



INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



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Michael Errante, Executive Director

MINUTES

INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

On-line Only

All members of the public are encouraged to participate in the discussion of any items on the Agenda. Questions and comments will be accepted via e-mail to: jkokx@inyocounty.us. Any member of the public may also make comments during the scheduled "Public Comment" period on this agenda concerning any subject related to the Inyo County Local Transportation Commission. PUBLIC NOTICE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Transportation Commission Secretary at (760) 878-0201. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Inyo County Local Transportation Commission to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28CFR 35. 102-35. ADA Title II).

November 16, 2022

9:02 a.m. Open Meeting

1. Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Stephen Muchovej
Celeste Berg
Doug Thompson
Jose Garcia

Others Present:

John Pinckney Inyo County Public Works
Shannon Platt Inyo County Public Works
Nora Gamino City of Bishop Public Works Director
Don Gockley Inyo County Public Works
Justine Kokx Inyo County Public Works
Neil Peacock Caltrans
Adam Weitzmann Caltrans

2. Public Comment

No Comment

ACTION ITEMS

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Staff of the Local Transportation Commission - Request your Commission authorize future meetings during a state of emergency to be conducted virtually, in accordance with AB 361.
- b. Staff of the Local Transportation Commission - Request approval of the minutes of the meeting of September 28, 2022.
- c. Staff of the Local Transportation Commission - Request approval of the minutes of the Special AB361 meeting of October 26, 2022.
- d. Staff of the Local Transportation Commission – Request Commission adopt via Resolution No. 2022-12 Title VI of the Inyo County Code and the Inyo County Purchasing Policy.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Commissioner Garcia. All in favor.**

4. Staff of the Local Transportation Commission - Request your Commission approve via Minute Order Amendment No. 4 to the contract with LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc., in the amount of \$47,615 to prepare an update to the 2015 Active Transportation Plan.

Justine reviewed the active projects and documents LSC has been involved with, noting that they prepared a successful ATP grant application for Lone Pine sidewalks ADA project. Asked the Commission to approve amendment no. 4 to update the 2015 Active Transportation Plan.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Commissioner Garcia. All in favor.**

5. Staff of the Local Transportation Commission – Request your Commission approve via Minute Order the contract in the amount of \$7,850 with the Center for Economic Development of CSU Chico to prepare an Economic and Demographic Profile of Inyo County, emphasizing disadvantaged community breakdowns by community and tribe.

Justine talked about the value the Center for Economic Development (CED) has provided to counties and RTPA's using their economic and demographic profiles for identification of community needs and accessing needed data for grant proposals. She asked CED to add a layer of detail for each community to underscore if possible and in what way each community can be defined as underserved or disadvantaged. Chair Berg appreciated the report and thinks it might be useful. Commissioner Muchovej agrees that it would be useful. One concern is that it is not the place of the LTC to fund this when it can be used throughout the County. Only three indicators are directly related to transportation, travel time to work commute patterns and mode type. What will be cut to pay for this? Chair Berg thinks the report more broadly represents the rural nature of the County, a little broader than those three indicators. John Pinckney mentioned that the planning funds from Caltrans that are for planning purposes and are fairly discretionary. One of our goals is to obtain more grant funds. The problem is we are not adequately prepared to go after grants. County does fund the Ferguson Group that help prepare the Build and Raise grants. No easy mechanism to share

the cost with County. A valid point that it would benefit other entities. Commissioner Muchovej asked if the funds would come from planning funds, and would it be an appropriate expenditure for the planning funds to do a demographic study? John responded he believes yes, demographics have become the driver of these grants, how they are scored. Thinks Siebu to School proposal should have won, but it did not. The question is how we make it more alive and more competitive, believes more resources may be the answer. Neil Peacock agreed, the demographic data is the core of planning, and he disadvantaged community is the juice behind the competitiveness. Vice Chair Thompson echoed the need for transportation in disadvantaged communities and tribes without the information it's like a void. The more background information we have the better, especially in terms of disadvantaged communities. Nora Gamino added that she had worked on two ATP grant applications, one of them scored ten points lower because it didn't benefit a DAC. Additional comments from the group were in general support of the report. Commissioner Muchovej specified that he is in support of the report, as long as future reports updates are not to be fully funded by the LTC. In the past it was the RCRC, it's not a lot of money, but future refreshes should be funded by other departments. Chair Berg concurred.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Commissioner Garcia. All in favor.**

6. Staff of the Local Transportation Commission – Request your Commission approve Resolution No. 2022-11 to amend the FY2022-2023 Overall Work Program to program the carry over funding from FY2021-2022 in the amount of \$57,500.

Justine summarized the proposed amendments to the OWP for FY2022-2023. John Pinckney added that last year the LTC did not fully expend its prior year allocation, missed it by about \$2,500.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Vice Chair Thompson. All in favor.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Presentation of the Inyo County Road Department Capital Improvement Plan – Inyo County Public Works Deputy Director, Shannon Platt.

Shannon Platt presented the Road Department Capital Improvement Plan. May set aside some RMRA funds to augment Lone Pine streets rehab project. John Pinckney added that were looking to add about \$1 million. Better bang for the buck, it's been great to have the SB1/HUTA gas tax to fund work that needs to be done. Allows us to add matching funds to score higher on grant applications.

Commissioner Muchovej asked about plans to rehabilitate Upper Rock Creek Rd. Shannon clarified that the County maintains the road to the pack station and stops there. Stephen questioned this, Shannon replied that yes, the last bit is on the County's maintained mileage, but there's always been a discrepancy between the USFS and the County about who is responsible. Nora - speaking from her former experience with the USFS - concurred that the USFS does try to maintain it. One of the

avenues the USFS had been exploring was to collaborate with the County for a FLAP grant to widen the road and repair the bridges. It's beyond the capability of the USFS to maintain, it's always been a gray area about whose responsibility it to maintain. Justine reminded they commission that they approved this portion for a PSR to prepare a future FLAP grant, it was third or fourth on the list. Vice Chair Thompson mentioned Buttermilk Road and Movie Road as also needing maintenance. Real dust problems out there.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 8.** USFS response to the inquiry about the 2013 Alternative Transportation Study and trailhead capacity – Staff has requested USFS' participation at an upcoming meeting.

Justine found the right person at the USFS to come to a future meeting to talk about trailhead capacity. Vice Chair Thompson brought up the issue of long-term parking. It's like having two parking lots, one for short term and the other for long term with shuttle parking at additional trailheads. Different quota system has impacted parking. Need 7-day service for transit. Commissioner Muchovej asked if there was a plan to update the study, looks like no. Nora concurred with Doug, there is an issue with long term parking. The transportation study is still valid in terms of options and constraints. Very complex and USFS is trying but is very constrained about what they can to do to ease capacity issues.

- 9.** ESTA Report

- 10.** Tribal Report

- 11.** DVNP Report

- 12.** Caltrans Report

Neil Peacock reported that Adam Weitzmann is leaving for 6 months to take advantage of a rotational program. His replacement will be at the next meeting. Provided updates about winter storm closures and Death Valley repairs. Funding – Sustainable transportation planning grant coming up. Application period window is 6-8 weeks. Get ready now. Climate Adaptation funding and strategic partnership funding also coming up. EV zero emission funding opportunities are upcoming. They are putting together a staff report to share with the Commission. NEVI deployment \$380 million for the state to hire a vendor to build out the EV corridors. Other monies also coming. They will work with LTC staff to prepare maps for EV needs that are not on the NEVI corridors. \$2.5 billion coming out from Federal programs. CA Air Resources Board funding opportunities for fleet upgrades. Manor Market project PID has received comments, Olancha Cartago construction is moving along. Rough grading of the alignment. Will present a roundup of projects happening in Inyo to the County BOS on December 6th. Vice Chair Thompson asked about Olancha Cartago, there was lots of flooding during the last storm. Neil responded that the over winterization would take care of flooding concerns. Neil asked about the protocol for responding to Commissioners' questions. Chair Berg's preference would be to have the answers directed to everyone. Doug mentioned that the monthly Olancha Cartago reports are not as frequent lately.

Google Earth also shows the new alignment, how is that possible? Neil thinks that perhaps Doug is linked with a specific utility provided by a project manager for that project. Just a guess. Doug would like all the Commissioners to have access to this utility as well. Neil will investigate for the whole Commission.

13. City of Bishop Report

Nora Gamino introduced herself as the new Public Works Director for the City of Bishop. She is in the process of diving into all the projects. E. Line St Bridge design process is now underway. Wants to also develop a five-year CIP program.

14. Executive Director's Report

None

15. Reports from all members of the Inyo County LTC

Muchovej wants information about the maintenance schedule of Buttermilk Road. How much it ends up costing, how often do we grade, etc.

Vice Chair Thompson brought up the tragic traffic death that occurred south of Lone Pine. People drive too fast in rural areas and through the towns. They don't even realize they are driving through towns. Enforcement doesn't really have an effect. Flashing light north of town has been broken for months. From the south, coming north into Lone Pine, it feels like open road. Need traffic calming. Has always suggested a stop light at Hwy 136. Roundabouts slow people down, but they also cause accidents. A trade off.

Commissioner Muchovej brought up that Caltrans' top priority is safety. Neil concurred that safety is a top priority, data driven. Reconnecting communities grant program could address safety concerns along the entire corridor. He will elevate this conversation to Director Dermody and will follow up with a response.

Vice Chair Thompson request that the MOU with San Bernardino be re-visited.

Neil will be meeting with Ahron Hakimi of Kern Cog later this week.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 10:32 a.m. until 9 a.m., Wednesday December 21, 2022

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

- MOU and negotiations Inyo County LTC, Mono County LTC, and Kern Cog
- City of Bishop Pavement Management Program Report