

JAN ARBUCKLE – Grass Valley City Council
 ANDREW BURTON – Member-At-Large, Vice Chair
 CAROLYN WALLACE DEE – Town of Truckee
 ANN GUERRA – Member-At-Large, Chair
 SUSAN HOEK – Nevada County Board of Supervisors
 ED SCOFIELD – Nevada County Board of Supervisors
 DUANE STRAWSER – Nevada City City Council



DANIEL LANDON, Executive Director
 MICHAEL WOODMAN, Deputy Executive Director

Grass Valley • Nevada City

Nevada County • Truckee

MINUTES OF NCTC MEETING December 18, 2019

A special meeting of the Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) was held on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 in the Nevada County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 950 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, California. Notice of the meeting was posted 72 hours in advance. The meeting was scheduled for 9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Jan Arbuckle
 Andy Burton*
 Carolyn Wallace Dee
 Ann Guerra
 Susan Hoek
 Ed Scofield
 Duane Strawser

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Dan Landon, Executive Director
 Mike Woodman, Deputy Executive Director
 Kena Sannar, Transportation Planner
 Dale Sayles, Administrative Services Officer
 Carol Lynn, Administrative Assistant

Standing Orders: Chair Guerra convened the Nevada County Transportation Commission meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance
 Roll Call

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT ITEMS

- Agenda Item 3: Proposed 2020 NCTC Meeting Schedule – pulled from Consent Items
1. Financial Reports
 August 2019 and September 2019
 2. NCTC Minutes
 September 18, 2019 NCTC Meeting Minutes

4. Western Nevada County Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Program Annual Report for FY 2018/19
Approve Report
5. Nevada County Subrecipient Agreement Amendment 1 Correction
Resolution 19-40

ACTION: Approved Consent Items with exclusion of Agenda Item 3.

MOTION: Scofield / SECOND: Strawser

AYES: Arbuckle, Burton, Dee, Guerra, Hoek, Scofield, Strawser (unanimous)

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

3. Proposed 2020 NCTC Meeting Schedule
The January 22, 2020 meeting was changed to January 29, 2020.

ACTION: Approved updated Proposed 2020 Meeting Schedule

MOTION: Scofield / SECOND: Strawser

AYES: Arbuckle, Burton, Dee, Guerra, Hoek, Scofield, Strawser (unanimous)

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

6. Correspondence:
 - A. Philip Carville, Save Highway 174, Open Letter to the California Transportation Commission, File 1200.6, 9/18/19.
 - B. Thomas L. Brannon, Deputy District Director, Division of Maintenance and Traffic Operations, California Department of Transportation, Caltrans Letter to Philip Carville in response to letter dated 9/18/19, File 1200.6, 10/21/19.

There were no questions or comments on the Correspondence.

ACTION: None – Information only.

7. Executive Director's Report
 - Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force

Executive Director Landon said the Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force is currently preparing a draft report for the legislature.

ACTION: None – Information only.

8. Project Status Reports

A. Caltrans Project Report

Caltrans District 3 Project Manager Sam Vandell reviewed the November Caltrans Project Status Report. In response to questions from the Commission, Mr. Vandell said he would look into issues involving separation cracks and holes on westbound Highway 80 on the summit, the thinning of trees at the Banner Mountain overcrossing, and the deep channels in the lanes on Highway 80 at the summit that are a concern for motorcyclists. Commissioner Strawser offered that people would be willing to give input on the issues of shouldering, guardrails and rumble strips for upcoming construction projects. Deputy Executive Director Mike Woodman said NCTC staff could facilitate a meeting with Caltrans to review the Active Transportation Program projects and go over concerns and design aspects.

ACTION: None – Information only.

ACTION ITEMS

9. PUBLIC HEARING: FY 2019/20 Regional Transportation Improvement Program

Executive Director Landon said 75% of the state funding goes to the Regional Improvement Program and 25% of the state funding goes to the Interregional Improvement Program managed by Caltrans. Staff recommends projects for 2020 including \$900,000 additional funding for the SR 49 Widening Project and \$299,000 for developing programs and projects. There were no comments made during the Public Hearing.

ACTION: Adopted Resolution 19-41

MOTION: Arbuckle / SECOND: Hoek

AYES: Arbuckle, Burton, Dee, Guerra, Hoek, Scofield, Strawser (unanimous)

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

10. Fehr & Peers Presentation: SB 743 Vehicle Miles Traveled Methodology and Thresholds Recommendations Draft Report

Deputy Executive Director Woodman gave a presentation of the draft report. The Senate Bill Vehicle Miles Traveled Implementation Draft Report is available on the NCTC website, <http://www.nctc.ca.gov/Projects/SB-743-VMT/index.html>.

Mr. Woodman stated that beginning July 1, 2020, transportation analysis for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) must be based on Vehicle Miles Traveled. Executive Director Landon explained that under SB 743, the jurisdictions will now need to develop a new threshold in their environmental documents to describe how they are addressing the impacts of travel. Mr. Woodman said under Vehicle Miles Traveled, congestion is no longer considered an impact for CEQA, and that it is more challenging to mitigate VMT in rural settings. Each of the jurisdictions will be provided a copy of the final report when it is completed, and will work with their planning departments and legal counsels to move forward with crafting and adopting their own methodologies and thresholds. This study provides

recommended thresholds for their consideration, but the jurisdictions can adopt a modified version of these recommendations, allowing each area to develop a plan that will work with their general plans. Mr. Woodman said Level of Service policy is still part of the general plan so developers can still make improvements related to Level of Service.

ACTION: Comments accepted.

11A. GHD Presentation: Nevada City SR 49 Multimodal Corridor Plan Final Report
Resolution 19-42

GHD Project Manager Jim Damkowitch gave a presentation on the Nevada City SR 49 Multimodal Corridor Plan. He commented on the public input process and involvement of the Federal Highway Administration in the creation of the plan, and the focus on making the plan competitive for upcoming grant applications. He said most of the public comments related to the intersections on Highway 49 with both Highway 20 and Cement Hill. The plan includes safer access for pedestrians and bikes to Hirschman Trail. Public comments indicated people would use the corridor for biking and walking more if it were made safer. Mr. Damkowitch indicated their number one goal was pedestrian safety, and the treatments used in the plan are geared toward that goal, and will allow motorists to have more awareness of pedestrians.

Public comment: Mark Nix of Nevada City commented the Class I bike path that ends at the Rood Center should go all the way to Hirschman Pond parking lot or even to the next crossing. Mr. Landon commented there is an informal trail along the southern edge of the Rood Center, and staff could work with the county to develop that trail to route users around the Rood Center.

Jim Day from Caltrans Local Assistance said a similar project on Highway 49 in Auburn was funded with Active Transportation Program (ATP) funds and CMAQ funds. Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) submitted the ATP application and are currently in design. PCTPA partnered with Placer County Public Health for the Safe Routes to School portion of the project, and also did a cooperative agreement with Caltrans to address the bike and pedestrian improvements. He said this is a model project for NCTC staff to look at, and the application is available on the California Transportation Commission website.

Executive Director Landon said staff would bring an amendment to this contract to the next Commission meeting to extend the agreement in order to prepare a dual grant application for Highway Safety Improvement Plan (HSIP) funding as well as ATP funding that will both have a call for projects this spring. Commissioner Strawser thanked everyone for their work on this project and said it will improve safety and quality of life in the area and will have a big impact.

ACTION: Adopted Resolution 19-42

MOTION: Strawser / SECOND: Burton

AYES: Arbuckle, Burton, Dee, Guerra, Hoek, Scofield, Strawser (unanimous)

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

11B. GHD Presentation: Recommended Improvement Concept at the SR 174/20 Intersection Analysis

GHD Project Manager Todd Tregenza gave a presentation on the SR 174/20 Intersection Analysis. He said the study triangle area of Neil Street, Tinloy Street, Hansen Way, Colfax Avenue, South Auburn Street and Highway 49/20 has a history of collisions and near misses, so the focus of the study is safety and operations related. He said there is a desire to make it safe as well as attractive. The plan includes a Class II buffered bike lane, pedestrian sidewalks, and a shared use path for both pedestrian and bicycle traffic. It improves the traffic flow in front of Grass Valley Charter School at Hennessey and avoids the backup of traffic from the highway offramp. It also provides parking and good pedestrian access for events such as Cornish Christmas and Thursday Night Market. There will be activated beacons near the school to alert motorists of pedestrians. Commissioner Arbuckle raised the concern of the safety issue involving parents dropping off and picking up students at the school. Mr. Tregenza commented the plan would be an improvement over the conditions existing today, but they can look at additional features to increase the safety at that location such as controlled crossings. The plan includes landscaping opportunities and aesthetic improvements that will help travelers navigate through the area.

Executive Director Landon said staff will bring a recommendation to develop a grant application for Active Transportation Program funding.

ACTION: Comments accepted.

**At this point, Commissioner Burton left the meeting.*

12. Amendment 2 to the FY 2019/20 Overall Work Program
Resolution 19-43

Executive Director Landon said Amendment 2 would fund updates to the Regional Traffic Model, the Regional Mitigation Fee Program, and the Regional Transportation Plan.

ACTION: Adopted Resolution 19-43

MOTION: Strawser / SECOND: Hoek

AYES: Arbuckle, Dee, Guerra, Hoek, Scofield, Strawser

ABSTAIN: None


ABSENT: Burton

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no additional announcements.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the NCTC will be January 29, 2020, at the Grass Valley City Hall Council Chambers, 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley, California, starting at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Chair Guerra called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Strawser made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Arbuckle seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: 

Carol Lynn, Administrative Assistant

Approved on: _____

By: _____
Ann Guerra, Chair
Nevada County Transportation Commission