

**AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
October 1, 2020 –9:51 a.m.**

The Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) met via Zoom Conferencing 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
Richard Forster
John Plasse
Jon Colburn

Absent:

None

Also Present:

John Gedney, Executive Director, ACTC
Felicia Bridges, Administrative Secretary, ACTC
Patricia Maggie Amarant, General Manager, Amador Transit
Gregoria Ponce, Office Chief, Caltrans District 10
Mona Ebrahimi, Legal Counsel, Kronick Moskowitz Tiedeman & Girard.

AGENDA:

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

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

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: Commissioner Plasse stated that ACTC should comment on the draft version of the 2021 Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan Update, as announced by Caltrans, which will be ready for public comment in winter of 2020. He suggested it would serve well for ACTC to participate in the comment period, as it is regarding the “interregional” route that would include State Route 16. Mr. Gedney replied that he had previously attended a California Transportation Commission (CTC) meeting to testify at the hearing to make a statement in support of maintaining interregional functionality for SR 16. He continued that those comments should be on record included in the plan.

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Forster asked to have items #1 and #3 pulled for discussion.

Item #1-Minutes of September 3, 2020: Commissioner Forster asked for clarification regarding when solutions for the SR 88/104 intersection will take place, as it read unclear in the minutes. Mr. Gedney responded he will follow up with Caltrans.

Item #3- Short-Line Railroad Improvement Program Guidelines: Commissioner Forster asked if this program could apply to the railroads within the County for repairs, and noted the railroad located at lone Road and Carbondale Road would be one to address. Mr. Gedney stated this appears to serve primarily freight related railroads and included this as an informational item for any interested parties. Commissioner Plasse agreed that it appears a more freight related/public use program but commented lone has an industrial area that may benefit from this program. He asked if a Call for Projects or Alternative Transportation Program (ATP) should be established. Mr. Gedney replied yes, a “Call for Interested Partners” could be provided but the deadline is December of this year. Commissioners continued discussion and agreed outreach to potential interested parties could take place, but highlighted the short window of time left prior to the deadline.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Sweet, seconded by Commissioner Forster and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

REGULAR AGENDA:

ACTC Conflict of Interest Code Policy Update: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Sweet, seconded by Commissioner Plasse and unanimously carried to approve staff recommendation and updates to the Conflict of Interest Code.

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

Highway Infrastructure Program Funding Allocation: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. He explained since the last meeting additional jurisdictions have come forward with projects, and noted in item #7, those projects would be considered for recommendation. However, for this funding, Mr. Gedney stated he recommends the total apportionment of \$278,446 be programmed to Amador County to support the completion of the Pine Grove Improvement Project.

Commissioner Sweet asked if applications will be cancelled or would submittals continue. Mr. Gedney replied the recommendation would be to support funding for the county project and withdraw other applications.

Commissioner Atlan stated he will vote “no” to this recommendation as enough funds have been provided to the Pine Grove Improvement Project.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Forster and carried to approve staff recommendation of total allocation of \$278,446 be apportioned to the Pine Grove Improvement Project.

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

Regional Surface Transportation Program Funding Allocation: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. He stated his recommendation is to consider allocating the available funds in the amount of \$376,929 by formula to the jurisdictions for transportation-related projects.

Chairman Oneto commented that City of Jackson is already receiving a portion in the amount of \$108,892 and should not receive a portion of the remainder. He suggested looking at the funding as a whole and calculate, by formula, based off that amount.

Commissioner Plasse stated it should be divided by the total of \$696,951. Chairman Oneto noted Amador Transit has already been approved for an allocation of \$211,130 for bus purchases and City of Jackson has been approved for the \$108,892. Mr. Gedney stated there is approximately \$1 million (including the HIP funding) to be calculated for distribution.

Commissioner Atlan recommended to distribute the funds as noted in the staff report and the remainder of funds be split between the cities that did not receive any.

Commissioners continued discussions and agreed to have this item brought back with more detailed information. Mr. Gedney stated he would provide possible recommendations and include the distribution formulas that have been utilized in the past to compare.

ACTC Commissioner Reports: Chairman Oneto stated he will continue to ask Caltrans to evaluate/perform fire fuel mitigation along SR 88 between Jackson and Ham's Station due to the increasing wildfires in California.

ACTC Report: None

Caltrans Report by Gregoria Ponce:

- Regarding vegetation control along SR 88 from Jackson to Ham's Station, Ms. Ponce stated she will take that item back to the maintenance team for review.
- Governor Newsom signed AB-2285, a transportation bill, which expands on existing requirements of vehicles on freeways to move over or slow down for maintenance and emergency vehicles and this now will apply to highways and local roads. This will take effect in January 2021.
- Regarding the State Clearinghouse, it has gone entirely paperless and now CEQA documentation and submittal are directly submitted to the database and then circulated.

- Division of Transportation Planning recently posted a 2020 Transportation Funding booklet, which provides an overview of funding sources and apportionments to entities and programs.
- California Transportation Plan has been released for public comment and can be found at www.ctp2050.com
- Highway Safety Improvement Program (cycle 10) Call for Projects submittal deadline has been extended from July 30 to October 19th 2020, due to COVID-19 pandemic impacts.
- 2021 Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) is resuming now that the California Freight Mobility Plan has been completed. The tentative schedule includes a Community and Stakeholder Engagement in late fall 2020, and resulting from that an ITSP draft in winter of 2020. Following the draft, a formal review period will be held winter 2020-spring 2021 with a final plan in approximately March 2021.
- ADA Improvement Project-EA101F830 proposes to improve the existing curb ramps, upgrade existing sidewalks and install new sidewalks, and upgrade signals to SR 49/88 intersection in Jackson. The project was advertised on September 28, 2020 and award is targeted for late November 2020, with construction completion in summer of 2021.
- Mokelumne River Bridge Rail Upgrade project-10X752 on SR 49 is scheduled to replace the bridge rails to meet Caltrans standards and widen the bridge to include 4-foot shoulders.

Chairman Oneto asked how much funding is allocated to the Mokelumne River Bridge Rail Upgrade project. He commented it appears to be a bad use of funding that should be used on the roads.

Commissioners agreed that funding to replace the posts as needed is understandable, but tax payers want the funds spent on roads, not cosmetic fixes of guard rails. Chairman Oneto asked to have the guardrail posts examined that are located east of SR 49/124 intersection, as they have deteriorated. Ms. Ponce replied she would take this request back for review.

Commissioner Plasse asked how much assistance can the Caltrans Liaison provide to ACTC regarding comments made to the ITSP in connection to the mitigation for the loss of interregional functionality that is likely to be created by the relinquishment of SR 16. Ms. Ponce responded it is her role as the Liaison to assist in providing the information and ensure access to provide comments to the plan and participate in the community and stakeholder engagement. Ms. Ponce stated she would have to review with headquarters how much assistance can be provided regarding the comment period.

Chairman Oneto stated on Ridge Road in Sutter Creek there is a message board sign that reads "*road is closed to vehicles over 10 tons*". He asked if the sign is temporary and noted it may be beneficial to consider stating "*Upper Ridge Road*" on the message board. Ms. Ponce replied she would find out and respond back prior to the next board meeting.

Commissioner Forster asked if Ms. Ponce could respond to the issue of Caltrans' use of funds to what may be considered non-essential projects. Ms. Ponce stated she will take the comments back to the Director and ask about rerouting funding for roadwork.

Commissioner Colburn commented there are pavement/shoulder issues throughout the county, particularly located along SR 49 from Drytown to the SR49/16 intersection, where the pavement falls apart and no guardrails are located there for safety. He stated this is seen routinely and have not improved the shoulder drop-off, causing accidents.

Commissioner Forster complimented Caltrans for the timely completion of the Echo Summit Project on SR 50.

Approve Monthly Claims List: Mr. Gedney stated the revised claims list was emailed to the commissioners prior to the board meeting. He noted one change was a bill to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in the amount of \$4,125.00 which was revised to \$3,000.00 to pay licenses for the StreetSaver program for the jurisdictions.

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

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

Future Agenda Items: Commissioner Colburn stated, as the recent fire occurred on SR 16, work needs to be performed faster in regard to fire preparedness and land management and he would like to see more discussion take place.

- Extreme Weather Needs Assessment Update
- SR 88/104 clarification of intersection safety investigation schedule of repairs

Closed Session: At 11:09 a.m. Vice Chairman Atlan called for a Closed Session as noticed: Conference with Legal Counsel-Initiation of Litigation. At 12:08 p.m. the Vice Chairman resumed the regular meeting of ACTC and reported direction was given to staff.

Adjournment:

At 11:08 a.m. the Chairman adjourned the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, November 5, 2020, via Zoom Conferencing.



Brian Oneto, Chairman
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

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