




Grass Valley • Nevada City

Nevada County • Truckee

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Nevada County Transportation Commission

FROM: Daniel B. Landon, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report for the November 16, 2016 Meeting

DATE: November 4, 2016

1. 2016 AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION (APA) CONFERENCE

NCTC Transportation Planner, Mike Woodman, participated as speaker on a panel at the October 22, 2016 APA Conference in Anaheim. In acknowledgement of his understanding of the proposed implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 743 and his involvement with the Rural Counties Task Force, he was invited to provide an overview of implementation considerations in rural areas of California.

SB 743 mandated the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to develop a new metric for determining the level of significance of transportation impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). OPR has proposed to eliminate the use of Level of Service (LOS) and has proposed to replace it with Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) to determine whether land use development projects and capacity increasing transportation projects result in significant impacts under CEQA.

Mr. Woodman highlighted the key differences between rural and urban areas of the state, and provided examples of implementation challenges. He advocated for revisions to existing language and expanded language in the draft OPR implementation guidelines, to better define the flexibility needed by rural areas in order to establish reasonable thresholds of significance that are legally defensible. The presentation was well received. OPR staff indicated they would like to work with NCTC to address the rural implementation challenges.

2. DRAFT AMENDMENT NEVADA COUNTY BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

The Nevada County Bicycle Master Plan was adopted in 2013, with recognition that the plan would be amended after completion of an update of the Town of Truckee Trails and Bikeways Master Plan. Truckee's plan is now complete. NCTC staff has prepared a draft amendment to the Nevada County Bicycle Master Plan incorporating information from the Truckee's plan and comments received during public outreach regarding desired bicycle facilities in eastern Nevada County.

The draft amendment was presented for review and comment to the Nevada County Board of Supervisors at their October 25, 2016 meeting that was held in the Town of Truckee. NCTC staff will also be presenting the draft amendment to the Truckee Town Council on December 13, 2016. The draft amendment is available for review on the NCTC website at www.nctc.ca.gov. Comments received on the draft amendment will be incorporated in the final report, which will be presented to NCTC for adoption at their January 18, 2017 meeting. Following adoption by NCTC, the plan will be brought to the local jurisdictions for adoption by resolution.

3. CONGESTION MITIGATION AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM CALL FOR PROJECTS FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2016/17 & 2017/18

Western Nevada County was classified as “non-attainment” in 2004 for the federal 8-hour ozone standard and now annually receives Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding for projects that can help the area reach and maintain air quality standards. The CMAQ program is a federal funding program authorized under the Fixing America’s Transportation (FAST) Act. NCTC, as the regional transportation planning agency for Nevada County, is responsible for administration of the region’s annual apportionment of CMAQ funding, including project selection and approval.

On November 8, 2016, staff issued a call for CMAQ funded projects in western Nevada County. NCTC has a goal of programming a total of \$1,667,500 of CMAQ funds covering FFY 2016/17 (\$818,750) and FFY 2017/18 (\$818,750) to fund projects that can demonstrate emission reductions and improve air quality. The schedule of activities related to the CMAQ call for projects is shown below:

CMAQ Call For Projects Timeline

NCTC Issues Call for Projects	November 8, 2016
Application Submittal Deadline	December 16, 2016
Staff Review and Initial Ranking	Jan. 3 – Jan. 20, 2017
Review by Technical Advisory Committee	February 2017
Recommendations Presented to NCTC for Approval	March 15, 2017

4. TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY PLAN UPDATE

On October 27, 2016, the Truckee Tahoe Airport Land Use Commission met to approve a Negative Declaration and adopt the Truckee Tahoe Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (TTALUCP) update. The TTALUCP and environmental documents were prepared by Mead & Hunt, Inc. In June 2016, the Truckee Tahoe Airport District adopted a new master plan for Truckee Tahoe Airport to replace the 2000 Master Plan. Adoption of the 2016 Master Plan triggered the need to update the TTALUCP adopted in October 2010.

Compatibility plans are the fundamental tool used by airport land use commissions in fulfilling their purpose of promoting airport land use compatibility and safety. Specifically, compatibility plans have two purposes:

- 1) “Provide for the orderly growth of each public airport and the area surrounding the airport within the jurisdiction of the commission...;” and
- 2) “Safeguard the general welfare of the inhabitants within the vicinity of the airport and the public in general.”

After reviewing the TTALUCP and the Negative Declaration, the TTALUC approved the Negative Declaration and adopted the TTALUCP update. Mead & Hunt, Inc. will deliver the final documents by the end of November and NCTC staff will see that they are properly noticed and distributed.