



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

DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, November 19, 2015, 1:30 p.m.
SCCRTC Conference Room
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA

ITAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Piet Canin, Ecology Action
Erich Friedrich, AMBAG
Barrow Emerson, Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (METRO)
Claire Fliesler, Santa Cruz Planning
Murray Fontes, Watsonville Public Works and Planning Proxy
Scott Hamby, Scotts Valley Public Works and Planning Proxy
Paia Levine, County Planning
Chris Schneider, Santa Cruz Public Works
Steve Wiesner, County Public Works

STAFF PRESENT

Cory Caletti
Ginger Dykaar
Rachel Moriconi
Kim Shultz

OTHERS PRESENT

Russell Chen, Santa Cruz County Public Works
Ron Power, Santa Cruz Planning
Kelly McClendon, Caltrans (by phone)

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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 August 20, 2015 ITAC meeting. *Hamby moved and Freidrich seconded approval of the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.*

REGULAR AGENDA

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

County: Russell Chen reported on the Old County Road, Redwood Lodge, El Rancho, and Felton Covered Bridge projects. Steve Wiesner reported on the San Lorenzo Valley District

project and the Safe Routes to School Active Transportation Program (ATP) flashing beacon/speed sign project.

Watsonville: Murray Fontes reported on the citywide Safe Routes to Schools project, Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST) projects, and new road and roundabout plans for the area of Ohlone Parkway and River Street/Hwy 129.

Scotts Valley: Scott Hamby reported on the pedestrian crossing beacon project, Granite Creek Road near Scotts Valley Drive storm damage repair, and updated scope for the Scotts Valley Drive/Mt. Hermon Rd/Whispering Pines intersection project.

Ecology Action: Piet Canin reported about bike safety coordination with UCSC, increased outreach to 4th and 5th graders in Watsonville, and outreach on the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST).

AMBAG: Erich Friedrich reported that AMBAG is starting the environmental review process for the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), working on an online database for Regional Transportation Plan/Metropolitan Transportation Plan projects, and the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) implementation plan for rural transit.

Santa Cruz: Ron Power reported on the Corridor Planning meetings. Chris Schneider reported the city received the Gold Level Bicycle Friendly Community Award from the League of American Cyclists. PG&E and the Water Department have several projects underway. The City received ATP grants for safe routes to schools and Branciforte Bridge project. Several construction projects are planned for the spring.

METRO: Barrow Emerson reported that several changes to the bus system will be happening in the fall of 2016 due to the agency's structural deficit.

Caltrans: Kelly McClendon reported on the draft 2016 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP), the Highway 17 Access Management Plan (www.ca-hwy17amp.org), and that the Advance Planning Division will be meeting with local jurisdictions to identify priorities and opportunities to incorporate complete streets into state highway projects.

RTC: Staff reported on the proposed Expenditure Plan for a November 2016 ballot measure.

7. Highway 1 Project – Tier 1 and Tier 2 Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment

Kim Shultz provided an overview of the Highway 1 Corridor environmental document. Comments on the draft are due to Caltrans by January 18. The committee discussed bicycle and pedestrian crossings.

8. 2016 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)

Rachel Moriconi provided an update on State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding shortfalls and the 2016 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP).

The ITAC unanimously approved a motion (Schneider/Fontes) recommending that the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) approve changes to previously programmed projects to reflect current project scope, cost, and schedule information, as requested by project sponsors and shown in Attachments 2 and 3 of the staff report. Erich Friedrich/AMBAG abstained. Steve Wiesner expressed concerns about the impact the STIP shortfalls could have on local projects.

9. 2040 Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

Ginger Dykaar presented the work plan, schedule, and draft Goals, Policies and Targets for the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update. She also requested that project sponsors review the 2014 RTP project list and identify projects that have been completed or otherwise should not be carried over into the 2040 RTP. She emphasized that this will be a minor update. ITAC members agreed to provide input within the next two weeks.

10. Funding Program Updates

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

- Caltrans Planning Grants – Application deadline extended to December 31.
- Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) – anticipated RTC “Call for Projects” in early 2016
- Active Transportation Program (ATP) – Caltrans/California Transportation Commission (CTC) Cycle 3 Call for Projects anticipated in Spring 2016
- Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC) – Call for projects scheduled for January 2016
- FY15/16 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program applications due February 1, 2016

11. January 2016 ITAC meeting: The committee agreed to move the ITAC meeting up one week to January 14.

12. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Rachel Moriconi