

**AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
August 5, 2021 –9:46 a.m.**

The Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) met on the above date, and the following proceedings were had, to wit:

Present on Roll Call:

Brian Oneto, Chairman- call in
Dominic Atlan, Vice Chairman
Susan Bragstad
Richard Forster
Steve McLean
John Plasse

Absent:

None

Also Present:

John Gedney, Executive Director, ACTC
Felicia Bridges, Administrative Secretary, ACTC
Marlon Regisford, Deputy District Director, Caltrans District 10
Gregoria Ponce, Office Chief of Rural Planning, Caltrans District 10- call in
Mona Ebrahimi, ACTC Legal Counsel, Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann & Girard- call in

AGENDA:

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

Ayes: Oneto, Atlan, Bragstad, Forster, McLean, Plasse
Noes: None
Absent: None

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: Jim Scully informed commissioners that the Lone City Council met on 11/20/2020 and approved Amendment 3 to the development agreement whereby the city would fund construction costs for a bridge over Mule Creek as an access to the development in the amount of \$1.2 million. He highlighted his opposition to funding being used for this project, especially when fees owed have not been paid from previous developments in Lone.

Commissioner Plasse asked if Mr. Scully's comments are directed at the ACTC board. Mr. Scully asserted that funding for the Western lone Roadway Improvement Strategy (WIRIS) alternative study was provided by this board. Mr. Gedney clarified that funding lone received to perform the alternative study of the WIRIS was approved by the Regional Traffic Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Oversight Committee, not the ACTC board.

Commissioner Forster commented the funding that the City of lone is using to fund the bridge project is local impact fee revenue, which the city is entitled to allocate as they choose. He noted the \$500,000 that was never paid to the RTMF Oversight Committee was regional funding and the issue is still being reviewed.

Vice Chairman Atlan introduced Mr. Michael Rock as the interim City Manager of Ione. Mr. Rock stated he will be tracking the ACTC and commented that Ione has projects that will be brought before the ACTC board for funding consideration in the future.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Item #1- Minutes of July 1, 2021: Commissioner Forster commented that Commissioner Crew was recorded in each motion and it should have been Commissioner Forster instead.

Item #7- Social Services Transportation Advisory Council Reappointments: Commissioner Plasse stated the new member, Stephanie Hess, has not been vetted. He stated in past years the recommended members would come before the board prior to approval, and asked if the process has changed. Mr. Gedney replied that she could be asked to come before the board, and stated this is only a recommendation from the SSTAC. Commissioner Forster stated he knows her as a county employee and good worker. Commissioner Plasse stated he will accept approval of her as a member with Commissioner Forster's recommendation.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda with changes made.

Ayes: Oneto, Atlan, Bragstad, Forster, McLean, Plasse
Noes: None
Absent: None

REGULAR AGENDA:

2022 Regional Transportation Improvement Program: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. He stated he is hopeful in the coming months that County staff could present an update on the SR 88/ Pine Grove Improvement Project to the ACTC board.

Commissioner Forster noted it has taken approximately 7 years to get to this phase of the project.

Mr. Gedney offered options for funding the construction phase of the project – currently estimated at \$10 million. One option would request that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) advance future Regional Improvement Program (RIP) share funds to be allocated to this project.

Another option, would be to match reserved Regional Improvement Program (RIP) funds (approximately \$5 million) with earmark funds if approved in the current Federal Infrastructure Bill. (Staff is monitoring progress of the bill status.

Mr. Gedney then walked through another option using draft Project Programming Request (PPR) and funding source handouts provided at the meeting. He explained that this option would show full funding for the project with currently-available funds. This strategy would enable Caltrans to partner on the project with \$1.25 million from its State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) to fund Complete Streets/Americans with Disabilities project components and thereby complete the Construction funding package. He stated his recommendation, which can be modified as potential funding sources change in the upcoming months, would include the allocation of the following funding sources to arrive at the total \$10 million construction funding needed:

- Regional Improvement Program (RIP) Reserve Funds = \$4.997 million
- Project Programming and Monitoring (PPM) = \$114,000

- Regional Traffic Mitigation Fee (RTMF) program funds = \$\$1 million
- (Local) Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) = \$389,000
- Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds (originally CMAQ funds that were swapped with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission -would require rescission of Resolution from December board meeting) -\$486,000
- Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) = \$287,000 (3 years apportionments)
- Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funds = \$697,000 (2 years apportionments)
- State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) funds (from Caltrans) = \$1.25 million
- ACTC Pedestrian/Bicycle (LTF) fund-\$350,000

Mr. Gedney stated there is a time constraint currently to work with Caltrans programming staff to show ACTC has a viable plan to fully fund this project through construction. Caltrans can prepare all documentation to support ACTC's request, and have that request available in the SHOPP program. This option is a draft of the worst-case scenario if the federal earmark funds do not get approved, and it can be modified before the submittal of the RTIP on December 15th.

Commissioner Plasse stated the excess RSTP funds in past years have been distributed to the County and cities, and as such, they should be included in this conversation to discuss use those funds being spent in a different manner this year. Vice Chairman Atlan agreed and added they should be asked if those funds could be deferred for one year to get this project to completion. Mr. Gedney responded he understands their concern, however, these funds are ACTC's to distribute at its discretion and are not currently included in any city or county budget.

Chairman Oneto asked if any other local agencies are providing funding for this project. Mr. Gedney replied no. Chairman Oneto suggested reaching out to the Pine Grove Elementary School for potential funding as this project highly impacts the school in a positive way.

Commissioner McLean stated he appreciates the creative method that Mr. Gedney has provided in trying to ensure the completion of this project.

Commissioner Plasse stated this project was poorly conceived originally, and the general purpose and need were based around the idea that the population would increase in that area, but the population actually decreased and those same purposes and needs are not applicable to the degree once envisioned. He stated he was pleased that after converting the project over to the County and allocating much time to the oversight, the total cost was decreased substantially from the original cost estimate.

Commissioner Forster commented this project needs to be completed and Mr. Gedney has done a good job of establishing a plan. Commissioner Plasse agreed but noted this agency needs to do a better job in the future of prioritizing RIP shares then has been done in the past.

Commissioner Bragstad stated Amador City receives a small amount and asked not to have their funding cut.

Vice Chairman Atlan extended his appreciation for the creative plan to fund the project, but is not pleased that this project does fall on a state highway which should be funded by Caltrans. He also noted that this year is potentially the best year to utilize the various funding sources as federal COVID-19 funds are helping local cities in the interim.

Gary Reinoehl, Amador County resident, extended his appreciation for the work performed to try to get this project to completion. He stated there is increased traffic in that area for recreational use even if the local population has decreased.

Michael Rock requested that ACTC work collaboratively with all the cities when allocating those funds. He commented if this agency has \$10 million to fund this project, then hopefully ACTC will have funding available to allocate to the fastest growing city in the County (Ione), as there are several projects in that city that will need funding.

Jim Scully asked if the City of Ione did pay their Regional Traffic Mitigation Fees for the 50+ houses in Village 10 development. Mr. Gedney replied approximately \$260,000 was paid by Ione for the prior year covering FY 2019/20. He added ACTC does not receive an itemized list for the RTMF revenue received, but could request one from the city.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad and carried to approve staff to prepare Project Programming Request (PPR) forms to demonstrate full-funding for the construction phase of the SR 88/Pine Grove Improvement Project for submittal to the California Transportation Commission for its consideration of programming into the 2022 State Transportation Improvement Program, with a condition that this allocation is a placeholder for these funds and would be restored to the original discretionary status if ACTC receives the earmark funding.

Ayes: Oneto, Atlan, Bragstad, Forster, McLean, Plasse
Noes: None
Absent: None

Local Transportation Fund Apportionment: Mr. Gedney asked to have this item temporarily tabled due to the action taken in the previous item.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Plasse, seconded by Commissioner Forster and unanimously carried to temporarily table this item due to action taken in the previous item.

Ayes: Oneto, Atlan, Bragstad, Forster, McLean, Plasse
Noes: None
Absent: None

Claims: Mr. Gedney stated there is a revised claims list recommended for approval.

Commissioner Forster asked what the Rural Counties Task Force bill in the amount of \$1,500.00 is for. Mr. Gedney replied it is an annual membership fee – the RTMF advocates on behalf of rural agencies in the State.

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

Ayes: Oneto, Atlan, Bragstad, Forster, McLean, Plasse
Noes: None
Absent: None

ACTC Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Plasse asked if Caltrans may be able to commit funding to the SR 88/Pine Grove Corridor Improvement Project to be utilized on pavement overlay through the project limits or if it has to be directed only to ADA compliance sidewalks etc. Mr. Regisford replied typically ADA projects do not accommodate overlay paving projects, but noted he will take that back for review and look into other ways to complete the paving project.

Commissioner Forster reiterated a previous concern regarding Caltrans paving projects where Caltrans is performing a paving project that is adjacent to a local road they are required to pave a certain length into that local road. In the past this concern has been corrected by Caltrans staff after discussion with projects located at SR 104/lone Road and SR 16/Willowcreek Road. He noted more recently on SR 88, the paving at intersections to local roads appears to only be approximately 5 ft. off the main highway and should be addressed. Mr. Regisford replied he spoke with his team and the footage paving is typically 50 ft., but it could be less for ADA projects, or larger jobs like roundabout projects, it could be 100 ft. He responded this will be taken back for further review.

Commissioner Forster commented during the week of the Amador County Fair, Caltrans was performing road construction. He noted Caltrans did make some accommodations to their construction schedules, however, along SR 88 the construction continued, causing a significant delay in travel. He asked for Caltrans to keep in mind that during these major local events traffic will be increased in various directions and consideration should be given when planning construction projects in the future.

Commissioner McLean extended his appreciation for the completion of the sidewalk project on SR 49 in Jackson.

Vice Chairman Atlan asked if the project in lone scheduled for summer 2021 to relevel Main Street lone is still on track. Mr. Regisford stated this project is scheduled to begin later this summer with completion in October. Vice Chairman Atlan asked to provide a reasonable amount of notice to lone prior to the start of construction, as the impact to businesses and residents will be substantial. Vice Chairman Atlan also stated there have been complaints made that paving work by Caltrans that is taking place on SR 104 only goes up to the railroad tracks, as the railroad tracks are owned by the Historical Society. He asked if there been any discussion to work with them on completing paving projects at crossings. Mr. Regisford replied he will take this back to the project team for clarification.

Chairman Oneto stated on the bypass there appear to be white reflective dots installed along the fog lines as well as the center lines. He commented they do not seem to do much and noted the money spent on those could go to better use. Mr. Regisford stated he will take that concern back for review. Chairman Oneto stated another accident took place on SR 49 in Drytown, and asserted that it would be beneficial to widen that stretch of roadway. Mr. Regisford noted there is a safety investigation scheduled for that area and will take that suggestion back to the maintenance team.

Commissioner Forster noted that the paving project performed by Caltrans in Sutter Hill appears not to match creating bumps in the road. He asked to have that reviewed.

ACTC Report: Mr. Gedney mentioned that he will ask County staff to present the final plan for the SR 88/Pine Grove Improvement project at a future ACTC meeting. As a follow up to Commissioner Plasse's previous comment, part of the reduction in cost was based on a re-analysis of land use projections. County staff worked with Caltrans to perform a supplemental traffic operation report to account for reduced growth projections from what was earlier anticipated. This work resulted in the recommendation of the Phase I work the project currently proposes.

Mr. Gedney stated regarding the concern on SR 88/Inspiration East intersection turn pocket, he had meeting with Sinareth Pheng- District 10 Asset Integrator and she is willing to provide a presentation at a future meeting on how the process works to perform these types of integration efforts.

Mr. Gedney stated Sacramento County has provided ACTC with information regarding another development proposal along the SR 16 corridor - the Cordova Hills Development – with the opportunity to submit preliminary

comments. He stated after discussion with legal counsel, staff recommendation is not to provide any comments for this development. Mr. Gedney stated ACTC's strategy is to achieve parity with the Newbridge Settlement Agreement which focuses on preservation of right-of-way on the SR 16 corridor.

Vice Chairman Atlan asked how many houses are included in this development. Mr. Gedney replied approximately 1600 homes, with significant commercial development as well.

Ms. Ebrahimi stated, regarding Commissioner Plasse's comment to have all notices distributed to ACTC directly, she contacted Sacramento County to ensure that future notices would be sent to ACTC. She noted this most recent notice was sent directly to Mr. Gedney. She commented, after discussion with Mr. Gedney, legal counsel did recommend not to provide comment but focus on projects that have a more direct impact on SR 16. She stated there should be parity of mitigation as it would be something that would help the community and the highway system in both the short and long-term.

Commissioner Plasse asked if the only road for ingress and egress is on Grant Line Road. Mr. Gedney replied there appears to be neighborhood roadways that will most likely be connected with future development, but the major access point is Grant Line Road.

Mr. Gedney noted, regarding the Jackson Township Development, ACTC did provide comment as that development will directly impact SR 16. He stated the planning commission hearing is scheduled for August 8th and they are still considering comments made. Ms. Ebrahimi commented her team continues to monitor the issue and; as a response letter is received regarding ACTC's comments, legal counsel will report to the board.

Caltrans Report with Marlon Regisford:

- California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) has approved and released the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), and can be found at <https://calsta.ca.gov/subject-areas/climate-action-plan>.
- Caltrans has completed the 2021 California Active Transportation (CAT) plan and will be available on the website in the future.
- Broadband expansion bills were passed in July 2021 - Assembly Bill and Senate Bill 156, which represents a \$6 billion multi-year investment to connect unserved households and businesses with local networks for broadband. Caltrans is looking forward to incorporating this into projects and this funding could benefit Amador County.
- The Caltrans Interregional Transportation Strategic Draft Plan (ITSP) is currently in the public review period until September 10th, 2021. There will be a workshop held on August 24th at 10:00 a.m. Information regarding this plan and workshops can be found at www.caltrans-ITSP2021.ORG. Mr. Gedney stated when looking at the maps for priority corridors included in the plan, the section from El Dorado down to Fresno or Kern County has none. He asked how funding will be distributed in the future towards these corridors if they are not shown as priority in the maps. Mr. Regisford noted that concern has been provided to the headquarters planning team, and stated headquarters has provided soft confirmation that they are recognizing the priority corridors in the district, especially in the east/west corridor such as SR 88, SR 4, and SR 16. Mr. Gedney asked if there are similar concerns in other counties, especially regarding SR 49. Mr. Regisford replied there have been similar concerns, and Caltrans is focused on improvements to SR 49 and does communicate that to headquarters.
- Sam Sherman has been appointed as the Caltrans District 10 Clean California Coordinator and will be reaching out local agencies to discuss coordination to clean California/Amador County. Caltrans has also hired a District 10 Encampment Program Coordinator- Warren Alford to assist needs surrounding encampments in the county.

- The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has a 'Call for Applications' for zero emissions freight and marine grant with a deadline date of September 22, 2021. More information can be found at www.californiavwtrust.org. Commissioner Plasse asked if this kind of grant funding could be utilized for a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling station for the various agencies within the county to utilize. Mr. Regisford responded he believes this grant would be for the equipment used but not the fueling station itself.
- A Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant 'call for projects' for transit services and facilities improvements has a due date in August. More information can be found at www.grants.gov.
- Regarding SR 49 in Drytown, there is an investigation and considerations of signage, striping, and shoulder work for that stretch of roadway.
- Throughout the county Caltrans maintenance crews are performing tree trimming and brush clearing. Litter cleanup is also taking place twice a month. Sweeping operations are underway in Pine Grove, Jackson, and Lone in an effort to reduce fire fuel to help reduce roadside wildfires in Caltrans right-of-way.
- There is a project to replace the existing diesel-fuel generator in the Peddler Hill maintenance station.
- Monthly meetings are being held with Caltrans maintenance team to plan projects. This aligns with a concern expressed by Chairman Oneto from a previous meeting regarding paving jobs being too quick in succession. After review it was determined there was a delay in the culvert job and this led to a quick succession of the pavement project with the culvert project. Chairman Oneto commented his concern was not the inconvenience of time. It was that Caltrans performed the paving of the SR 16/49 then came back approximately 1-2 years later and performed culvert work, which ruined some of the new paving. Mr. Regisford replied he understands the concern and it was initially expected to have the culvert work completed first, however due to delays it was not on the same schedule.
- Ms. Ponce stated regarding the Overall Work Program, processing of the fourth quarter is moving forward, the FY 2021/22 Certificate of Expenditures (COE) is due August 30, 2021. Caltrans is looking forward to processing the closeout expenditures, carryover funding, and moving on to the processing of FY 21/22 invoices.

Commissioner Forster noted an issue with the Caltrans highway cleaning. He stated there was a buildup of litter along a curb in Jackson near American River Bank, and thought it was due to the sweeper, and noted the highway cleaning efforts are appreciated but displacing such litter in front of private businesses is not. Mr. Regisford stated he will take that concern back to the maintenance team.

Future Agenda Items: None

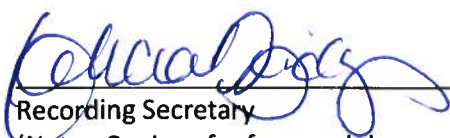
Adjournment:

At 11:38 a.m. the Vice Chairman adjourned the meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, September 2, 2021, at 117 Valley View Way Sutter Creek, CA 95685.



Dominic Atlan, Vice Chairman
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary

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