

*Tuolumne County Transportation Council
October 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes*

The October 11, 2017 meeting of the Tuolumne County Transit Agency (TCTA) was called to order at 3:03 p.m. by Chairman Michael Ayala. Also in attendance were: Councilmember George Segarini; Councilmember John Gray; Councilmember Evan Royce; Councilmember Jim Garaventa; Executive Director Darin Grossi; Sr. Administrative Analyst Laura Shinn; Alex Padilla, Transportation Planner and Administrative Technician, Denise Bergamaschi.

Also present at today's meeting was Carl Baker representing Caltrans District 10.

- 1. Oral communication (15 minutes) to allow the public to speak on any item not on the printed agenda.**

There was no Oral Communication at today's meeting.

Consent Calendar:

- 2. Approval of the September 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes.**
- 3. Adopt Resolution 574-17 amending the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Overall Work Program Budget and OWP Agreement to adjust carryover balances, reprogram funds, adjustment to allocate funding to accommodate a 10% DeMinimis to cover indirect/administrative costs; and authorize the Executive Director to execute the revised OWP Funding Agreement.**
- 4. Schedule this year's Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing for December 13, 2017 at 3 p.m. and authorize staff to provide transit services free of charge to persons with no other way to access the Hearing.**
- 5. Adopt Resolution 573-17 Re-authorizing the Executive Director to Sign, Submit and Execute Applications, Agreements and Related Documents to Receive Federal and State Funding.**

There was No Public Comment for any item on the Consent Calendar.

Councilmember Segarini moved to approve all items on the Consent Calendar as presented.

Councilmember Royce seconded the motion.

Alternate Councilmember Jim Garaventa abstained from voting

Motion approved with a 4-1-0 vote.

Regular Agenda:

6. Review the Final Draft of the Plug-In Electric Vehicle Coordination Council Charter, Goals and Mission for Central Sierra Zero Emission Vehicle Readiness Plan.

Transportation Planner, Alex Padilla, informed Council Members that the TCTC has put together a Coordination Council and have come up with a Charter, Mission, Goals, and a Final Draft of a Readiness Plan. He added that the Council consists of 5 members from adjoining counties, Caltrans and TCTC Staff. He also informed Council Members that TCTC will be the lead agency on this project. He added that TCTC staff has drafted a Request for Proposals to help procure a consultant to help produce the Readiness Plan, which has been reviewed by the Coordination Council. He then explained the importance of the Readiness Plan to our community and how it will help us in overcoming barriers to ZEV Deployment in our region.

Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Royce moved to approve the Draft Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure a consultant to produce the Central Sierra Zero Emission Vehicle Readiness Plan.

Councilmember Garaventa seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 5-0 vote.

7. Review the Draft Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure a consultant to produce the Central Sierra Zero Emission Vehicle Readiness Plan.

Executive Director Grossi explained to Council Members that in order to implement the Readiness Plan, staff recommends hiring a consultant.

Councilmember Gray moved to approve procuring a consultant to produce the Central Sierra Zero Emission Vehicle Readiness Plan.

Councilmember Garaventa seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 5-0 vote.

8. Review the new funding programs and additional funds available from California's recently passed transportation funding bill called the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 – SB1.

Executive Director Grossi informed Council Members that there was a huge effort to repeal this bill but that fortunately, it was state approved and signed by the Governor. He reminded members that statewide and locally, it is going to benefit road maintenance. He then went through the various components of SB1. All of the multiple projects for the City as well as the County were discussed.

He added that staff is putting together a list of projects to bring back at next month's meeting. He informed Committee Members that Caltrans has to work with locals on projects.

Discussion ensued.

There was no action required as this item was for informational purposes only.

9. Approval of Cooperative Agreement with the Sierra Railroad and Resolution authorizing the submittal of Federal INFRA Grant application to rehabilitate 55miles of railroad.

Executive Director Grossi informed Council Members that this project has the potential to eliminate up to 32,000 vehicles off of state highways per year. He also added that Sierra Railroad approached him to be the lead agency on this project and that this is a \$20 million dollar project of which the TCTC would not incur any expenses.

Discussion ensued.

Chairman Ayala expressed concern with there being a lack of paperwork and especially with the deadline rapidly approaching.

At this time, Paul Gruber with Sierra Railroad, thanked Council Members and staff for allowing them to be present at our meeting today. He added that, they as well, are disappointed with not having paperwork to present today. He stated that he thinks they will meet the deadline of October 20th. He then introduced his staff/team to everyone.

Brenton Macdonald with Sierra Railroad approached the podium at this time and informed Council that the interchange would be between Oakdale and Riverbank. He added that JS West as well as SPI use rail as a main source for transferring materials and that as far as future growth, rail has the most potential.

Executive Director Grossi informed Council that staff is working with Legal Counsel with regards to the settlement agreement and that we reached out to other communities and they are all in favor.

Paul Gruber also reiterated that Sierra Railroad did outreach to other communities and that they too received a lot of support.

Discussion ensued.

Carol Doud approached the podium and stated that Sierra Railroad has not produced paperwork required for this endeavor and that the TCTC is essentially putting their neck on the line – once again! She stated that Sierra Railroad screwed up and that she is against this as should Council be.

Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Royce moved to approve Cooperative Agreement with the Sierra Railroad and Resolution authorizing the submittal of Federal INFRA Grant application to rehabilitate 55miles of railroad.

Councilmember Gray seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 5-0 vote.

10. Approval of Project Proposal from Wood Rodgers and Associates to coordinate a pedestrian safety project on SR49/Washington Street with the City of Sonora and Caltrans, facilitate public input and prepare a 2018 Active Transportation Program Grant Application.

Executive Director Grossi informed Council that Mayor Williams asked the TCTC and Caltrans to work together on the upcoming call for projects. He added that recent pedestrian accidents on SR49/Washington at Jackson St. and Stockton Rd. have renewed public interest to improve pedestrian safety. He stated that a proposal from Wood Rodgers to coordinate a safety project for downtown was received and that an existing consultant retainer allows staff to move forward with developing the grant more quickly. However, due to the \$28,000 cost, staff is asking Council for approval to move forward.

Discussion ensued.

Carol Doud approached the podium and stated that the public has been asking for something to be done for over a year and that she highly supports this project.

Tim Miller approached the podium and thanked Executive Director Grossi for using funds for this project. He also added that he received a notice of change order for paving and will be able to do. He also stated that he highly supports this project as well.

Laura Menan approached the podium and stated that she lives downtown and is also assisting with Vision Sonora. She also highly supports this project.

Councilmember Segarini moved to Approve Project Proposal from Wood Rodgers and Associates to coordinate a pedestrian safety project on SR49/Washington Street with the City of Sonora and Caltrans, facilitate public input and prepare a 2018 Active Transportation Program Grant Application.

Councilmember Gray seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 5-0 vote.

11. Reports

Executive Director Grossi informed Council that staff will here from the State on Friday regarding the Improvements Program that was submitted. He added that there is over 1 million dollars available.

Carl Baker, with Caltrans District 10 reported that October 20th is the Grant deadline for Sustainable Communities Grants. He also reported that SB1 programs are still in progress and are available on the CTC web site or to Google CTCSB1 for additional information. He also gave a shout out to the FHWA for making sure funds are available for getting jobs done.

Duke York, Deputy CRA Director of Roads, provided updates on the various projects that his staff have been working on as well as the projects that are currently up for approval.

There being no further items to discuss, this portion of the meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bergamaschi
Administrative Technician