

TEHAMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2009

Present: Commissioners': Warner, Russell; Strack; Willard; Byrne; and Christison. Also present: Executive Director Gary Antone; Barbara O'Keeffe, Deputy Director of Public Works -Transportation; Kathy Grey and Steve Rogers of Caltrans.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Ron Warner.
2. **Approval of December 16, 2008 Minutes:** Motion by Commissioner Strack, second by Commissioner Willard to approve the December 16, 2008 minutes. Carried 6-0 with 0 absent.

3. **Public Comment:**

Steve Fitch of Lake California thanked the Commission for the bridge replacement at Lake California Drive. Currently, 2.7 miles of access roads need replacing due to cracks, dips, and a very narrow roadway. Mr. Fitch added that 19,000 trips per day are made on Lake California Drive.

Commissioner Russell questioned if this project is available through the Economic Stimulus Plan, and Executive Director Antone answered it was not.

4. **Announcements:** Barbara O'Keeffe informed the Commissioner's of various announcements.

- March 16 Public Workshop for Hwy 99
- March 17, 2009 TCTC meeting cancelled.
- Safe Routes to Schools Grant
- Caltrans drainage improvements near Mineral.
- Public Hearing April 21, Economic Stimulus projects.

5. **Overview and Adoption of Resolution No. 1-2009 of the State Route 99 Transit Concept Report:** Kathy Grey of Caltrans discussed State Route Highway 99. After discussion with the TAC, a recommendation was to study this critical route. A Concept Report, 20-year Plan, will be performed for this highway. Focus will be on our current and future needs. Public meetings will be held and a draft will be presented to the Commission in May 2009. This project needs to be completed by June 30, 2009.

Commissioner Russell commented that all of us have concerns with this dangerous highway and is pleased to see the project come about.

Commissioner Christison questioned if this, or any project, included the bridges on Salt Creek, also known as "Charlie's Bridges".

Kathy Grey said the bridges have no scour issues at this time and are not currently listed on the SHOPP list. This project focuses only on the 30 miles of highway in Tehama County which is 99E.

Commissioner Willard discussed the issues with Hwy. 99E and his hopes that it would be routed 1). Hwy. 99 move east along the foothills, which probably will not happen, and if not, 2). Go into Corning to South Avenue to access Interstate 5.

Commissioner Strack concurred with Commissioner Willard on the dangers of Hwy99 and the importance of access using South Avenue.

Commissioner Russell questioned where old studies of this highway were and Kathy Grey answered she only had information dated back to 2000. There was not a clear focus on the project.

Motion by Commissioner Russell and second by Commissioner Christison to adopt Resolution 1-2009 for commencement of State Route 99 Transportation Concept Report. Carried 6-0 with 0 absent.

6. **Caltrans Update on South Avenue and State Route 99 Los Molinos Bond**

Project: Steve Rogers, Caltrans Project Manager, informed the Commission of the delay with bid openings on the South Avenue project, funded by Proposition 1B. This has been extended 30-days to March 18, 2009 until funding can be found. On the State List, it is scheduled to receive Stimulus Money, but a decision should be finalized by the end of this month. The second phase of the project is not eligible for the Stimulus Plan. Purchasing of Phase II right of way will continue with monies available. The City of Corning is willing to accept property in their name, and all but one property right of way is being purchased. This project will cause traffic delay of the northbound ramp for approximately 2-weeks.

Steve Rogers continued, that the Los Molinos project was requested by Sacramento, and even the Governor, to be completed one year early. With the budget and Stimulus Plan, changes were made day to day, but this project stayed and the District will keep completion of the project to one year early. Construction is scheduled for 2010. Caltrans will also assist in funding the Phase II construction due to bridge funding shortfall. The District will not request funding from any agency and is committed.

Steve Rogers discussed the right of way, which has begun, and environmental documents marking the endangered Red Legged Frog in the slough. Good news was that, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services confirmation was received and that we will not be required to continue with the environmental study.

Gary Antone, Executive Director thanked Steve Rogers for moving this project forward correctly.

- 6A. **Letters of Appreciation:** Motion by Commissioner Willard and second by Commissioner Christison to authorize the Chairman and Executive Director to sign letters of appreciation to the Director of Caltrans, Will Kempton, Executive Director of the California Transportation Commission, John Barna, and Deputy Director of Goods Movement John Hummer, from Business Transportation and Housing Joint Council. Their participation at the Transportation Funding Forum in Red Bluff provided information on challenges in transportation and transportation funding.

Motion carried 6-0 with 0 absent.

7. **Adoption of Resolution 2-2009 accepting the \$71,200 Blueprint Grant:** Barbara O’Keeffe discussed the Blueprint Grant award that would provide \$71,200 for GIS assistance to the Planning and Building departments which would allow sharing of information and data.

Motion by Commissioner Christison, second by Commissioner Strack to approve Resolution 2-2009 accepting the Blueprint Grant award. Carried 6-0 with 0 absent.

8. **Tehama County Transportation Commission Funding Sources:** Barbara O’Keeffe reviewed the significant transportation funding sources and allocations performed by the Commission.

9. This item was pulled. No information discussed.

10. **Potential Project List from County and Cities Submitted for Economic Stimulus:** Barbara O’Keeffe discussed the project list submitted by the TAC to Caltrans in response to the “call for projects, for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Federal Economic Stimulus Funds). It should be noted that not all projects are eligible.

11. **Proposed Project Funded by Economic Stimulus Funds:**

- **Overview:** Barbara O’Keeffe commended the Cities and County for their work on this list. The TAC considered identifying “shovel ready” projects and also the extensive regulations attached to the projects.
- **Open Public Hearing:** The Public Hearing opened at 9:31 am.
- **Close Public Hearing:** With no comments, the Public Hearing closed at 9:31 am.
- **Adoption of Resolution 3-2009:** Commissioner Russell suggested the resolution be revised to understand the authorizations being recommended.

It was the consensus of the Commissioners that the wording be changed to read: “.....BE IT FURTHER.RESOLVED that Tehama County Transit Commission does hereby authorize the County to proceed with the preparation of the proposed economic stimulus projects and that the Commission accepts both TAC recommendations”.

With revisions, motion by Commissioner Russell, and second by Commissioner Christison to authorize the County to proceed with the preparation of the proposed Economic Stimulus Projects and accept TAC recommendations by the adoption of Resolution 3-2009. Motion carried 6-0 with 0 absent.

12. **Adoption of Resolution 4-2009 Allocation of RSTP Funds:** Barbara O'Keeffe discussed recommendations for distribution of Stimulus distribution to the City of Red Bluff and City of Tehama. The distribution factor of 70% was from an estimate of costs associated with delivering Federal Aid projects and compliance with Federal Regulations.

Commissioner Russell suggested that if funds were not available or they were changes at some point, this item should be held over until the April 2009 meeting.

It was the consensus of the Commissioners' that this item be held over until April 21, 2009 meeting.

13. **Correspondence:** As presented. No questions.
14. **Claims:** Motion by Commissioner Willard, second by Commissioner Russell to approve the claims presented in the amount of \$72,252.05. Motion carried 6-0 with 0 absent.
15. **Adjourn:** With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.