



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

MINUTES

Thursday, November 21, 2019, 1:30 p.m.
SCCRTC Conference Room
1523 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz, CA

ITAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Gus Alfaro, Caltrans District 5 Planning
Tim Bailey, County Public Works
Teresa Buika, UCSC
Piet Canin, Ecology Action
Athena Cheung, Scotts Valley Public Works
Murray Fontes, Watsonville Public Works and Planning proxy
Paul Hierling, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG)
Kailash Mozumder (Vice Chair), Capitola Public Works
Pete Rasmussen, Santa Cruz METRO
Anais Schenk, County Planning
Chris Schneider, Santa Cruz Public Works and Planning proxy

Excused Absences: Claire Fliesler, Santa Cruz Planning; Wondimu Mengistu, Santa Cruz METRO

RTC Staff Present: Ginger Dykaar, Rachel Moriconi

Others Present: Russell Chen, County Public Works;
Joseph Londono, Caltrans District 5

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- 1. Call to Order:** Vice Chair Mozumder called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.
 - 2. Introductions:** Self introductions were made
 - 3. Oral Communications:** None
 - 4. Additions, deletions, or changes to consent and regular agendas:** Item 11 was taken ahead of Item 10 and Item 9 regarding Vancouver, B.C. transportation network was moved after Item 10. Gus Alfaro distributed the semi-annual SHOPP project list and Caltrans announcements for Item 7.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Committee unanimously approved a motion (Fontes/Schneider) approving the consent agenda, with all members present voting "yes".

- 5. Approved Minutes of the September 19, 2019 ITAC meeting**
- 6. Received AMBAG memorandum: Fixing America's Surface Transportation Performance Management Requirements and Target Setting**

REGULAR AGENDA

7. Status of Ongoing Transportation Projects

Capitola – Kailash Mozumder reported that the Brommer Street complete streets infill project (38th Ave. to 41st Ave.) design is nearly done and expected to go out to bid in Spring 2020; the Park Ave. sidewalk construction is expected to be completed by the end of the year; Clares St. traffic calming project (east of 41st Ave.) is scheduled to start construction in Spring 2020, with design going to the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee (E&D TAC) for review in December; encroachment and design work for 41st Ave. adaptive signal lights project – coordinating traffic signals on 41st Avenue through Highway 1 - continues.

County Public Works – Tim Bailey reported that the County is finishing several storm damage repair projects and going to bid on three more in December. The County is still working with FHWA to get extensions to federal reimbursement deadlines for several storm damage projects. The County is also planning to go to bid for the Soquel Drive/Aptos Creek Road signal. Russell Chen reported that they are working to coordinate the adaptive traffic signal project with Capitola for signal in the County from 41st Avenue to Soquel Village. The County is having a kick-off meeting for its active transportation plan on 12/3/19 and is expected to award a contract with a micromobility provider for bike share services from Santa Cruz city limits through Capitola.

County Planning – Anais Schenk reported that the County is working on the General Plan and code updates, and working to implement new state housing and SB743 requirements.

Santa Cruz – Chris Schneiter reported that the City of Santa Cruz is repaving several arterials throughout the city including Broadway, California, Soquel and La Fonda. Construction of Safe Routes to Schools crosswalks is scheduled to start in December 2019. Construction of Segment 7, phase 1 of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST) is scheduled to start in December 2019.

Ecology Action – Piet Canin reported that Ecology Action (EA) is assisting the City of Santa Cruz on the GoSantaCruz Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program targeting downtown employees, including bicycle commuter workshops. EA is also helping prepare the draft Scotts Valley Active Transportation Plan and bicycle/walk safety plans for several areas.

Scotts Valley - Athena Cheung reported that paving projects are underway and the city awarded a contract for the Glenwood Preserve Trails project.

UCSC – Teresa Buika reported that UCSC is negotiating a contract with Jump Bike to expand the program onto campus.

Watsonville – Murray Fontes reported that the City of Watsonville's green bicycle lane project is in construction; City Council unanimously approved the Downtown Complete Streets Plan in October 2019; construction of the Green Valley Road Reconstruction project is nearly done; the city is conducting a pavement condition inspection of local roads; the city is opening bids for construction of the first phase of Segment 18 of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST) in December 2019; and bicycle route signage is being installed citywide.

Caltrans – Gus Alfaro distributed announcements about various Strategic Growth Council, U.S. DOT, and Cal Fire grant opportunities. He distributed the semi-annual list of SHOPP projects and highlighted some of the projects included on that and the list of projects included in the agenda packet, including the Highway 9 soldier pile wall, Highway 17/Pasatiempo shoulder widening, Highway 1 capital maintenance (CapM/paving), District-wide pedestrian crosswalks and signal upgrades, and Aptos to Santa Cruz ADA curb ramp replacement projects.

SCMTD – Pete Rasmussen reported that Barrow Emerson has retired; METRO is working with RTC on the rail corridor alternatives analysis; and METRO is providing input on the Capitola Mall redesign. He requested that agencies contact him to review proposals for bicycle facilities and other projects which could impact METRO bus stops.

RTC – Rachel Moriconi reported that the RTC has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to start environmental review and preliminary design for Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes/Bus on Shoulder from Freedom Boulevard to State Park Drive. Pre-construction work continues on auxiliary lane projects between State Park Drive and Soquel Drive and the North Coast Rail Trail. The RTC approved updated Transportation Development Act (TDA) allocations in its November 7, 2019 budget amendment.

AMBAG – Paul Hierling reported that AMBAG is working on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) policy element, with recommendations to be brought to the ITAC at its next meeting.

8. Programming Regional Transportation Funds

Rachel Moriconi reported on projects proposed and recommended for regional-shares of Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange (RSTPX), State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP), and Local Partnership Program (LPP) funds. Proposals for funds are consistent with the RTC's September 5, 2019 direction. She suggested that project sponsors attend the December 5, 2019 public hearing in case questions come up on their projects. She noted that the \$350,000 in competitive Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange (RSTPX) funds will be programmed separate from this process and she provided updates on \$100,000 in Measure D designated for Transportation Demand Management (TDM) programs aimed at reducing vehicle miles traveled and programming State Transit Assistance (STA) funds.

The ITAC unanimously approved a motion (Fontes/Schneider) recommending that the RTC approve city, county and METRO projects to receive Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange (RSTPX) funds, as requested by project sponsors, and recommending that the RTC approve RTC regional projects to receive other state and federal State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Local Partnership Program (LPP), and Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) formula funds for Highway 1 auxiliary lanes/bus on shoulders projects and Regional Planning, Programming, and Monitoring (PPM). All members present voted "yes."

11. District 5 SHOPP WebViewer and other online tools

Joseph Londono and Gus Alfaro presented Caltrans's new State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) webviewer, noting that the webviewer includes information on planned projects and will allow local agencies to see the location of and coordinate with Caltrans on planned projects.

10. District 5 Active Transportation Plan – project lists

Gus Alfaro shared updates on the Caltrans District 5 Active Transportation Plan. District 5 is currently in the Network Analysis Phase, identifying gaps and barriers to pedestrian and bicycle movement on, across, and parallel to the State Highway System. This includes developing a list and map of projects that have been identified in local planning documents. He requested that local agencies submit information on planned projects. The list will be updated periodically. *(RTC staff subsequently emailed the Caltrans excel spreadsheet to ITAC members to use.)* The draft plan is expected to be available for review in early 2020, with the final plan expected to be complete in late Spring 2020.

9. Vancouver, B.C. Multimodal Transportation Network – presented after item 11

Ginger Dykaar presented information on Vancouver, B.C.'s multimodal transportation network, highlighting the significant reduction in motor vehicle trips into the downtown core, especially with the expansion of bus and rail transit services and bicycle facilities, such as separated bicycle paths.

12. Other Transportation Program Updates

Rachel Moriconi reported that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) held its first workshops on Active Transportation Program (ATP) cycle 5 guidelines and plans to have several more workshops throughout the state. She asked agencies to plan to attend the workshop tentatively scheduled for January 6 in Watsonville, with possible tour of some local projects and areas on January 7.

Ms. Moriconi encouraged agencies to submit applications for funding to prepare Local Road Safety Plans (LRSP), which will be required for future Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grants. (<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/fed-and-state-programs/highway-safety-improvement-program/local-roadway-safety-plans>)

Paul Hierling noted that AMBAG staff is tracking HCD grants, including grants for SB2 funds, and how "pro-housing" criteria is defined.

- 13. The next meeting is scheduled for 1:30pm on December 19, 2019 in the RTC Conference Room.** The meeting will be canceled if there are no action items to be brought before the committee.

Minutes prepared by: Rachel Moriconi, RTC Planner

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