

AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (ACTC) MINUTES
September 7, 2023 – 9:21 a.m.
ACTC Board Room-117 Valley View Way Sutter Creek, CA 95685

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

Present on Roll Call:

Patrick Crew, Chairman
Steve McLean, Vice Chairman
Susan Bragstad
Richard Forster

Absent:

John Plasse
Julia Sierk

Also Present:

John Gedney, Executive Director, ACTC
Felicia Bridges, Administrative Analyst, ACTC
Patricia Maggie Amarant, AT General Manager

AGENDA:

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Vice Chairman McLean, and carried to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Crew, McLean, Bragstad, Forster
Noes: None
Absent: Plasse, Sierk

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1-3): Chairman Crew asked to have item #3 pulled for a separate vote.

#2. Expenditures Budget vs. Actual: Commissioner Forster noted, regarding line item 53000-Utilities (Garbage and sewer), the utility bills are at or above 50 percent of the annual budget already. Terri Nobriga-Yakesh, ACTC Administrator-Fiscal Officer clarified she pays those utility bills for the full year at the beginning of the fiscal year to avoid monthly late fees. She stated if there are any increases in service fees throughout the year, that amount is then paid at the end of the fiscal year.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Vice Chairman McLean, and carried to approve Consent Agenda items #1 and 2.

Ayes: Crew, McLean, Bragstad, Forster,
Noes: None
Absent: Plasse, Sierk

#3. State Route 88/Pine Grove Improvement Project: California Transportation Commission (CTC) Construction Allocation: Mr. Gedney noted this item is informational only as the CTC already approved this. Commissioner Forster stated he still thinks there is great benefit to this project aside from some potential cost overruns, especially after already spending approximately \$7 million on this project to date.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Vice Chairman McLean, and carried to approve Consent Agenda item #3 (informational item only).

Ayes: McLean, Bragstad, Forster,
Noes: Crew
Absent: Plasse, Sierk

REGULAR AGENDA:

#4. Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP): Ms. Bridges reviewed her staff report.

Commissioner Forster asked if Amador Transit (AT) has ever provided vanpool services, and stated a vanpool service may be something to consider for Camanche or other outlining areas. Ms. Amarant stated she believes an individual provided a vanpool service within the county in 2008 that no longer exists, but she could look into vanpooling services.

Ms. Amarant stated as the State has put out requirements for transit agencies to convert to zero emission vehicle fleets by 2035, the current AT location cannot accommodate the space required for electric charging stations and staff has been reviewing other potential locations that would better suit the need. She stated the property previously known as Jeff Holman Auto Sales is for sale, and noted it appears to have enough space and is setup to accommodate AT's needs. Commissioner Forster stated the estimated cost to purchase Jeff Holman's property is \$5 million, but the cost to construct anything new is significantly high as well. Ms. Amarant stated the State does not have infrastructure in place to require agencies to fully convert by 2035, but in the event that timeframe is not pushed out and transit needs to convert, AT would need to find a new location.

Mr. Gedney stated applications for this first year of funding will be due in December for those that are ready, and those that are not have until 2028 to allocate/expend the first year's funding. He noted this is informational only at this time but stated research on electric vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles needs to be performed and staff will bring back more information as applicable.

Ms. Amarant commented the county should begin providing some kind of alternative fuel so that government agencies and eventually the public as a whole could begin to transition over. Mr. Gedney stated the airport could be a suitable site for a hydrogen fuel cell fueling station. Commissioners agreed to have staff continue research and bring back more information on this item.

#5. 2024 ACTC Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP): Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report.

Commissioner Forster asked if a project submitted into the RTIP needs to be one large project or if multiple small projects could be programmed. Mr. Gedney stated it could be either, and a Project Study Report (PSR) equivalent could be prepared for smaller pavement projects. He continued staff is working with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to review potential road rehabilitation projects. Mr. Gedney also noted a large project like the Sutter Street Extension/Wicklow Way Extension project could be submitted utilizing various funding sources including: the RTIP, Congestion Mitigation Air Quality funding, Regional Traffic Mitigation Fee program, and the Amador County Unified School District stated they had approximately \$4 million available from developer fees that could potentially contribute to traffic mitigation roadway work to accommodate the changes the school consolidation will create.

Commissioners continued discussion regarding the potential benefits of moving forward with the Wicklow Way Extension. Mr. Gedney stated he will bring back further information at the next board meeting.

#6. 2024 Regional Transportation Plan- Process Update: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report and attachments. He noted the Western Ione Roadway Improvement Strategy (WIRIS) was moved to the State Highway Project Listing and will most likely remain there as the City of Ione has not moved forward with that project to date. He stated the project lists will be further updated as information comes back from the jurisdictions and the county including cost estimates and revenue sources.

#7. FY 2022/23 Local Transportation Fund (LTF)/Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Fund Distribution: Mr. Gedney reviewed his staff report. He noted a correction to the amount of RSTP funding as described in the staff report from \$547,625 to \$420,000 available, still allowing approximately \$1 million available to distribute to the county and local jurisdictions for ‘streets and roads’ purposes.. Mr. Gedney also revisited the possibility of using this excess funding to go towards one large project as previously discussed in item #5-RTIP.

Commissioner Forster stated the process to spend those funds fixing roads worked in the past when we had more money and less potholes, but now projects cost significantly more than they used to and less funding is available. Vice Chairman McLean added we do not know the extent of damage the coming winter weather may have on the roadways. Chairman Crew suggested distributing the LTF/RSTP funding as recommended now to get some work done on the roads, as the need to get roads repaired is too great.

Mr. Gedney stated if the board approves the distribution, then this funding would be sent to the county and jurisdictions upon completion/return of the claim forms.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad, and carried to approve the distribution of LTF/RSTP funding to the county and local jurisdictions.

Ayes: Crew, McLean, Bragstad, Forster
Noes: None
Absent: Plasse, Sierk

The Chairman recessed for a break at 10:20 a.m. The Chairman resumed the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

#8. Claims: Mr. Gedney noted there is a revised claims list for review.

Commissioner Forster asked what “note holding” means on the highlighted items. Mr. Gedney stated that pertains to the \$800,000 RSTP distribution that was approved in spring of this year, but has yet to be distributed to the jurisdictions due to pending claim forms being returned. Staff has contacted the jurisdictions to request they submit their claims in order to receive the funding allocation. He noted those funds have been moved to the checking account but will be held until the claim forms are received by ACTC.

Motion: It was moved by Vice Chairman McLean, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad, and carried to approve the revised claims list.

Ayes: Crew, McLean, Bragstad, Forster
Noes: None
Absent: Plasse, Sierk

#10. ACTC Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Forster stated he met with the City of Lone's Police Chief regarding overall traffic backups at the SR 124/Shakeley Lane/Preston Ave. intersection, and travelers making illegal right turns from SR 124 onto Preston Ave. He stated shift change of the prison employees is the worse time, and noted Caltrans needs to make some decisions regarding this intersection as it is only getting worse. Mr. Gedney stated ACTC did get notice that Caltrans has programmed a Project Initiation Document (PID) in the 2026 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP).

#11. ACTC Reports: None

#12. Caltrans Report with Gregoria Ponce-Office Chief of Rural Planning, Caltrans District 10:

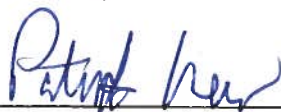
- Ms. Ponce stated she supports Mr. Gedney's comment regarding the PID at the SR 124/Shakeley Lane/Preston Ave intersection and a range of alternatives will be explored on how to approach that issue.
- Funding opportunities are available through the Federal Transit Administration or Transit- Oriented Development to find communities to integrate land use and transportation planning. There is \$13.5 million available and the deadline to apply is October 10th. There is also the SMART grant-strengthening mobility and revolutionizing transportation, to conduct demonstration projects and focused on advancing smart city technology and systems to improve transportation efficiencies. There is \$100 million available and the deadline to apply is October 10th. Lastly, Department of Transportation-Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhood Program, established to assist economically disadvantaged or underserved communities to support planning, capital construction, and regional partnership activities. Also to restore community connectivity through the removal, retrofitting, and mitigation or replacement of highway, roadways, or other infrastructure facilities that create barriers to mobility or access to economic development. Overall there is approximately \$3 billion available and the deadline to apply is September 28th.
- The ACTC Overall Work Program 4th quarter invoices and certifications of expenditures have been processed. Caltrans staff will be sending out reconciliation letters once approved.
- Caltrans is looking forward to reviewing and commenting on the 2024 RTP environmental document.

Chairman Crew stated he received calls regarding the left turn lane (headed east onto SR 88) signal timing at the intersection at SR 88/SR 49 in Jackson, which is creating a backup of vehicles. He added this is leading to difficulties for travelers in the other lanes and vehicles trying to access the main highway from businesses adjacent to the signal such as: Mel & Faye's Diner, State Farm Insurance, and Grocery Outlet. Ms. Ponce stated she will send that information over to the Traffic Operations Department today for a field check.

#13. Future Agenda Items:

- Regional Transportation Improvement Program-continued
- FY 2024/25 Annual Unmet Transit Needs Process

#14. Adjournment: At 10:34 a.m. the Chairman adjourned the regular meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 117 Valley View Way Sutter Creek, CA 95685.



Patrick Crew, Chairman
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:



Recording Clerk

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