

AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (ACTC) MINUTES

November 2, 2023 – 9:06 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- Board of Supervisors, Chairman
Steve McLean- City of Jackson, Vice Chairman
Susan Bragstad- City of Amador City
Richard Forster- Board of Supervisors

Absent:

John Plasse- Citizen at Large (Illness)
Dan Riordan- City of Sutter Creek (Family Illness)

Also Present:

John Gedney, Executive Director, ACTC
Felicia Bridges, Administrative Analyst, ACTC
Patricia Maggie Amarant, AT General Manager
Dennis Agar, Director, Caltrans District 10

Commissioner Plasse was present at Roll Call via audio, however pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 2449, he was unable to participate as a board member due to lack of visual and audio capability.

Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA:

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

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

PUBLIC MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA: None

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1-8):

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

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

REGULAR AGENDA:

#9. 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)-Project Evaluation Criteria: Mr. Gedney stated, based on the direction provided at the last meeting, staff was to provide performance measures and criteria in order to prioritize the projects for the RTIP, as well as the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan update. He reviewed his staff report and attachments. Mr. Gedney reviewed the new draft criteria as follows:

- Preserve the Existing System
Pavement Condition Index: Good = 1, Average = 3, Poor = 5
Drainage & Appurtenances: No Imp = 1, "Good" Imp = 3, "Excellent" Imp = 5
- Ensure Efficient Funding Plan & Implementation
Project Phasing
Excessive non-construction project phase programming = 1, Moderate non-construction programming = 3, No non-construction programming "shovel ready" projects= 5
- Construction Cost
Construction cost per mile: High = 1, Average = 3, Low =5
- Reduce Congestion / Improve Mobility
Average Daily Traffic
Low = 1, Average = 3, High = 5
- Enhance Safety
Improved Evacuation Routes
Non-Evac Route = 1, Alternate Route = 3, Primary Evac Route = 5

Vice Chairman McLean asked if Jackson submitted any projects for this RTIP cycle. Mr. Gedney replied none to date.

Mr. Gedney gave a brief description (referencing Item #10-Attachment D-Excel Spreadsheet) how the criteria and performance measures work to help prioritize roadway projects.

Motion: It was moved by Vice Chairman McLean, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad, and carried to approve the proposed project evaluation criteria.

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

#10. 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program-Project Programming Selection: Mr. Gedney commented as the SR 88/Pine Grove Improvement Corridor Project is now fully funded and going to construction other projects are eligible to be submitted for funding. He reviewed his staff report and attachments. Staff updated the Excel Spreadsheet (Attachment D) in live view to display the scores (previously approved criteria in Item #9) and prioritization of all the Project Study Report (PSR) Equivalent proposals submitted. Mr. Gedney noted some members from the local jurisdictions were present to speak on behalf of their projects.

Dave Groth, Amador City representative, stated he would like to amend two (2) items in Amador City's PSR. The first amendment is under item #12. Cost Estimate Breakdown, the city will not need funding for the planning phase as displayed and will provide ACTC an updated PSR. He noted that should change the scoring under that performance measure. He also noted Amador City is a thoroughfare of traffic for travelers not utilizing the bypass. Mr. Groth stated Amador City's highway 49 was turned over to the city by the State in 2013 with the bridge replacement project, and when looking at the condition of the highway, it has been a number of years since that road was rehabilitated (when previously owned by the Caltrans, but unsure exactly how long ago). The city does have residual funding from the bridge project but not adequate enough to meet the needs of this particular road. He highlighted the rehabilitation in the proposal only includes 'road edge to road edge' work, is 'shovel ready,' is considered an evacuation route, and has one of the worst Pavement Condition Index (PCI) ratings.

Commissioner Forster asked how much residual funding Amador City has. Mr. Groth replied the city has a couple hundred thousand set aside which would be used for any planning work required for this project.

Chairman Crew commented a concern with only performing 'edge to edge' pavement work is issues with culverts may arise as work begins, and noted that any additional cost would fall on the local jurisdiction to cover. Mr. Groth replied for this particular project, the health of the underlay is decent with simple cracking and peeling of the pavement. He noted during last winter's storms and flooding, Amador City did not have any issues with water runoff or culverts.

Richard Vela-Amador County Public Works, stated in an attempt to be flexible, as he is aware that previous RIP funding has gone to a county project, he submitted six (6) County projects on three (3) roads for this RTIP cycle. He stated they are all located on primary evacuation routes and vary in cost.

Commissioner Forster asked if only the worst areas within a proposed project can be completed to spread the funds further. Mr. Vela replied the segments for repair on Fiddletown Road and Shake Ridge Road are adjacent to each other but are provided separately in an attempt to provide a more manageable amount to allocate to a county project. He continued the projects Commissioner Forster has pointed out have a more expensive cost estimate as they are considering reconstruction, rather than overlay. Mr. Gedney noted staff would request to keep the integrity of the PRS Equivalents provided but noted additional funding sources could be accessed to complete more projects.

Mr. Vela noted minor corrections in the data included in the Excel Spreadsheet. Mr. Gedney applied the changes noted by Mr. Vela to the spreadsheet to show the accurate prioritization. He clarified the information may not be entirely accurate due to some data drawn from 2019, and added this is to serve as guidance to support the board's decision-making process.

Mr. Gedney stated at the last meeting, staff showed a financial projection that covers a 20-year list of projects in the RTP update that would utilize the Local Transportation Fund (LTF), Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP), Regional Traffic Mitigation Fee (RTMF) program, and the Regional Improvement Program (RIP) funding sources as all available revenue that could be applied to the project listing. He continued, recently the RSTP and LTF funds have been distributed out to the jurisdictions annually; however, some discussion has taken place to hold those funds for these specific projects. Mr. Gedney stated that funding from those sources could be allocated to start completing some of these projects. He clarified that would provide \$4 million in RIP funds for this cycle, approximately \$2 million of unobligated funding in RTMF, \$423,000 in RSTP, and excess LTF funds that come in each year. He noted a question for the local jurisdictions regarding the PSR proposals is the programming year request, and if they would have adequate staffing capacity to complete the projects in a particular year.

Commissioners assessed the project proposals and the prioritization table. Commissioners agreed (after the criteria was approved and project list was scored) to include the top four (4) projects listed to be programmed in the 2024 RTIP project programming request. The board then agreed to recommend the SR 88 to 124 paving project and the Amador City project to the RTMF for potential funding as there are fees from the Buena Vista casino that are subject to the 'use it or lose it' provisions. Additionally, the commissioners agreed to fund the Eureka Road project in Sutter Creek from RSTP funds in an effort to provide fairness and accomplish as many projects possible with the funding currently available. The detailed projects are as follows:

1. Approve RIP funding:

- a) Buena Vista Road, County line to Camanche Parkway North-\$1,181,581
- b) Shake Ridge Road, Ponderosa Way to Cad Clara Way-\$839,254

- c) Shake Ridge Road, Cad Clara to Fiddletown Road-\$690,176
- d) Fiddletown Road, PM 6.2 to Hale Road-\$848,835

2. Recommend RTMF funding:

- a) Buena Vista Road, SR 88 to 124-\$640,483
- b) Main Street-Amador City, City limits-\$1,077,000

3. Approve RSTP funding:

Eureka Road, Sutter Hill Road to Old Ridge Road-\$405,000

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad, and carried to approve the projects to be funded with the funding sources as discussed.

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

#11. 2024 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)- Draft Updates: Ms. Bridges reviewed her staff report.

Commissioner Bragstad noted on Attachment A-page 11, the table shows the lone population with the prison population included, and suggested not to include that. Ms. Bridges responded this table is representation of the entire county’s population, but added there is a section below the table that does note the Mule Creek State Prison’s population specifically, as to not distort the information.

Motion: It was moved by Vice Chairman McLean, seconded by Commissioner Forster, and carried to approve the accepted versions of the “Introduction” and “Planning Process” sections of the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan update.

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

#12. Claims: Chairman Crew noted there is a revised claims list for review.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Bragstad, and carried to approve the revised claims list as presented.

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

#13. ACTC Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Forster stated Amador County was one of the only two counties in California that was awarded approximately \$800,000 in funding for a safety improvement planning grant.

#14. ACTC Reports: Mr. Gedney stated he attended the Amador County Consolidation Community Input meeting recently where Dr. Critchfield noted the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is nearing completion and the formal traffic analysis using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) will be completed this month. However, VMT does not work in rural areas as there is not an urban level transit corridor. For the school district’s project, they will complete an EIR, and present a VMT analysis that will be unmitigated. They did note they will be voluntarily performing a

Level of Service (LOS) analysis but that will not be available until March, which already show preliminary results that indicate that intersection at a level of service F. Mr. Gedney stated this intersection (SR 49/88/Argonaut Lane) was sent to the Caltrans Traffic Operations Team for a safety investigation and upon completion of that (Consent Agenda item #7), their recommendations included signage but they are waiting on the results of the school district's traffic analysis. He stated when this consolidation takes place, that intersection will be a safety concern that will fall on the responsibility of Caltrans. Mr. Gedney stated according to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the school district will not be compelled to do any improvements, and may at most be required to prepare a Statement of Overwriting Consideration to approve their EIR. He suggested there may be a case to be made that VMT analysis does not work in rural areas and there should be an exception created for safety. Mr. Gedney suggested reaching out to our State Senator and approach the legislature regarding this matter, potentially including ACTC legal counsel in the process.

Commissioner McLean agreed with staff recommendation to reach out to Senator Alverado-Gil's staff regarding this matter.

#15. Caltrans Report with Dennis Agar:

- Caltrans is currently working on the 2024 State Highway System Management Plan for the 10-year State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) which will be released for public review/comment on December 7th for approximately one (1) month.
- Regarding the ACUSD school site consolidation issue, Caltrans will continue to work with ACTC and the school district to better communicate and find a solution.
- Caltrans staff and equipment are prepared for the upcoming winter season. Caltrans implemented a mass hire event recently and will continue to hire for equipment operators.
- Mr. Agar reviewed his updated organizational chart and noted the link to that information will be provided. He also highlighted new staff members Duper Tong-Deputy District Director and Ramamohan Bommavaram- Safe System and noted he will schedule them to make a visit to the commission soon.

Commissioner Forster stated there is a new issue now at the SR 124/Shakeley Lane/ Preston Ave. intersection. The City of Lone has required the Chevron gas station to install a sign that was built solid creating a visibility issue at an already difficult intersection.

Chairman Crew noted the intersection light timing at SR 49/SR 88 seems to be on track again. Mr. Agar stated he is glad to hear that and noted Caltrans will continue to work on the timing at all Caltrans intersections. He added that they are involved in a pilot program for the State called Automatic Traffic Control (ATC) system using artificial intelligence. Mr. Agar stated maximizing the use of these kinds of technology can aid in preserving the safety of maintenance workers, and reviewed a recent incident that took place with an intoxicated driver and maintenance worker addressing an intersection light issue.

Mr. Agar noted Mr. Marlon Regisford has taken a new position in District 7 and staff will be working to backfill that position.

Vice Chairman McLean stated there will be a meeting in Jackson to review maintenance work that is needs to be performed to ensure the flooding issues that occurred last winter do not take place again, specifically to the creek along SR 49. He asked if Caltrans staff could be involved in the process. Mr. Agar responded he will update his staff including Tanya Sanguinetti-Deputy District Director of Maintenance and hopes to have staff attend an upcoming ACTC meeting.

#16. Future Agenda Items:

- Regional Transportation Improvement Program

- Amador County Unified School District Site Consolidation- Continued
- 2024 Regional Transportation Plan-continued
- FY 2024/25 Annual Unmet Transit Needs Process- Annual Hearing

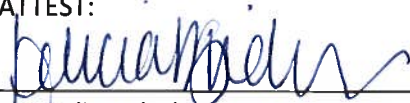
Mr. Gedney noted the Closed Session item is recommended to be pulled from the agenda.

#17. Adjournment: At 12:10 p.m. the Chairman adjourned the regular meeting until 9:00 a.m. Thursday, November 2, 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.)