



INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



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Michael Errante, Executive Director

Minutes

INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION Bishop City Council Chambers 301 W. Line St., Bishop, CA 93514 8:00 a.m.

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).

May 15, 2024

8:04 a.m. Open Meeting

1. Roll Call

Commissioners Present

Vice Chair: Jeffery Ray
Commissioner: Jose Garcia
Commissioner: Jennifer Roeser
Commissioner: Stephen Muchovej
Commissioner: Scott Marcellin

Others Present

Justine Kokx: LTC Transportation Planner
Tina Chinzi: LTC Secretary
Michale Errante: Executive Director Inyo County Public Works
Robert Strub; Lone Pine Resident
Sabine Elia: Lone Pine Resident
Maggie Ritter: Caltrans
Neil Peacock: Caltrans
Annelise Quintanar: Caltrans
Cindy Duriscoe, Big Pine Paiute Tribe
Nora Gamino, City of Bishop
Brian Adkins, Bishop Paiute Tribe

2. Public Comment

None

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approve the virtual participation by Chair Berg in accordance with AB 2449
Chair Berg was unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances.
 2. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of February 21, 2024
 - b. Approval of Resolution No. 2024-01 allocating \$50,051 of FY23-24 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) funds for the purchase of an electric vehicles and infrastructure, and to authorize the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority's Executive Director to complete and execute all documents for the LCTOP submittal, allocation requests, and required reporting.
 - c. Approve via Minute Order Final [2023 Inyo County Active Transportation Plan](#).
 - d. Approve via Minute Order Amendment No. 1 to the [Regional Transportation Plan](#) to be consistent with the Inyo County Active Transportation Plan.
- **Approval of the consent agenda motioned by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Commissioner Roeser. All in favor.**
3. Request Commission commit STIP funds and/or LTF Bicycle & pedestrian funds to serve as leveraging for ATP projects, provide direction to staff, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the letter(s) of commitment.

Discussion:

Justine summarized that the City of Bishop and Inyo County are applying for ATP grants this cycle. The Commission is being asked to commit some level of funds to earn more points. We have Bike and Ped funds from LTF/TDA funding of a little over \$200k. STIP funding is a question with unknown factors such as whether the ITIP will be covering the cost of the overrun on the Olancha/Cartago project.

Commissioner Roeser expressed concerns about the cost overruns, the liability of the overage as well as how it may affect future STIP funding by committing to ATP with so many unknowns. She remains supportive of the ATP projects but would possibly like to see funds go to improvements on streets and residential communities with the leftover funds then being allocated to ATP.

Executive Director Michael Errante explained that the \$32 Million overrun costs are due to unforeseen delays due to damage caused by atmospheric river storms & hurricane Hilary, and redesign needs to avoid archeological finds. Caltrans has been advocating for the state to pay the difference. The request for ITIP funds is going before the CTC on May 17, 2024.

Vice Chair Ray asked about the liability. Shouldn't that have been billed to FEMA or federal disaster funding? Inyo shouldn't be on the hook for it. Commissioner Roeser and Maggie Ritter chimed in was their understanding that that was taking place. Also, Director Dermody has advocated at the highest levels to ensure that the additional costs are not paid for by MOU partner funding.

Commissioner Muchovej would prefer to maximize the leverage from STIP funds to prioritize improvements in our streets and residential communities, such as these ATP projects, rather than be beholden for another decade to the Olancho Cartago project that has become a giant black hole. Leveraging at the 5% level would provide a significant return on investment, something like 4 to 1. We still need to come up with the other 85 points to be competitive in this program though, which is a challenge. Neil Peacock from Caltrans agrees with Commissioner Muchovej's earlier statement that matched funds are a good return on investment. He also recommended that the County's RTP include a policy element that prioritizes match as a strategy to access funding. He recommended looking at RSTP specifically as a source of future matching funds.

Commissioner Roeser appreciates the idea of leverage and the idea of return on investment; she appreciates that these ATP projects are important projects but is leery of potentially throwing our STIP back to an extremely low number or negative again. She would prefer to allow STIP funds to build back up for so many needed projects.

Commissioner Muchovej appreciated Neil's idea of having Justine develop a matching strategy for a future agenda item. He also is thinking about the return on investment to our citizens, and is completely willing to commit the bike and pad funds for this, and then whatever is needed to get up to 5 points from our future STIP.

Commissioner Muchovej made a motion to commit the bike and ped funds and whatever is needed to get up to 5 points from the future STIP. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion.

****Approval of the Commission to commit funds motioned by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Motion passed 3-2.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Request Commission receive a copy of the meeting notes of the Social Security Transit Advisory Council meeting held February 15, 2024, and draft Unmet Needs List for 2024

Justine explained that the TDA requires the TPA and the LTC to conduct a meeting with the Social Services Transit Advisory Committee to discuss unmet transit needs in the region. During the recently held meeting the representatives from Lone Pine and Bishop locations highlighted their needs, with some to be addressed in the list of unmet needs list for approval next month. Some items on the list include transit use incentives such as group discounts, as well as overnight

parking in Bishop, easier payment system, Lone Pine Dial a ride on the weekends and free ride days. There was also some discussion of how to get to LAX. Commissioner Muchovej stated it was nice to see prior year unmet needs being met, such as weekend Mammoth express service and weekend 395 service to Reno. There was also much praise for ESTA and the drivers. Two public hearings were scheduled as required but no one showed up so that was a good sign.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. FY21-22 Financial Audit of the LTC

Justine confirmed that the FY21-22 financial audit for the LTC met the requirements.

6. Informational Item: FY2024-2025 Local Transportation Fund Estimate

The annual local transportation fund estimate for FY 24-25 will be presented for approval next month and staff is preparing the LTF reserves distribution for FY23-24 fiscal year.

7. Q1-2 OWP Reports/Rural Planning Assistance invoices to Caltrans

Justine stated this is a routine report to Caltrans for the OWP and they also serve as the Rural Planning Assistance (RPA) invoices. The third quarter was just completed, and we are on track to fully extend the RPA and next focus on Programming, Planning and Monitoring (PPM).

8. City of Bishop Report

Nora Gamino discussed several ongoing projects including the “Connecting Bishop” project, which is now looking at multi-use sidewalks, the East Line Bridge project facing funding issues, and the South Warren St improvement project nearing completing environmental compliance. She also addressed issues related to truck parking on Hwy 6 and ideas to encourage drivers to go a little further to actual rest stops were discussed.

9. ESTA Executive Director’s Report

- Executive Director’s April Report

Commissioner Roeser spoke of concerns of the potential impact of the Red’s Meadow construction project on ESTA’s budget.

10. Caltrans Report

- Caltrans Monthly Report

Annelise provided updates on various Caltrans projects and highway conditions.

11. Tribal Report

- Brian Adkins – Letter of Support for the Bishop Paiute Tribe’s EV charging infrastructure, planning and workforce development project.

Brian Adkins, Environmental Director of the Bishop Paiute Tribe, thanked the LTC commissioners for the letter of support for seeking funding for their EV charging project. He looks forward to partnering with Inyo County in the development of the County EVCINP.

Cindy Duriscoe discussed that both Bishop and Big Pine tribes are still completing updates on documents and budget scheduling for the Clean Mobility Options project. They are close to signing voucher agreements to get the project started hopefully by the end of June. They will also be requesting a letter of support from the LTC for their ATP project for an application for writing a comprehensive active transportation plan. Cindy will send the details of the plan, scope of work etc. to Justine. They would need the letter no later than the second week of June.

12. DVNP Report

13. USFS Report

None

14. Executive Director's Report

- ICEVCINP bid review

Executive Director Michael Errante stated 7 proposals were received and after reviewing all bids, DKS was selected as the highest rated consultant. The plan will develop a roadmap for charging infrastructure, focusing on areas that make sense for placing EV stations, cost analysis and presenting a picture of what will be best for this area based on locations, power availability, needs, gaps, current usage versus potential usage and feasibility. A specific focus will be placed on recreational locations, County parks and County facilities. Further consideration is being made on converting the County fleet with hydrogen is being looked at as a possibility as well.

Justine followed up on previous requests from the Commissioners requesting alternative fuels stakeholder or advisory group. A primary element of the ICEVCINP is the development of a stakeholder engagement committee.

Commissioners Marcellin, Muchovej, and Ray expressed their concerns about restroom facilities being considered in the planning to avoid some of the same biohazard issues currently being faced on Hwy 6 and in Lone Pine.

Commissioner Ray also brought up concerns of the power that will be needed considering CA is already dealing with power issues.

- Olancho Cartago four-lane update

Previously discussed in Item 3 of the agenda.

- LTC projects map/update

Executive Director Michael Errante gave a summary of ICLTC ongoing projects: Whitney Portal Road Project - bids were delayed by one week but should open next week anticipating work to proceed hopefully sometime in June. October is the estimated completion timeframe.

The State Road Land Road Flap grant is under design.

The Lone Pine ADA sidewalk is under construction now, working on water lines now.

The Lone Pine Town Streets rehab is scheduled for 25/26 but may be pushed out a little bit while we go after earmarked funds to redo water lines rather than building on top of dilapidated utilities. Commissioner Roeser suggested writing a letter to our Senator to encourage sponsorship of earmarked funds.

HSIP grant Emigrant Pass - resurfacing to increase the friction and signage to make it safer. Working on RFP now.

Onion Valley Guardrail project has come to completion and the road is open.

Public comment from Robert Strub – he thanked Mr. Errante for all the work being done in Lone Pine and he appreciates all that is being done.

15. Reports from all members of the Inyo County LTC

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned until 8:00 a.m. Wednesday June 19, 2024, Bishop City Hall

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

- STIP-Olancha-Cartago Update from Caltrans (June)
- RSTP Exchange distribution (June)
- FY22-23 LTF Reserves Distribution (June)
- Adoption of 2024 Unmet Transit Needs (June)
- Adoption of FY24-25 Overall Work Program (June)
- Apportion and Allocate FY25-26 TDA funding (June)