



**Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission
Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC)**

DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, August 20, 2015, 1:30 p.m.
SCCRTC Conference Room
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA

ITAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Eliza Yu, AMBAG
Taylor Bateman, Scotts Valley Planning
Teresa Buika, UCSC
Erich Friedrich, Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (Metro)
Scott Hamby, Scotts Valley Public Works
Steve Jesberg, Capitola Public Works and Planning Proxy
Kelly McClendon, Caltrans District 5
Joshua Spangrud, Santa Cruz Public Works and Planning Proxy
Steve Wiesner, County Public Works and Planning Proxy

STAFF PRESENT

Ginger Dykaar
Rachel Moriconi
Kim Shultz

OTHERS PRESENT

Eric Child, Santa Cruz Resident
Gina Schmidt, AMBAG

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- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Wiesner called the meeting to order at 1:30pm.
 - 2. Introductions:** Self introductions were made.
 - 3. Oral Communications:** None.
 - 4. Additions/Changes to consent and regular agenda:** None.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 5.** Approved minutes of the June 18, 2015 ITAC meeting. *Hamby moved and Spangrud seconded approval of the minutes. The motion passed with Hamby, Jesberg, McClendon, Spangrud, Wiesner, and Yu voting "yes". Buika and Friedrich abstained.*
- 6.** Received State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Semi-Annual List of Programmed/Funded Projects

REGULAR AGENDA

- 7. Status of ongoing transportation projects, programs, studies and planning documents - Verbal updates from project sponsors**

UCSC: Teresa Buika reported that project design for the Active Transportation Program - funded (ATP) bicycle path safety project is underway.

Caltrans: Kelly McClendon reported that the Highway 1 rumble strip and paving project from Western Drive to the San Mateo County line is scheduled to be completed in winter 2016. Highway 9 construction is scheduled for completion in mid-October. Highway 1/17 shoulder widening and northbound SR 1 merge lane extension will start construction in October. Highway 152 paving is completed; ADA upgrades on Highway 152 near Holohan/College and pedestrian facility upgrades on Highway 9 near San Lorenzo Valley High School, Highway 1 near Graham Hill Road, and Highway 1 near Freedom Boulevard are anticipated this fiscal year. Erich Friedrich requested that Caltrans coordinate with METRO on planned construction near San Lorenzo Valley schools.

City of Santa Cruz: Josh Spangrud reported that surveying and environmental review for Segment 7 of the Rail Trail is underway. Speed feedback signs near Gault and Westlake schools, and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) at Broadway and Riverside Drive have been installed. Paving projects are planned for later this year. Lighting will be added on the river levy. In response to questions from Teresa Buika, it was noted that water projects that include traffic control and a PG&E project on Mission Street are anticipated to be completed by September 17. Mr. Spangrud shared information and a flyer about the Corridor Planning project and Active Transportation Plan development and meetings.

METRO: Erich Friedrich reported that the concept design for Pacific Station is done and that METRO's board is anticipated to approve a conceptual design for the Watsonville Transit Center in September. The Green Valley bus stop improvement project is also done. On the operations side, METRO is starting a comprehensive system evaluation and will look at high quality transit corridors, possibly consolidating and eliminating some routes.

Capitola: Steve Jesberg reported that the Capitola/Bay Avenue Roundabout is at 30% design, with right-of-way utility undergrounding anticipated to take one year. Rail pathway conceptual design work is done, with construction scheduled for Spring 2016. Paving work citywide is also in process.

Scotts Valley: Scott Hamby reported that design work for storm damage repairs in the Caltrans right-of-way are underway. The city is revising its Transportation Development Act (TDA) claim in response to comments from the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC) in order to include audible RRFB at three crosswalks.

AMBAG: Eliza Yu reported on the Planning Director's Forum and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) implementation and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/SCS update. She reported that AMBAG provided comments on the Cap-and-Trade Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC), noting the application and scoring process was complicated and not transparent, and that guidelines on how disadvantaged communities are defined should be revised.

Bateman arrived.

RTC: Staff reported that the RTC received extensive input on the Draft Passenger Rail Feasibility Study. The Highway 1 tiered environmental document is scheduled for circulation this fall. Work continues on the county-level travel demand model. The RTC received a \$6.3 million Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant for a north coast section of the Rail Trail.

County Planning: Steve Wiesner reported that several storm damage repair projects are under construction, that San Lorenzo Water District pipeline work on Graham Hill Road and 17th Avenue/Felt slurry seal work are nearing completion, and that PG&E is conducting gas main testing throughout the county. The county is also working on a full bridge replacement on Old County Road, and will be going to bid for the new Felton Covered Bridge roof and the Twin Lakes beachfront project. Kim Shultz commended the County on the Nelson Road storm damage project.

8. Stand Alone Bike Model Tool

Gina Schmidt provided an overview and demonstration of the AMBAG Bike Model Tool, which allows entities to look at the comparative vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas benefits of bicycle projects, utilizing information on topography, travel surveys, and the regional travel demand model. ITAC members expressed appreciation for the tool which can be of assistance in development of funding applications.

9. 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Update

Eliza Yu, AMBAG provided information on the MTP/SCS update and provided an overview of the Draft Public Involvement Plan. She requested that Committee members submit comments on the plan by the end of August. Teresa Buika suggested AMBAG edit the document to differentiate between environmental justice and involvement of underserved communities. She also requested that colleges and universities be included in the list of stakeholders. In response to questions, it was noted that the timeline was included in the March 2015 ITAC packet. AMBAG is currently collecting input from local jurisdictions for the growth forecast.

10. METRO's Draft Bus Stop Guide

Erich Friedrich reported that METRO has developed a draft Bus Stop Guide to provide guidance to local jurisdictions and developers on design, construction and placement of amenities at bus stops. He requested input on the draft and requested the "Development Review Checklist for Consideration of Transit" (Appendix A-1) be provided to developers and local jurisdiction encroachment permit staff. He noted that the draft was reviewed by the Metro Advisory Committee (MAC). ITAC members expressed appreciation for having the information in a consolidated document. Mr. Friedrich noted that the guide is a "living" document and requested feedback on the document.

11. Caltrans Transportation Concept Report Updates

Kelly McClendon reported that Caltrans Transportation Concept Reports for State Routes 35 and 236 focus on maintenance, include a discussion about possible relinquishment to the County or State Parks if desired, and recommend small-scale modifications. Committee members discussed some of the benefits and challenges of changing state routes to local roads and Caltrans' efforts to bring permitting and route plans in line with the state strategic plans.

12. Funding Program Updates

The Committee received updates on several state and local funding programs:

- Caltrans Planning Grants – Call for Projects August 17, applications due October 30
Information will be online: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/grants.html>
- State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) – currently no STIP capacity for the two new years of STIP; many projects to be re-spread (delayed) statewide
- Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) – anticipated RTC “Call for Projects” Fall 2015
- Active Transportation Program (ATP) – CTC Staff Recommendations available by September 15, program adoption October 21-22, 2015
- AB2766 – Air District approval scheduled for September 16, 2015
- Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC) – Draft Revised Guidelines anticipated Fall 2015, call for projects anticipated January 2016
- FY15/16 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program applications due November 1, 2015

13. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Rachel Moriconi