

**AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 19, 2007 – 6:12 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  
Louis Boitano, Chairman  
Richard Forster  
Al Nunes, Vice Chairman  
Dave Richards  
Jerry Sherman

**Also Present:**

Daniel Brewer, Chief, Rural Planning and Administration, Caltrans District 10  
Robyn Sheehan, Administrator  
Sean Rabé, Transportation Planner/Program Manager  
Patrick Ireland, ARTS General Manager

**Agenda:** A Blue Slip agenda item was presented concerning a Caltrans Community Based Transportation Planning Grant for the City of Plymouth.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Sherman, seconded by Commissioner Nunes, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the inclusion of the Blue Slip agenda item.

**Public Matters Not on the Agenda:** Patty Baxley, resident of Sutter Creek, stated that after the 49 Bypass was completed and the lights were reset at Sutter Hill, there is a problem with westbound traffic backing up on Ridge Road at the intersection of Ridge Road and SR 49. Only five cars can turn when the light is green and cars cannot get onto Ridge Road from Sutter Hill Road. In addition, sometimes the light does not turn green when she is waiting at the intersection. Caltrans has informed the CHP that the signal is working correctly but she feels it needs to be investigated at different times of the day. Commissioners Richards and Nunes concurred that the signal is not working properly.

Ed Swift, resident of Sutter Creek, stated that the City of Sutter Creek received a \$900,000 grant and it will be moving old Sutter Hill Road east from the intersection so that there will be more stacking room for cars.

Commissioner Baldwin suggested that the right lane could be a left turn as well as a through lane.

Chairman Boitano stated that the 4-way stop intersection at SR 49 and Jackson Gate Road is still a safety hazard.

**Consent Agenda**

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

**Highway 49 Bypass:** Scott Maas, ACTC consultant for State project delivery assistance, reported that the letter from Caltrans addresses all items that were requested except for two: lighting at the intersection of old SR 49/SR 49 near Amador City and a yellow flashing warning signal approaching the bypass from Amador City. A letter concerning these items from the Amador County Public Works Director has been resubmitted to Caltrans. Mr. Maas reported that Dr. Richards and the City of Sutter Creek are submitting claims to the State and Mr. Hartwick may also need to submit a claim prior to the February deadline.

Commissioner Forster asked if the County should submit a claim for repairs to Sutter-Ione Road even though the ACTC is trying to obtain State Transportation Improvement Program funds for this work? Mr. Maas responded that the County could also file a claim for Sutter-Ione Road. Chairman Boitano stated that a claim should also be filed for Tonzi Road.

Commissioner Forster inquired about the funds budgeted for Dr. Richards' property. Mr. Maas stated that approximately \$50,000 was budgeted for the parking lot relocation and repair and approximately \$93,000 for sidewalks. The funds were budgeted but Caltrans does not have an avenue to pay for this work because it is off of the state highway system.

Chairman Boitano stated that he took Senator Cox to see the Hartwick access and the Richards' dental offices. He suggested that ACTC inform Senator Cox's office and James Ottem of Assemblyman Nakanishi's office of the funding issue concerning Dr. Richards' property.

Mr. Maas reported that the City of Sutter Creek would like Old Highway 49 designated Historic 49. Senator Cox's office will help prepare resolutions for the city and County that will be needed to get special legislation approved for this item.

**Tri-County State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP):** Mr. Maas stated that Alpine County Local Transportation Commission is in favor of Tri-County Memorandum of Understanding II (MOU II) but Alpine would like to make sure that their projects are weighted equally with the other highway projects. Calaveras Council of Governments also supports MOU II. The MOU II includes the following projects:

- SR 4 Wagon Trail Realignment Project (\$76 million)
- SR 88 Pine Grove Corridor Improvement Project (\$83 million)
- SR 4/49 Bridges and Intersection, Angels Camp (\$10 million)
- Alpine County Local Road Rehabilitation (\$5 million)
- Amador Sutter-Ione Road Repair and/or Rehabilitation (\$500,000)

It is proposed that the state highway projects will be funded with 50% of Tri-County Regional Improvement Program (RIP) funds and 50% Caltrans Interregional Improvement Program (IIP) funds. Additional needed funding could come from the sale of excess right of way, federal earmark, traffic mitigation fees, or transportation sales tax funds. No other STIP projects can be included in

the MOU unless agreed upon by the Tri-Counties. A response has not yet been received from Caltrans concerning the 50% IIP match.

Mr. Maas stated that the Regional Transportation Improvement Program will include funding for the following projects:

- SR 4 Wagon Trail Realignment PA&ED and portion of PS&E
- SR 88 Pine Grove Corridor Improvement PA&ED and portion of PS&E
- SR 4/49 Bridges Intersection PA&ED
- Alpine County Emigrant Trail and other Rehabilitation
- PPM for each of the Tri-Counties
- TE funding for each of the Tri-Counties

The RTIP will be brought back to the Commission for approval at the January 2008 ACTC meeting. Mr. Rabé stated that the Tri-Counties will be meeting with Caltrans concerning the 50% match of IIP funds for the projects listed in the MOU II.

Commissioner Forster asked if Commissioners would be participating in the meetings with Caltrans and indicated that it might be beneficial.

**Caltrans Reports:** Dan Brewer, Chief of Rural Planning and Administration, Caltrans District 10, reported that the Program of Projects for FTA Section 5311 is due by the end of December. Also applications for Transportation Planning Grants are due January 11, 2008.

Mr. Brewer inquired about the SR 49 Martell Tree Replacement project. Mr. Forster stated that at least \$25,000 was expended on this project and the ACTC did not want this project dropped and the money wasted. There are also liability and haz mat concerns. Commissioner Baldwin stated that since this is a highly traveled area, it would be a good partnership for Caltrans to assist in getting this project completed. Mr. Rabé will provide Mr. Brewer with information concerning this matter.

Commissioner Forster reported that an objection was expressed concerning the naming of the Sutter Creek Bridge. An individual has requested that the bridge be named the Veterans' Bridge rather than naming the bridge for one individual. Commissioner Forster stated that since the naming of the Sutter Creek Bridge is already moving forward one of the other bridges could be named the Veterans' bridge.

**Sutter Hill Transit Center (SHTC):** Matt Boyer, ACTC/ARTS project manager for the Sutter Hill Transit Center, explained the construction phases of the Transit Center project and provided graphics showing the Project Oversight Committee's recommended architectural design for the passenger loading area. He reported that the environmental studies have been refreshed as requested by Caltrans. It is anticipated that Phase 1 of the project construction will go out to bid in April 2008. Mr. Boyer recommended that the ACTC accept lead agency responsibility for the project in order to resolve and expedite funding and environmental issues.

In response to Commissioner Nunes, Mr. Ireland advised that Phase I of the project will meet ARTS current needs. Once it is completely constructed, the facility should have a twenty year life expectancy. The longer range plan is that this facility would be only one of a number of similar facilities around the community. As development takes place, developers will be asked to include

similar facilities within their developments so that individuals can travel from transfer center to transfer center and be within walking distance of their destination.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Forster, seconded by Commissioner Sherman, and unanimously carried to authorize the Executive Director to submit a grant application for Proposition 1B Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement and Service Enhancement Program funding. A resolution accepting lead agency responsibility for the project and authorizing the ACTC Executive Director to execute all legal instruments pertaining to the FTA Section 5311(f) grant was also approved.

**Resolution No. 07-26**

Resolution authorizing the Amador County Transportation Commission Executive Director to execute all legal instruments pertaining to FTA Section 5311(f) grant funds for the Sutter Hill Transit Center project.

**2008/09 Program of Transportation Projects:** Mr. Rabé stated that there is very little change to the program of projects from fiscal year 2007/08 to 2008/09.

**2007/08 and 2008/09 Overall Work Program:** Mr. Rabé stated that the projects in the 2007/08 Overall Work Program (OWP) remain unchanged but some funds have been shifted between projects. Robyn Sheehan, ACTC Administrator, advised that carryover fund amounts were not known at the time the OWP was adopted so the amounts have been adjusted to reflect the actual carryover funds. In addition, the ACTC received \$55,000 in PPM funds for FY 07/08 so Work Element 6 Local Project Development was adjusted to include an additional \$10,000 in PPM funds and \$10,000 in RSTP funds were redistributed to other work elements. Amador Regional Transit System Agency General Director Patrick Ireland reported that the ACTC Technical Advisory Committee has recommended increasing Work Element 15 Transit Development Plan Update by \$40,000 in Local Transportation Funds. This additional funding would provide for a more thorough update of the short term (5 year) and Long term (25-30 year) Transit Development Plan.

Mr. Rabé stated that the Preliminary Draft 2008/09 OWP maintains most of the projects from fiscal year 2007/08. Two additions to the work program include a Plymouth Community Based Transportation Planning Grant project (\$65,000) and a Sales Tax Investigation project (\$50,000). The ACTC Technical Advisory Committee recommended deletion of proposed Work Element 15 Public Involvement Assistance and suggested that the funds for this project be added to the Sales Tax Investigation effort.

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

- 2007/08 OWP amendments as presented by staff and including amended agreement with Caltrans (by resolution)
- 2007/08 Budget amendments as presented
- 2008/09 Preliminary Draft OWP as presented for submittal to Caltrans
- 2008/09 Preliminary Budget as presented

**Resolution No. 07-27**

Resolution approving amendments to the 2007/08 Overall Work Program

**Transit Development Plan:** Commissioner Nunes was appointed to serve on the selection committee that will interview transportation planning firms interested in preparing the Transit Development Plan Update.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Sherman, seconded by Commissioner Forster, and unanimously carried to authorize the selection committee to select a consultant, negotiate a contract within the amount of funds budgeted (\$90,000), and for the Chairman to execute said contract.

**Aufdermaur/Woodthorp Rezone in Drytown:** Chairman Boitano stated that the County can handle this matter and ACTC's assistance would not be needed. Mr. Rabé stated that since Caltrans was not able to attend the Amador County Technical Advisory Committee he attended to represent ACTC and Caltrans' concerns regarding the rezone. Commissioner Baldwin advised that he sent a letter to ACTC Executive Director concerning the ingress and egress on state highways. He stated that this matter can be dangerous and the cities, county and Caltrans need to work together.

**Caltrans Community Based Transportation Planning Grant:**

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Sherman, seconded by Commissioner Richards, and unanimously carried to approve the resolution for the City of Plymouth Community Based Transportation Planning grant application.

Resolution No. 07-28

Resolution authorizing the application, acceptance, and execution of Community Based Transportation Planning Grant form the State of California Department of Transportation for purposes of the City of Plymouth Community Based Transportation Plan

**Claims:**

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

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Sherman, seconded by Commissioner Baldwin, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting until 6:00 p.m. January 16, 2008, at the Amador County Administration Center, 810 Court Street, Jackson, California.

At 7:26 p.m. Chairman Boitano adjourned the meeting.

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Louis Boitano, Chairman  
Amador County Transportation Commission

ATTEST:

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Recording Secretary

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