

Nevada County Transportation Commission

The Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) is the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Nevada County. NCTC coordinates state and federal transportation programs for Nevada County, the City of Grass Valley, Nevada City, and the Town of Truckee.

2010 NCTC Commissioners

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Grass Valley City Council

Ed Scofield

Nevada County District II Supervisor

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The Nevada County Transportation Commission Newsletter is published quarterly. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please write or call the Nevada County Transportation Commission office.

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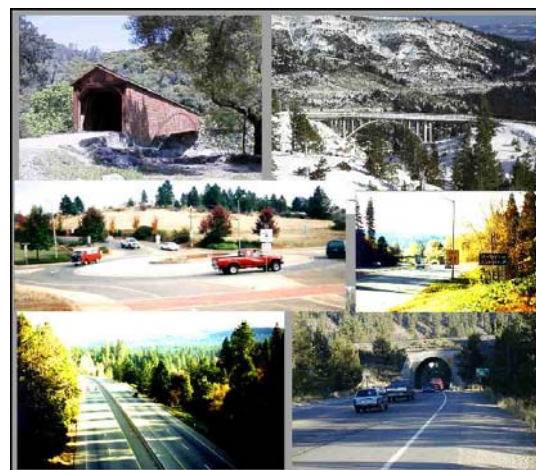
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Upcoming NCTC Meeting

The next meeting of the Nevada County Transportation Commission is scheduled on: **Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at 9:30 a.m., Nevada City Council Chambers, 317 Broad St., Nevada City, CA.**

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NEVADA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Issue 44

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California Transportation Commission Comes to Town

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) held a "Town Hall" Meeting on May 12th at the offices of the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) in Auburn. Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) Chairman Carolyn Wallace Dee and Commissioners Larry Jostes and Ed Scofield attended the meeting and met CTC members Jim Earp, Chairman (Roseville), James Ghielmetti (San Francisco), Joseph Tavaglione (Riverside), and Robert Alverado (Contra Costa). The CTC is responsible for allocating funds for the construction of highway improvements throughout California. It is also active in the development of state and federal legislation to secure financial stability for the state's transportation needs.



Following an overview of the Sierra Foothill region, Executive Directors of the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies for Placer, El Dorado, and Nevada Counties gave presentations on the issues and accomplishments of each agency (see photo on right). After the presentations, CTC members commented on the status of transportation funding and projects in California.

In the afternoon there was a bus tour of projects that have been awarded Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) funds by the CTC. The tour traveled up SR 49 to the site of the La Barr Meadows Road signalization and widening project (see photo below) and then proceeded to the I-80 bottleneck project in Roseville, and the SR 65 Lincoln Bypass.

CTC members from left: Jim Earp, Robert Alverado & James Ghielmetti listen to Celia McAdam, PCTPA Executive Director, at the CTC Town Hall Meeting in Auburn



Dan Landon, NCTC Executive Director, explains the La Barr Meadows Road CMIA project to CTC Chair Jim Earp while NCTC Commissioners Larry Jostes and Ed Scofield look on (left rear of photo).

The Town Hall meetings provide CTC members an opportunity to see projects in the more rural areas of California and to better understand the value and impact of the projects in the communities where they are located. Additionally, the meeting gives regional agency board members a better understanding of the role the CTC plays in the bigger picture of transportation planning in California and provides a venue for CTC members to meet local representatives and share their perspective of statewide transportation issues.

See page 3 for update on La Barr Meadows project.

New Designation for NCTC



A CAL FIRE Air Tanker demonstrates its ability to drop fire retardant (top photo).
Runway 25 at the Nevada County Airport in Grass Valley (above photo).

The NCTC was recently designated as the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) for the Nevada County Airport near Grass Valley by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors and members of the City Selection Committee, which represent Grass Valley, Nevada City, and the Town of Truckee. The NCTC authorized its staff to support the newly formed ALUC at their May 19th meeting and approved a fee schedule as their first order of business. The California Public Utilities Code Section 2167.5 grants ALUCs the authority to charge fees for review of land use proposals and airport plans. The fees are charged to the proponents of actions, regulations, or permits, and are used to pay for services provided by the ALUC.

ALUCs were established to provide for appropriate development of areas surrounding public airports. Their purpose is to minimize the public's exposure to excessive noise and safety hazards, and to ensure that the approaches to the airport are kept clear of structures that could pose an aviation safety hazard.

ALUCs have the responsibility of developing a Comprehensive Land Use Plan for airports. Specifically these plans seek to protect the public from the adverse effects of aircraft noise, to ensure that people in facilities are not concentrated in areas susceptible to aircraft accidents, and to ensure that no structures or activities encroach upon or adversely affect the use of navigable air space. Because an ALUC is responsible for land use planning, any project that is located within an identified airport safety zone must be submitted to the ALUC for review.

The Truckee Tahoe Airport is situated in both Nevada County and Placer County (see photo on right), therefore a special ALUC with representatives from both counties is being formed. NCTC has authorized its staff to support the new Truckee Tahoe ALUC. [NCTC](#)



The Truckee Tahoe Airport is situated in both Nevada County and Placer County

SR 49 Summer Construction

SR 49 Passing Lane Project from Combie Road to Brewer Road in South County – This project is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion in July. Sierra Nevada Construction Company will extend the northbound (NB) passing lane from the traffic signal at Combie Road to just south of Brewer Road (see photos on right), and provide a right turn pocket onto Cameo Drive. There will be single lane traffic closures during the night and shoulder work during the day. No closures will be allowed during peak hours: 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Project cost is \$850,000 and is funded through State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) funds.

SR 49/La Barr Meadows Road Intersection Improvement Project Ready to Begin – The contract for this project was awarded on May 28th to De Silva Gates Construction, which is an eighty-year-old firm based in Dublin, CA with a long-standing record of successful projects with Caltrans. Their bid amount was \$8.3 million. It is expected that construction will start in late July and it will take two construction seasons to complete the work, which includes widening the highway to four lanes from Tall Pines Mobile Home Park to Ponderosa Pines Mobile Home Park, connecting all of the local roads and driveways in the project area into a frontage road system, installing turn lanes and a signal between the Nevada County Consolidated Fire District Station #88 and Foothill Community Church, and installation of sound walls at three locations. Most of the work during the first construction season will be on the east side of the highway and there will be minimal traffic controls during that period. The major benefits of the project will not be realized by the traveling public until late in the second season (summer of 2011) as the project nears completion.

NCTC staff are working with De Silva Gates and Caltrans District 3 to set a time for a community open house to inform the public of construction schedules and traffic control plans. [NCTC](#)



SR 49 NB Passing Lane Project from Combie Road to Brewer Road

Pedestrian Master Plan and RTP Update

Pedestrian Master Plan is to be developed in 2010 – The NCTC was awarded a Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant in the amount of \$65,000 to develop a Pedestrian Master Plan for Nevada County. The development of this document will assist the jurisdictions in the planning and implementation of pedestrian infrastructure projects that improve connectivity, accessibility, reflect community values, foster livable communities, and encourage walking as an alternative mode of transportation.

NCTC has contracted with Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants to develop the Nevada County Pedestrian Master Plan. NCTC and the consultant will be conducting public outreach as part of this planning effort and will host two public workshops in July, with one held in eastern Nevada County and one held in western Nevada County on consecutive days. These workshops will include map-based exercises that will focus on collecting information about where people walk, where there are constraints or areas of concerns related to walking, ideas for enhancement, identifying barriers for persons with disabilities, children, and seniors, and prioritization of improvements.

After the initial public outreach and data collection is completed, the consultant will prepare a draft report that will be posted on the NCTC website for review and comment, and presented to the public and NCTC at their November 17, 2010 meeting. The comments received will then be addressed in the final report that is scheduled to be presented to the NCTC for approval on January 19, 2011.

Regional Transportation Plan in the process of being updated – NCTC staff are working on the five-year update of the Nevada County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The purpose of the 2010 Nevada County RTP Update is to establish policy guidance and identify regional transportation improvements that are planned for implementation over the next twenty years in Nevada County. To qualify for federal or state funding, projects must be included in the plan or be consistent with the plan.

The schedule for adoption of the 2010 RTP includes the following major milestones:

- 30-day agency and public review period for the Notice of Preparation of a draft environmental document from June 22 to July 21, 2010;
- Release of the draft 2010 RTP for public review (September 2010);
- Release of the draft environmental document for a 45-day public review period (September 2010);
- Public workshop on the draft 2010 RTP at the November 17, 2010 NCTC meeting;
- Public hearing on the draft environmental document at the November 17, 2010 NCTC meeting;
- Certification of the final environmental document at the January 19, 2011 NCTC meeting; and
- Adoption of the 2010 RTP at the January 19, 2011 NCTC meeting. [NCTC](#)