

AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

May 21, 2008 – 6:08 P.M.

The Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) met at the Amador County Administration Center, 810 Court Street, Jackson, California on the above date, and the following proceedings were had, to wit:

Present on Roll Call:

Greg Baldwin
Richard Forster
Al Nunes, Vice Chairman
Dave Richards
Jerry Sherman

Absent:

Louis Boitano, Chairman

Also Present:

Kathleen McClafflin, Acting Chief, Rural Planning & Administration, Caltrans District 10
Charles Field, ACTC Executive Director
Robyn Sheehan, ACTC Administrator

Agenda:

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

Public Matters Not on the Agenda: None

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Sherman, seconded by Commissioner Baldwin, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda as presented.

REGULAR AGENDA

Highway 49 Bypass Follow-up Items: ACTC consultant Scott Maas, Maas & Associates, provided an update concerning the Highway 49 Bypass follow-up items. He advised that the City of Sutter Creek will be working with Amador Land Trust on a conservation easement for the Sutter Gold mitigation site perimeter trail. The conservation easement is being required by Fish and Wildlife Service before approval is provided for the trail. He also reported that the County is waiting for the State to declare the Tonzi Road construction site as excess land before it can be obtained by the County.

Mr. Maas stated that Sutter Creek has sent the requested Inverse Condemnation letters to Caltrans for the ADA sidewalk improvements and Dr. Richards' parking lot. The letters are at

Caltrans Legal for review. Commissioner Forster requested that the County be included in these claims because the County has been involved in these efforts and it is providing a portion of the money for the improvements.

ACTC Executive Director Charles Field stated that there was a Board action to loan the City of Sutter Creek half of the money at an estimated cost of \$50,000. He asked if the City and County can go forward with the work this summer and get reimbursed from the State at a later date. Commissioner Forster stated that this was the intent as discussed during the meeting with Senator Cox and District Director Kome Ajise. Mr. Maas will follow up on this item. Commissioner Forster also asked Mr. Maas to find out when this work will begin. Mr. Mass stated that the City had some concerns with the letter provided by Caltrans and there may be some legal issues to be worked out.

Tri-County State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): Scott Maas, Maas & Associates, reported that the California Transportation Commission staff is recommending to not approve local road rehabilitation funding for Alpine and Amador Counties. The Tri-Counties Executive Directors and the Alpine County Board of Supervisors Chairman will attend the California Transportation Commission meeting in June and request approval of the local road rehab funds. In response to Commissioner Forster, Mr. Field stated that Alpine may not be willing to sign the MOU II if they do not receive the requested funds. He explained that Calaveras was trading \$960,000 programmed in a prior STIP so that Alpine could receive local road rehab funds in 2008/09 and the CTC took the funds. In addition, Amador's \$500,000 for local road rehab (Sutter Ione Road) did not get programmed in future years as requested. Commissioners Forster and Nunes expressed support for Mr. Field's attendance at the CTC meeting.

Mr. Maas stated that Alpine County wants to give \$13 million of their \$18 million, over the next 20 years, to Amador and Calaveras Counties' for their state highway projects but they need the \$960,000 up front.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Baldwin, seconded by Commissioner Forster, and unanimously carried to submit a letter to the California Transportation Commission concerning Alpine County's need for the local road rehab funds.

Mr. Maas stated that if Alpine County pulls out of MOU II it will affect the Calaveras Highway 4 Wagon Trail Project and the Amador Highway 88 Pine Grove Corridor project. Commissioner Baldwin asked if there was another source from which to provide Alpine with the needed money. Mr. Field stated that this would take further thought.

Caltrans 2008 Construction Season: Mr. Maas reported that Caltrans District 10 provided a list of its planned 2008 construction projects for Amador County. For various reasons not all of the projects will actually be constructed during 2008.

Ione Bypass Project: ACTC consultant Matt Boyer, Dokken Engineering, introduced Christopher Jordan, City Planner for the City of Ione. Mr. Boyer stated that this project is identified in the Amador County Regional Transportation Plan as well as the County's and City's Circulation Elements. He provided an overview of the draft list of route segments that will be

studied and he presented an overview of the type of analysis to be completed. It is recommended that the project scope be adjusted to enable identification of both a near-term and a long-term preferred alternative to roadway improvements for the west Ione area and to provide for a better analysis of the alternatives. Mr. Boyer stated that from the stand point of the community and the stand point of the legal process, the project should be analyzed as a whole not segmented.

Commissioner Forster stated that fatal flaws should not be ruled out until meetings are held with property owners Scully and Silva. He stated that if property owners have major issues with the project, it should be dealt with upfront. Mr. Boyer stated that he will speak with these two property owners.

Mr. Field stated that the ultimate project should be considered and this effort should be combined with the City and County General Plan Updates so that questions concerning circulation and land use can be answered. Staff is withdrawing its recommendation to increase the cost of the contract at this time but would like conceptual approval of the direction that this project is headed.

Commissioner Baldwin stated that the location is a wise choice because of the railroad, existing right of way, and because it only affects one property owner. G1, G2A, and G2B should not be considered if the City wants to maintain a small town atmosphere. The school buses can find their way through the town and traffic should be kept away from school children and pedestrians. G3 is a logical option for through-traffic and potential casino traffic. In addition, Option A should connect to Collins Road to avoid creating another intersection.

Commissioner Forster stated that it is important to lay out all of the alternatives, go through the public process, and get the buy in from the community so that this project can move forward more smoothly in the future.

ACTC staff and consultants were directed to continue with the work as presented and discussed.

Pat Crosby, City of Sutter Creek, stated that items to be watched concerning construction of a bypass are: good entrance, good exit, and proper signing. He also suggested putting some passenger trains on the railroad.

Ione Inside Corner: Scott Maas, Maas & Associates, reported that the Ione Inside Corner project is in the right of way phase. This phase requires appraisals and acquisition. It has been determined that Amador County is the owner of the property. The utilities have been located and they will need to be relocated as well as grinding rock. Commissioner Sherman stated that the Tribe has provided a letter requesting custody of the rock.

Commissioner Forster stated that other Tribes in the community could make claim to the rock and the rock may need to go into the Amador County Museum.

Kathleen McClafin, Acting Chief, Rural Planning & Administration, Caltrans District 10, stated that the County has not responded to the letter written in December. She advised that the utility company has a deadline of June 30 to provide Caltrans with a utility relocation plan. After review of the utility relocation plan by Caltrans, the Project Program Advisor will provide a construction schedule.

Ms. McClafin stated that the owner of the parcel is responsible for moving the rock. Mr. Field clarified that the County could move the rock back on the existing property so that the utilities could be moved.

Mr. Maas stated that the most critical timeline item is the utility relocation and this is up to the utility company. This should be known by June 30 but the rock will need to be moved. He further stated that the County could donate the land to Caltrans, which would save several months time for appraisals and acquisition. In addition, the County could help expedite the moving of the rock. Commissioner Forster stated that the County could trade this property for the property involved with the Hartwick claim. He asked if this would involve an extensive bureaucratic process. Ms. McClafin suggested that the County write a letter concerning this matter. Mr. Forster stated that he will discuss the matter of moving the rock back on the property with the County CAO.

Mr. Field recapped that the County may move the rock. Mr. Maas or a Caltrans representative will report in July concerning the utility relocation. Will the County consider donating the sliver of property to Caltrans? Mr. Forster reminded the Commission that the County will probably not receive money from Caltrans for Sutter-Ione Road repairs.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Baldwin, seconded by Commissioner Sherman, to recommend that the County donate approximately 10X30 feet of right of way to Caltrans for the Ione Inside Corner project.

Ayes: Greg Baldwin, Jerry Sherman

Noes: Richard Forster, Dave Richards

Caltrans Report: Kathleen McClafin, Acting Chief, Rural Planning & Administration, Caltrans District 10, reported that if bollards were installed at SR 104/124/Main Street, they would need to be 18" from the face of the curb and this would not protect the overhang from being damaged.

Commissioner Forster asked if Caltrans will be going forward with the SR 88 Jackson Valley rehab project? He stated that in 6 to 12 months a decision might be made concerning the casino project and the Tribe may have to pay for the road improvements. He also asked if Caltrans notified the property owner, Chris Gansberg, concerning the Jackson Valley Rehabilitation Project since the Initial Study states that the Gansberg's driveway will be relocated? Ms. McClafin responded that the Environmental Group did speak with the property owners and are trying to set up meetings.

Sutter Hill Transit Center: Mr. Field explained that Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties were at risk of losing their 2007/08 Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ) funds and are willing to trade them with the ACTC for future years' funds. If CMAQ funds are not available in 20011/12, ACTC will need to repay this portion with another funding source such as Proposition 1B Transit funds.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Baldwin, seconded by Commission Forster, and unanimously carried to approve the following items:

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ACTC and Amador Regional Transit System wherein ACTC will oversee design and construction of the Sutter Hill Transit Center (SHTC). This approval is subject to amendments by ACTC legal counsel.

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ACTC and the Amador Council of Tourism relative to said Council's use of the facility for an Amador County tourist center. This approval is subject to amendments by ACTC legal counsel.
- Resolution concerning Proposition 1B, California Transit Security Grant program, funding for the SHTC.
- Resolution concerning Transportation Enhancement Program grant funds for the SHTC.
- Agreement between ACTC and Caltrans for Federal Transit Administration Section 5309 grant funds. This approval is subject to amendments by ACTC legal counsel.
- Request for Proposals for SHTC construction management services.

Resolution No. 08-14

Resolution approving programming of California Transit Security Grant Program funding under the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality and Port Security Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 1B)

Resolution No. 08-15

Resolution authorizing chairman or Executive Director to execute all related documents concerning the Sutter Hill Transit Center Transportation Enhancement Project

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program Amendment:

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Richards, and unanimously carried to approve, by resolution, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Calaveras Council of Governments and the Tuolumne County Transportation Council, for trading Congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds between the years 2007/08 and 2011/12 so that each agency can more efficiently expend their shares of CMAQ fund apportionments (subject to minor changes by ACTC legal counsel). CMAQ funds anticipated for fiscal years 2010/11 and 2011/12 shall be devoted to the Sutter Hill Transit Center and to fulfill obligations of the Amador-Calaveras-Tuolumne Counties MOU relative to CMAQ funds.

Resolution No. 08-16

Resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Amador County Transportation Commission, the Calaveras Council of Governments, and the Tuolumne County Transportation Council wherein congestion Management and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds may be traded among the respective transportation agencies between the years 2007/08 and 2011/12 so that each agency can more efficiently expend their shares of CMAQ fund apportionments

State Transit Assistance (STA) Funds: Mr. Field stated that the Amador Regional Transit System approved the ARTS STA claim at their meeting of this date.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Baldwin, seconded by Commissioner Sherman, and unanimously carried to approve, by resolution, the Amador Regional Transit System's (ARTS) claim for State Transit Assistance funds (\$369,140) for purposes of funding construction and management of the Sutter Hill Transit Center project.

Resolution No. 08-17

Resolution approving Amador Regional Transit System's (ARTS) claim in the amount of \$369,140.00 against State Transit Assistance Funds, allocation No. 0708-2, Fiscal Year 2007/08

Consultant Contract Amendments:

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Richards, and unanimously carried to approve contract increases and amended scopes of work as follows:

- Fehr & Peers, TransCAD-UPlan Link Project, increase by \$7,000
- Dokken Engineering, 49 Bypass Landscape Project, increase by \$20,000
- Dokken Engineering, Sutter Hill Transit Center, increase by \$99,360

Claims:

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

Adjournment:

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Richards, seconded by Commissioner Baldwin, and unanimously carried to adjourn to **6:00 p.m. June 18, 2008**, at the Amador County Administration Center, 810 Court Street, Jackson, California.

At 8:06 p.m. Vice Chairman Nunes adjourned the meeting.

Louis Boitano, Chairman
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:

Recording Secretary

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