

AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

September 5, 2019 –11:30 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
Dominic Atlan, Vice Chairman
Keith Sweet
John Plasse
Jon Colburn
Patrick Crew (alternate for Richard Forster)

Absent

None

Also Present:

John Gedney, ACTC Executive Director
Felicia Bridges, ACTC Administrative Secretary
Patricia Maggie Amarant, AT General Manager
Dan McElhinney, Caltrans District 10 Director
Michele Demetras, Office of Rural Planning, Caltrans District 10

AGENDA:

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Colburn, seconded by Commissioner Sweet, and unanimously carried to approve the Agenda as presented.

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

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

ACTC Minutes of August 8, 2019: Commissioner Crew abstained from the minutes.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Colburn, seconded by Vice Chairman Atlan, and carried to approve the Minutes.

Ayes: Oneto, Atlan, Sweet, Plasse, Colburn
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain Crew

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Colburn, seconded by Vice Chairman Atlan, and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda items 2 through 9.

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

REGULAR AGENDA:

Extreme Weather Needs Assessment for Amador and Calaveras Counties: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. He introduced Mr. Jeff Tupen (ECORP Consulting) and Mr. Aaron Brusatori (R.E.Y. Engineering) as members of the consulting team for the Extreme Weather Needs Assessment. Mr. Tupen gave an overview presentation on the project and how it will serve the community in a variety of ways.

Chairman Oneto asked if this assessment could be used by Caltrans to assist in the process of receiving grant funding for fuel mitigation along roadways. Mr. Tupin replied “yes”. Mr. McElhinney added that the Vulnerability Assessment that Caltrans is performing acts as a 1st phase and this Extreme Weather Needs Assessment would act as the 2nd phase to aid in next steps and implementation.

Ms. Engel, ACTC GIS Coordinator, explained the mapping services she has been providing for local fire districts, and an example of an evacuation route planning map included in the PowerPoint presentation.

Chairman Oneto noted there may be an issue with private property owners allowing access to possible roadways that may be utilized as an evacuation route. Ms. Engel responded that CalFire has been having communications with the landowners regarding those issues.

Mr. Gedney stated this presentation gives the overall picture of the process of the needs assessment. The next step is to get the letter out to potential Stakeholders, and then provide monthly updates to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Colburn suggested the cities be added to the list of Stakeholders. Mr. Gedney agreed and asked for any other recommendations of possible stakeholders they should reach out to. Commissioner Plasse suggested East Bay Municipal Utilities District and Vice Chairman Atlan suggested Jackson Valley Irrigation District.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Colburn, seconded by Commissioner Plasse and unanimously carried to approve the Stakeholder Outreach letter to inform responsible agencies of the Extreme Weather Needs Assessment project.

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

Caltrans Transportation Planning Grants: Mr. Gedney reviewed the staff report.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Crew, and unanimously carried to approve the submittal of two (2) Caltrans Transportation planning grant applications:

1. Transit Internship Program application
2. Short Range Transit Development Plan

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

Poll Mounted Radar Speed Signs: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. Commissioner Colburn stated two (2) radar speed signs are being requested for Plymouth due to a flow of traffic diverting away from the roundabout onto Mill St at high speeds. Vice Chairman Atlan suggested three (3) be funded for the city of Lone, and the city is fundraising with the local Police Department for an additional sign to aid in speed control on SR 104 and 124.

Jon Hanken, City Manager of Lone, expressed his support in the request for three (3) poll mounted radar speed signs due to the high number of children in the area of SR 104 and SR 124. He added they would assist in the transition from one speed to another, especially near the schools.

Chairman Oneto asked if Caltrans would be interested in sharing any of the costs of the signs for SR 104 and SR 124? Mr. McElhinney replied "yes". He stated with the new Minor B funding an additional \$50 million will be added to the fund next July, and could possibly be utilized for some needed projects like these or the High Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) systems along the State highways.

Commissioner Plasse asked where the funding for ACTC to help these cities would come from as the Local Transportation Fund (LTF)/Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) swap was just approved. Mr. Gedney replied there are funds in the RSTP account to cover these sign projects.

Mr. Gedney clarified the funding from the LTF/RSTP SWAP to the cities is usually used by the cities for resurfacing on the roadways, and this allocation of funding from the RSTP fund would be an additional expenditure.

Commissioner Sweet asked about the HAWK requests for SR 49 in Jackson made approximately six (6) months ago to Caltrans. Mr. Gedney stated the Minor B funding looks to be used for larger projects like the HAWK systems and/or pedestrian projects rather than smaller projects like the radar speed signs. Mr. McElhinney responded he is waiting to hear back from the Traffic Safety Group to finish their review regarding the HAWK systems and respond with recommendations for those locations.

Commissioners further discussed the number of signs that should be funded at this time.

Motion: It was moved by Vice Chairman Atlan, seconded by Commissioner Colburn, and unanimously carried to approve two (2) poll mounted radar speed signs for the city of Lone and one (1) poll mounted speed sign for the city of Plymouth.

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

SR 16 Relinquishment: Mr. Gedney updated Commissioners on recent activity. He stated at a recent meeting among Caltrans, California Transportation Commission (CTC) staff, and Sacramento County Representatives, Caltrans Management stated that they would not include a traffic study as part of the Environmental Analysis for the project. A letter was then sent to Caltrans District 3 from ACTC attorney, requesting a traffic study be performed. A community meeting took place on August 29th in Plymouth with the Amador Vintner's Association to provide an update and receive feedback.

ACTC Commissioner Reports: Chairman Oneto commented he is happy with SR 49 paving project and will be glad when it is finished.

Commissioner Plasse commented that he had traveled up SR 88 recently and noticed there is no left turn lane going onto Inspiration East Road at Amador Station. He added it seems to be a problem area. He asked if a project could be initiated at that location in conjunction with a Caltrans State Highway Operation and Protection (SHOPP) project. Mr. McElhinney replied he would look into that location, and noted if a SHOPP project looks to have more merit than other projects, they have the ability to shift funds from other projects on the list.

ACTC Report: None

Caltrans Report by Dan McElhinney/Michele Demetras:

- Mr. McElhinney stated the majority of the paving project on SR 49 through Plymouth and Drytown should be finished this month, and expressed appreciation to the travelers of those roadways during the repaving process.
- Regarding the SR 104 near mile marker 2.0 (1 mile west of Specialty Granules Inc.) the dips and bump in the road will be addressed by the end of the month.
- Mr. McElhinney stated he reviewed the locations of SR 104/124 by the elementary school in Lone and was glad to see the Speed Safety Investigation Request letter as a Consent Agenda item this month.
- He stated they are moving towards improvements for SR 104/88 at Jackson Valley Road.
- Communications are continuing at the Steering Committees with Caltrans and Mr. Gedney regarding items including the Active Transportation Program, Caltrans Active Amador County Projects, and the Caltrans Adaptation Planning Grant Extreme Weather Needs Assessment which will coincide with the Caltrans Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment
- Tree trimming is scheduled on SR 49 and 88 to take place in September

- Ms. Demetras noted Ms. Gregorious is out with an ankle injury.
- She stated at a statewide level, there is a new Caltrans Director- Toks Omishakin, effective October 1st, and a new Chief Deputy- Jim Davis.
- The California Transportation Commission allocated more than \$533 million for 120 SHOPP projects, with \$229 million on 42 “fix it first” projects and all funded through the SB-1 funding.
- \$146 million from the Low Carbon Transit Operation program (LCTOP) is being allocated to continue efforts in reducing transportation sector impacts on the environment.

Chairman Oneto asked if Caltrans could clear the road sides more to make them more fire resistant as more roadside fires seem to be happening, possibly due to vehicles catalytic converters having pellets that bounce out along the roadways and cause fires to start? Ms. Demetras replied she would take that back for more information.

Commissioners expressed their gratitude to Mr. McElhinney for the diligent work and communication he has been doing for Amador County.

Chairman Oneto stated it appeared to be rubberized asphalt used on the SR 49 overlay. The difference in sound is great and the community will enjoy it. Mr. McElhinney agreed that new asphalt is much quieter and hopefully many more projects like that will come along with SB1 funding.

Chairman Oneto voiced concern regarding the rumble edging on the shoulders of the roadways as it seems to be a safety concern on limited shoulders to bicyclists. Mr. McElhinney stated the hope is to have the rumble edges act as a “please slow down” reminder to motorists, and he added he would like to bring the overall rumble strip plan to a future meeting for an update.

Chairman Oneto noted a leaning tree over the highway that happens to be green on Climax Road and asked for it to be looked at.

Commissioner Colburn asked about a possible follow-up project over the Sutter Creek bridge on the bypass. Mr. McElhinney answered there is a second project taking place with the rebar cages for replacing the approach slabs as well as a polyester overlay being placed, which is when they usually address the smoothness on the bridge. Mr. McElhinney also stated they are using the rubberized hot asphalt, and will provide the number of recycled tires used at the next meeting.

Claims:

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Vice Chairman Atlan, and unanimously carried to approve the revised claims.

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

Future Agenda Items:

- Regional Transportation Improvement Program
- Extreme Weather Needs Assessment
- SR 16
- Amador Railroad Crossings

Closed Session: At 1:32 p.m. Chairman Oneto called for a Closed Session as noticed for: Conference with Legal Counsel-Potential Litigation. At 2:00 p.m. the Chairman resumed the regular meeting of ACTC and reported direction was given to staff.

Adjournment:

At 2:01 p.m. the Chairman adjourned the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, October 3, 2019, at the Amador County Transportation Commission Offices, 117 Valley View Way, Sutter Creek, California.



Brian Oneto, Chairman
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

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