



INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



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Michael Errante, Executive Director

MINUTES

INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION Online meeting

DATE: October 20, 2021

9:01 a.m. Steven Muchovej called the meeting to order.

ITEM NO. 1 Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Steven Muchovej
Doug Thompson
Jennifer Roeser
Celeste Berg

Jose Garcia
Rick Pucci

Others present:

Michael Errante, Director
John Pinckney, Staff
Justine Kokx, Staff
Cynthia Browning, Staff
Phil Moores, ESTA
Deston Dishion, City of Bishop
Ron Phillips, City of Bishop

Dennee Alcalá, Caltrans
Mark Heckman, Caltrans
Adam Weitzmann, Caltrans

ITEM NO. 2 Public Comment - **None**

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM NO. 3 Secretary of the Local Transportation Commission (LTC) – Request approval of the minutes of the meeting of August 18, 2021.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Garcia.
All in favor 6**

ITEM NO. 4 Request Commission approve allocating the Non-STIP portion of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) funding to the Inyo County SB-1 Slurry Seal Project

*John said that the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) has made \$1,957,061 of COVID relief funds available to Inyo County for a broad range of transportation. Inyo County is eligible for \$200,000 of state only funding through the STBGP allocation. The remaining portion of \$1,757,061 is considered STIP allocation.

John went on to say that he recommends the \$200,000 of State only funding be used to supplement the Inyo County SB-1 slurry seal project. John stated that the STIP portion \$1,757,061 would be best utilized to supplement PPM funding as allowable (5%) and the East Line Street bridge project that is currently programmed in the STIP. He said that he recommends that any monies not needed for the East Line Street Bridge be programmed against our negative STIP balance.

*Commissioner Muchovej asked Deston Dishion with the City of Bishop if they are on track with the East Line Street Bridge Project, in order to use the funds by the 2024 deadline. Deston answered that he is hoping so, and that he is bringing an agreement to Council on Monday to start with the environmental and preliminary designs. John Pinckney added that he is unsure if the 2024 deadline is just for allocation. He stated that he will verify when the expenditure deadline is. John continued that if the 2024 deadline is for allocation we will have another 3 years to expend.

*** Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Berg. All in favor 6.**

ITEM NO. 5 Request Commission approve allocating the STIP portion of the CRRSAA funds to the East Line St. Bridge project identified in the STIP.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Berg. All in favor 6.**

ITEM NO. 6 Request Commission authorize staff to issue an RFP for two new Project Study Reports (PSR).

*John Pinckney reported that the LTC Commission has set aside \$40,000.00 in our 21/22 budget to fund PSR's. Our general estimate was to set aside \$20,000.00. John said that a simple job may take less; a more complex job may take more. John said that we would like to have PSR's because as Olancha Cartago moves to construction, although we are still in a negative balance on our STIP, we need to start having projects in the queue, which we do not at this point. He went on to report that that one major concern for several years now has been the upper hair-pin turns on Horseshoe Meadows. John said that at some point we will lose access to Horseshoe Meadows all together. John stated that he is asking the Commission to authorize the funding of a PSR to repair that section of roadway so that we may apply for a grant. The other PSR's that need to be done is for the repair Upper Rock Creek and Old Spanish Trail.

***All commissioners agreed that the top 3 projects are 1) Horseshoe Meadows; 2) Old Spanish Trail; 3) Upper Rock Creek**

ITEM NO. 7 Request Commission approve amending the existing contract with LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc. (LSC) to:

1. Authorize the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update as included in the prior contract. LSC has provided a cost update proposal of \$45,097.

2. Increase LSC scope of work to include developing with LTC staff a Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) with a cost proposal of \$69,510.

*John Pinckney gave a brief description which is outlined in the agenda packet.

* John Pinckney noted that Commissioner Thompson asked to have the Department of Water and Power be listed as one of the stake holders on the Study Management. He also said that the report was light on the Airport ground transportation mechanism to increase service at the airport. He would like a follow up on the 2019 RTP report. John said he and Justine would follow up on it.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Pucci. All in favor 6**

ITEM NO. 8 Request your Commission formalize, by Minute Order, the Transportation Development Act Local Transportation Fund 30% reserve target.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Berg and seconded by Commissioner Roeser. All in favor 6.**

ITEM NO. 9 Request your Commission authorize by Resolution 2021-13 distributing the year end FY20-21 LTF reserve fund balance in the same proportion as allocated in June 2021.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Garcia. All in favor 6.**

ITEM NO. 10 New Brown Act legislation (AB 361) affecting remote/virtual meetings. Request your Commission authorize, by Minute Order, future meetings during a state of emergency to be conducted virtually, in accordance with AB 361.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Berg. All in favor 6.**

ITEM NO. 11 The Bishop Chamber of Commerce and the Adventure Trails Association are requesting the Inyo County LTC to fund the printing of 10,000 Adventure Trail pamphlets for the Bishop, Independence and Lone Pine Combined Use routes. Cost is estimated to be \$2,700 for 10,000, to be funded with PPM funds.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner Thompson. All in favor 6.**

ITEM NO. 12 Request your Commission sign two letters of support for (1), the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) to pursue grant funding for the Eastern Sierra Connected Communities Trails Plan (Plan); and (2), to express support for ESCOG to conduct the trails-planning activities and planning efforts needed to conceptualize the plan.

***Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Garcia All in favor 6**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEM NO. 13 Staff intends to bring a final 2022 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) request before your Commission in November, for submittal no later than 12/15/2021. Staff is requesting your Commission give direction as to your priorities.

*John Pinckney said most of Item no. 13 was addressed in items 4, 5 and 6. He went on to say that he does not believe that there is any ability to request new projects. Staff will work on finding out what fiscal year we can move projects into and how the funding will affect them. John stated that we will re- discuss this again for the 2024 STIP. We will bring a finalized version for your commission in November.

*Commissioner Thompson said he thinks we need to focus on the Freeman Gulch second and third phase. John said he believes we have gotten some support from Kern County to renew the Tri County MOU.

*Commissioner Roeser asked about an update for backfilling on the Olancha Cartago project. John said it has only moved forward on the House bill and not the Senate bill.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

ITEM NO. 14 ESTA Report

*Phil Moores asked John Pinckney to share the United Airlines flight schedule, and went on to say that Flights will begin on December 16th. Phil said that ESTA is moved out of the airport and is in a wait and see mode for their dial a ride services. The private shuttle company that Mammoth is contracting with, as well as Enterprise Rent-A-Car will handle the lion's share of riders coming in. Phil said that if their existing capacity is challenged, he is ready to hire another driver to handle Bishop Services. He said he is looking to move some of their express services to the Airport for a "Start and Finish stop". Phil went on to say that recruitment for ESTA is in a dire state. He said they are not getting the applications or interest for drivers to the level needed. Phil said that ridership is down for Bishop, Mammoth Express, Night Rider, and Ridgecrest but Lone Pine service is up. Phil said ESTA has moved into a triple wide mobile office at the Airport yard. He went on to report that LSC Consultants are doing their short range transit plan and coordinated human service plan. Phil asked to note that on Oct 27th 2-3:30pm there will be a work shop.

ITEM NO. 15 Tribal Report- None

ITEM NO. 16 DNVP Report- None

ITEM NO. 17 Caltrans Report-

*Adam Weitzmann reported that the California Transportation Commission is holding a Trade Corridor Enhancement Program Workshop from 1-4pm on October 21st. *The Sustainable Communities Grant applications are due to headquarters as well as District 9 by Wednesday, Oct 27th. * He reported that the Lone Pine Sidewalks Project is being reviewed and will soon be ready for signature. Adam went on to report that Caltrans is getting ready to close mountain passage for their winter maintenance and will be meeting with Mammoth Mt., the town of Mammoth Lakes, and Mono County in mid-November to discuss operations. He said that on October 11th, with regard to the wind, there were several traffic collisions.

*Mark Heckman stated that if we wanted comments from Caltrans for Sustainable Communities grants they were due last week.

ITEM NO. 18 City of Bishop Report

*Deston Dishion reported that he is looking for Council to approve a contract with Lumos Engineering to start preliminary design and engineering with the East Line Street Bridge Project.

ITEM NO. 19 Executive Director's Report

- Tri-County MOU
- Stateline Road FLAP Grant

*John Pinckney stated that he already addressed the Tri-County MOU topic earlier in this meeting.

*Michael Errante reported, in regard to the Stateline Road FLAP Grant, that we were successful at getting 8.3 million dollars. The project will not come to construction until 2028. He stated that our counterparts in Nevada may start earlier. Michael went on to say that the foundation for the Bishop Airport terminal expansion is being filled this morning and the sprung structure will be here Sunday.

*Commissioner Pucci asked if the Airport has hired TSA people. Michael answered that yes he has been engaged with TSA. He said that the North Round Valley Bridge Project is having some challenges and we are now looking at July of 2022 for a finish date.

ITEM NO. 20 Reports from all members of the Inyo County LTC- None

CORRESPONDENCE Michael Errante announced that John Pinckney has been promoted to Inyo County Deputy Director and Justine Kokx will be the new Transportation Planner. John Pinckney went on to introduce Justine and stated that she will be a wonderful addition to the team.

ADJOURNMENT

10:46 am