted that Jackson City Manager Yvonne Kimball was in attendance today and on Friday they had met with Caltrans Deputy Director of Project Management and engineers who are working on Caltrans' Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) safety project in Jackson. This safety project was initiated in response to a grievance and ADA curb ramps will be installed. The meeting on Friday was a preliminary negotiating session. The Jackson City Council has agreed to consider contributing funds from local developer fees. ACTC has pedestrian/bicycle funds that could also be contributed. No commitments have been made with Caltrans at this time. Caltrans did make assurances that they would consider ACTC's estimate and look into a cooperative agreement that would help keep overhead rates low.

Chairman Oneto asked if the merchants had been contacted about the proposal. Ms. Kimball replied that process has been started with the City's Planner. After the outreach process is finished the City plans to get back with Caltrans. Chairman Oneto asked if there were a legal reason for the City to have sidewalks in the area. Ms. Kimball replied that there is no legal reason and that this started out as a Caltrans ADA curb ramp project.

Commissioner Plasse asked how much funding the City of Jackson would be willing to contribute to this project. Ms. Kimball replied that she could not speak for the City Council at this time, but the contribution in partnership with ACTC could be approximately \$200,000 - \$300,000. Once the plan is more refined, it would be taken back to the Jackson City Council for their input. Commissioner Plasse asked if this project would go through a "Call for Projects" using ACTC's pedestrian/bicycle fund. Mr. Gedney replied that there was a "Call" two years ago, but not last year. There is an informal policy to reserve approximately \$100,000.

Mr. Gedney clarified that the City's plan in 2012 was used to itemize elements related to this sidewalk project (roughly \$402,000 for construction related costs). That information was provided to Caltrans and they requested a refined estimate. A field visit with Caltrans identified specific issues to be addressed. ACTC consultants refined the cost estimate to \$1,252,800 which represents the cost if it was a "stand-alone" project. Additional environmental support costs will also be needed. A Project Report is expected in October followed by the design phase. The listed construction date for Caltrans' ADA project is 2022. Mr. Gedney added there are challenges to being involved in a Caltrans project and there are still a lot of questions to be answered.

Susan Spinetti Tennyson commented that, as one of the property owners, she has not been notified of the project or included in any meeting. She did learn from her tenants that there was a survey. Throughout the years, her family has made considerable contributions to Amador County. She is disappointed that the project has reached this point without her being included. The project would essentially eliminate the parking behind both of her buildings. The financial impact and depreciation to her buildings is going to be significant. As owner of two businesses, she has very serious concerns about the project as it is drawn.

Chairman Oneto suggested she also talk with the Jackson City Council. Mr. Gedney added that a partnership of ACTC and the City of Jackson with Caltrans would not proceed if they were not able to work with, and get, agreements from the property owners. Access to the highway for the business owners was also discussed during the field visit.

Commissioner Forster asked if expansion of the project would use the same Caltrans guidelines. Mr. Gedney replied that the expansion is not currently covered under their liability project and we are waiting to hear back from them regarding if their ADA funds could be used for the expansion.

Ms. Demetras noted that there are ADA curb ramp projects throughout District 10. The City of Jackson Planner talked with Caltrans about partnering in order to get a portion of the sidewalks identified in their circulation plan installed. The funding program that Caltrans is using is limited to approximately \$1 million.

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

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**Low Carbon Transit Operations Program Grant Application:** Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. Commissioner Plasse asked if the dollar amount would offset the same amount of State Transit Assistance (STA) funds that are currently budgeted in Amador Transit for operating. Mr. Gedney replied that ACTC did make that request of Caltrans Headquarters before submitting the grant.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Atlan, and unanimously carried to approve the resolution for application for the FY 17/18 LCTOP funds.

**Unmet Transit Needs Report:** Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. Nina Machado, Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) Vice Chair, commented that SSTAC continues to be diligent about looking for opportunities to partner with other agencies and to look for other funding sources. SSTAC tries to make a cohesive system for people who are transportation disadvantaged. Ms. Machado noted that Mark Bennett, also a SSTAC member, has provided “outside the box” thinking in regard to how to leverage other transportation systems. She was disappointed to lose the LCTOP funding to operating expense as SSTAC had some ideas about regional approaches. They welcome feedback from Commissioners. Vanessa Compton, SSTAC Chair, commented briefly on her background. She is a family advocate in mental health in Amador County. She joined SSTAC because she realized the importance of transportation and the value of public transportation.

Commissioner Atlan thanked SSTAC and ACTC staff for their work in compiling the Unmet Transit Needs report. He commented that he would like to see the buses focus on services within the County.

Vice Chairman Murphy agreed that thinking outside the box is going to help find solutions for special need areas because of the geography of the County. That will make alternative transportation systems more important as we move forward.

**Motion:** It was moved by Vice Chairman Murphy, seconded by Commissioner Atlan, and unanimously carried to approve, by resolution, the Unmet Transit Needs report.

**Local Transportation Fund FY 18/19 Apportionment Estimates:** Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Plasse, and unanimously carried to approve staff recommendation and adopt the FY 18/19 LTF apportionment estimates reflecting approved ACTC and Amador Transit budgets and results of the Unmet Transit Needs process.

**Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 4 Call for Projects:** Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. Yvonne Kimball, Jackson City Manager, explained that the Hoffman Street Bike and Ped Improvement Project would be a Safe Routes to School ATP grant application to construct bicycle lanes, shoulders, and sidewalks between the Jackson High School and Jackson Jr. High. Mr. Gedney added that this project could be coupled with local funds to augment Hoffman Street roadway maintenance. The City

of Jackson is asking for assistance from ACTC's on-call consultant to help apply for the grant. The Commissioners discussed the location of the project and that historic walls should not be removed. There is also a working ranch in the area and the owner should be contacted. Ms. Kimball expressed her gratitude to the ACTC staff and Board for their assistance. Mr. Gedney noted that there needs to be more staff-level work with Jackson staff before an ACTC consultant would be assigned to help. Commissioner Plasse would like staff to find out about the likelihood of this grant being awarded before consultant funds are expended.

**Claims:**

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

**ACTC Commissioner Reports:**

- Commissioner Plasse thanked the Board and Amador Transit for the shuttle service during Dandelion Days.
- Chairman Oneto noted that there is a slip in the roadway at upper Shake Ridge Road where repairs had previously been made. The road is now closed for an indeterminate amount of time. The County is talking with the engineers and contractors who performed the work to determine why the road shifted. Commissioner Forster added that many people are blaming the Board of Supervisors, but the project was designed by engineers, hydrologists, geologists, and reviewed by the County Community Development Director. At this point they are trying to get the road fixed and then determine who is liable for what happened.
- Commissioner Forster reported that the Board of Supervisors met and approved an application to Cal OES asking the Governor to declare a state of emergency during the time period of significant storms that contributed to roads needing repair. Shake Ridge Road is a major collector and evacuation road during significant events like fires.
- Commissioner Forster also reported that the Buena Vista Casino is going forward and a large sum of money will come to ACTC for regional transportation impacts. He commented that the regional impacts should be for the areas that will be affected most by the casino in District 2. The Intergovernmental Services Agreement (ISA) is on the County's website and includes other improvements by the Tribe that Mr. Gedney should review.
- Commissioner Colburn agreed that the Buena Vista casino would largely affect District 2, but impacts would also be felt elsewhere. He also wanted to discuss if there is a way that the ACTC Board could find funding that would help the County fix the roads, whether it be a sales tax ballot measure or some other means.
- Commissioner Colburn commented that there has not been an update on State Route 16 relinquishment. Mr. Gedney noted that he had contacted ACTC consultant Robert Naylor and he was not available for April's meeting.
- Commissioner Colburn suggested there be a standing item for future agenda items.
- Vice Chairman Murphy commented that we need to do a better job of screening projects based on feasibility when added to plans such as the RTP. He added that, considering the lack of funding to get projects done, the Regional Traffic Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Program oversight committee should have a discussion of expanding their role to include road maintenance instead of just capital projects.

**ACTC Reports:** Mr. Gedney reported that he had discussed the SR 49/16 merge problem with Caltrans and they have committed to put up video cameras at that intersection to observe the traffic patterns. However, it was suggested that the cameras may not help clarify the problem. Mr. Gedney will also invite Caltrans for a field visit to observe traffic at that location. Mr. Gedney added that staff is still recruiting for a Transportation Planner and a Transportation Intern.

**Caltrans Report by Michele Demetras:**

- ATP grants are not overseen by her unit. She will speak with the District ATP coordinator to list out what they are looking for and what has been previously awarded.
- Ms. Demetras will be talking with Caltrans' maintenance yard staff in Lone about Chairman Oneto's concern that the repaving with an additional layer of blacktop at SR 49/Drytown has a sharp drop-off and whether it would be possible to grind a section before it is paved.
- Ms. Demetras attended the Calaveras Council of Governments Board meeting last night and they also had their Unmet Transit Needs hearing. They asked Ms. Demetras to convey to ACTC that they are desirous of working with Amador Transit in syncing some routes and working more efficiently. They are envious of the Sacramento route. She let them know that ACTC's SSTAC does talk about coordinating routes with Calaveras.
- Ms. Demetras will be at ACTC's meeting next month. Interviews were held for a permanent senior to replace Mr. Baker, but a decision has not yet been made.

At 11:35 a.m. Chairman Oneto called for a closed session as noticed for:

- A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957  
Title: Executive Director
- B. Conference with Labor Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6 ACTC  
Negotiator: John Gedney Executive Director

At 12:10 p.m. the Chairman resumed the regular session of ACTC and reported that (A) the Executive Director received a positive review and was given a merit increase, and (B) more information was requested to be brought back to the Board at a later date.

**Adjournment:**

At 12:10 p.m. the Chairman adjourned the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, May 3, 2018, 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:



Recording Secretary

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