

*Tuolumne County Transportation Council
October 12, 2016 Meeting Minutes*

The October 12, 2016 meeting of the Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC) was called to order at 3:46 p.m. by Chairman Michael Ayala. Also in attendance were: Councilmember John Gray; Councilmember Connie Williams; Councilmember George Segarini; Executive Director Darin Gross; Diane Bynum, Sr. Administrative Analyst; Tyler Summersett, Sr. Transportation Planner; Alex Padilla, Transportation Planner and Denise Bergamaschi, Administrative Technician.

Also present at today's meeting was Betty Kibble representing Caltrans District 10. Absent from today's meeting was Councilmember Evan Royce.

- 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 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes.**
- 3. Adopt Resolution 554-16 amending the Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Overall Work Program Budget and OWP Agreement to adjust carryover balances, re-program funds and revise transit project funding; and authorize the Executive Director to execute the revised OWP Funding Agreement.**

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

Councilmember Gray seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 4-0 vote.

Regular Agenda:

- 4. Presentation of the Regional Transportation Plan's Draft Environmental Impact Report; and Open a Public Hearing**

Executive Director Grossi introduced Matt Maddox with Rincon Consultants and added that Transportation Planner, Alex Padilla did a great job in putting this document together. Matt Maddox then presented a Power Point slideshow on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Regional Transportation Plan. He also explained the reason for having and Environmental Impact Report.

Discussion ensued following the slideshow presentation.

*** 4:04 p.m. - At this time the Public Hearing was open for audience comments:

At this time, John Buckley, Executive Director of Central Sierra Environment Resource center approached the podium and stated the following:

That while the document is looking out for the next 25 years, it is hard to predict what will happen in the next 5-15 years. He also added that he has two words for staff: Balance and Visionary. Balance, referencing the legitimate dealings with state highways, county roads, transit, etc., and Visionary, as in, How can we be “visionary” if we are uncertain about funding? He added that staff needs to balance the options. He also stated that focus needs to be on having a happier, healthier community that can get to work quickly. He discussed his views on the alternatives listed. He then stated that he has had concerns with several of the projects listed, namely the Peaceful Oaks Interchange. He stated that anyone that knows that Standard Road is there will go to the businesses there and that this particular project is a waste of funds. He also added that Sonora would benefit more without that off-ramp. He then re-iterated Vision and Balance: options = opportunities. Mr. Buckley also pointed out that people are not using public transit because they are not aware of it. He suggested better advertising to make this service known to the public. “Think about being Visionary”. He closed with stating that the Peaceful Oaks funding should be used where it would be better used. Mr. Buckley added that he will be submitting his comments to staff, via hard copy through the US Mail Service.

Executive Director Grossi thanked Mr. Buckley for his comments and stated that he would address them and that he is looking forward to receiving the hard copy.

At this time, 4:14 p.m., the Public Hearing portion of the meeting was closed.

Councilmember Segarini asked that once the comments have been reviewed, then what?

Matt Maddox replied that the comments would be summarized, placed into a new section of the document and responses would be provided.

This item was informational – no motion was needed.

5. Approve submitting a Caltrans Sustainable Communities Transportation Planning Grant Application for the State Route 49 from Jamestown to Columbia Complete Streets Corridor Plan.

Executive Director Grossi informed Council that this Grant was actually submitted last year but was denied but that staff is updating and re-submitting again this year. He added that the purpose of the Grant would be to provide access and mobility along the Highway 49 Corridor between Jamestown and Columbia. He added that staff is looking for direction to finalize the application and submit the Grant.

Discussion ensued.

There was No Public Comment for this item.

Councilmember Williams moved to approve submitting a Caltrans Sustainable Communities Transportation Planning Grant Application for the State Route 49 from Jamestown to Columbia Complete Streets Corridor Plan.

Councilmember Segarini seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 4-0 vote.

6. Review the recommendation by the Air Resources Board for Tuolumne County for Non-Attainment of the Revised Ozone standards and review implications for future Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds.

Transportation Planner, Alex Padilla, explained to Council that the CMAQ program focuses on funding transportation projects that contribute to the attainment of Ozone Standards and improve air quality in the region. He added that Tuolumne County is included as a Non-Attainment region and that we could see monies in the 2017/2018 funding cycle.

Executive Director Grossi added that we are not sure how much needs to be done, but that funding could be on the horizon. He also stated that staff has a list of projects for CMAQ when those dollars do become available.

This item was informational only – there was no action required.

8. Reports

Executive Director Grossi informed Council that Dodge Ridge is considering adding summer activities, such as mountain biking, to their itinerary. He also reported that Alex Padilla helped compose a Grant for funding in the amount of \$520,000 for fast chargers on SR120. Mr. Grossi also reported that Sr. Administrative Analyst, Diane Bynum will be retiring after 26 years of dedicated service on December 31st and that Laura Shinn will begin training for this position on October 31st so that she has 2 months with Ms. Bynum. Mr. Grossi also reported that last month he and other Council members, Caltrans personnel and CHP had a great meeting regarding signage on Old Priest Grade.

Councilmember Gray thanked Sergeant Scott Clamp for attending the meeting and added that he is very happy with the outcome. He also informed Council that the Tesla parking lot is 50% complete.

Carl Baker with Caltrans provided a handout regarding the STRAVA program, which is fitness oriented, and added that further information can be located on the Caltrans web site. He also reported on Inter-Governmental Review of SB743 and Level of Service. He stated that Caltrans will not be implementing these guidelines for another 2 years. He also stated that the RTP Guidelines are on the Caltrans web site and that the deadline is October 14th.

Councilmember Segarini inquired about the flashing lights for crosswalks.

Carl Baker stated that the Traffic Involved Report (TIR) needs to be done and that Caltrans would require the location of the lights. Mr. Segarini said he would get that information to Mr. Baker.

8. CLOSED SESSION: Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Authority: Government Code Section 54957) – Executive Director.

4:42 p.m. – At this time, Executive Director Grossi and all Council Members went into Closed Session.

4:57 p.m. – At this time, Executive Director and all Council Members returned from Closed Session and stated that there was nothing to report.

There being no further items to discuss, this portion of the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Bergamaschi
Administrative Technician