

JAN ARBUCKLE – Grass Valley City Council, Vice Chair
 SUSAN HOEK – Nevada County Board of Supervisors
 ED SCOFIELD – Nevada County Board of Supervisors, Chair
 JAY STRAUSS – Member-At-Large
 DUANE STRAWSER – Nevada City City Council
 JAN ZABRISKIE – Town of Truckee



MICHAEL WOODMAN, Executive Director
 AARON HOYT, Deputy Executive Director

Grass Valley • Nevada City

Nevada County • Truckee

MINUTES OF NCTC SPECIAL MEETING March 4, 2022

An online special meeting of the Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) was held via teleconference, in light of COVID-19 and the state of emergency proclamation and state and local recommended measures for physical distancing, on Friday, March 4, 2022, via Zoom. 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
 Susan Hoek
 Ed Scofield
 Duane Strawser
 Jan Zabriskie

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

Standing Orders: Commissioner Scofield convened the Nevada County Transportation Commission meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

CONSENT ITEMS

- Adopt Resolution Making Findings and Determinations Authorizing Virtual Teleconference Meetings under Government Code Section 54953(e) (AB 361)
 Resolution 22-09

ACTION: Approved Resolution 22-09 by roll call vote
MOTION: Burton / **SECOND:** Arbuckle
AYES: Arbuckle, Burton, Hoek, Scofield, Strawser, Zabriskie
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

ACTION ITEMS

2. Deputy Executive Director Recruitment

Authorize the Executive Director to hire a qualified Candidate for the vacant Deputy Executive Director position up to the Step 4 or 5 salary amount.

Executive Director Woodman reviewed the recruitment that NCTC has underway to fill the Deputy Executive Director position. Section 3.2 of the Personnel Manual requires authorization from the Commission to hire an employee at Step 4 or 5 of the salary range. Given the current conditions and competitive nature of the labor market, and seeking a qualified individual with the experience necessary to serve as the Deputy Executive Director, staff is requesting authorization to hire a qualified candidate up to Step 4 or 5 of the salary range. This would fall within the Overall Work Program budget that has already been approved and would not require an amendment to the budget. Staff has solicited recruitment and conducted interviews, and is fortunate to have three very qualified candidates.

ACTION: Approved authorization to hire a qualified Candidate for the Deputy Executive Director position up to Step 4 or 5 salary amount by roll call vote

MOTION: Arbuckle / SECOND: Burton

AYES: Arbuckle, Burton, Hoek, Scofield, Strawser, Zabriskie

NOES: None


ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sam Vandell was given appreciation for the press releases that informed the public of the work Caltrans has been doing on the Omega Curves project. He said he would continue to inform the public of the progress of the project. Mr. Vandell was also given appreciation for the vegetation management being done on Highway 20 west of Grass Valley.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the NCTC will be March 16, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: 
Carol Lynn, Administrative Assistant

Approved on: May 18, 2022

By: 
Ed Scofield, Chair
Nevada County Transportation Commission

JAN ARBUCKLE – Grass Valley City Council, Vice Chair
 SUSAN HOEK – Nevada County Board of Supervisors
 ED SCOFIELD – Nevada County Board of Supervisors, Chair
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Members Present: Jan Arbuckle
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Staff Present: Mike Woodman, Executive Director
 Kena Sannar, Transportation Planner
 Dale Sayles, Administrative Services Officer
 Carol Lynn, Administrative Assistant

Standing Orders: Commissioner Scofield convened the Nevada County Transportation Commission meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

PUBLIC COMMENT: Submitted from Jim Day: "Active Transportation Program, funding Cycle 6. The application for Cycle 6 goes live today. Applications are due June 15th and the statewide CTC staff recommendation of projects is scheduled for October 21st. See our Cycle 6 website below: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/fed-and-state-programs/active-transportation-program/cycle6>. Thank you, James P. Day, MBA, Associate Transportation Planner, Office of Local Assistance, Caltrans District 3.

Executive Director Mike Woodman commented that the Nevada County Transportation Commission staff will be assisting the City of Grass Valley, and Nevada City and Nevada County in submitting applications for two different ATP projects. One is the State Route 174/20 Intersection Analysis, involving the roundabout at the entrance of Grass Valley at the triangle. The other is the State Route 49 Multimodal Corridor Plan that runs from the Elks Lodge to the State Route 20/Uren Street intersection and proposes improvements there. Both projects were submitted in the previous cycle and both scored relatively high, but just outside of the scoring cutoff. With some improvements to the applications, staff is hoping to get one or both of those projects funded in Cycle 6.

CONSENT ITEMS

1. Adopt Resolution Making Findings and Determinations Authorizing Virtual Teleconference Meetings under Government Code Section 54953(e) (AB 361)
Resolution 22-02

2. Financial Reports
December 2021 and January 2022

3. NCTC Minutes
January 26, 2022 NCTC Meeting Minutes

4. Revised Findings of Apportionment for FY 2021/22 and Preliminary Findings of Apportionment for FY 2022/23
Resolution 22-03 and Resolution 22-04

5. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Inflation Adjustment
Resolution 22-05

6. State Transit Assistance Preliminary Apportionments for FY 2022/23
Approved the apportionment table as a basis for allocation from the State Transit Assistance Fund for FY 2022/23

7. Approval of Low Carbon Transit Operations Program FY 2021/22 Funding Amounts
Approved FY 2021/22 funding amounts and authorized the Executive Director to sign letters approving the Town of Truckee's and Nevada County's Allocation Requests

8. Certification of the 2022 Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Grant Applications
Resolution 22-06

ACTION: Approved Consent Items by roll call vote

MOTION: Burton / **SECOND:** Strawser

AYES: Arbuckle, Burton, Hoek, Scofield, Strawser, Zabriskie

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

ACTION ITEMS

9. Draft FY 2022/23 Overall Work Program
Comments accepted

NCTC staff has prepared the Draft FY 2022/23 Overall Work Program for review and comment by the Commission, our member jurisdictions and Caltrans. The preparation of the Overall Work Program is a state requirement and provides details on continuing planning activities and new planning projects, and presents a summary of expected revenues and expenditures.

NCTC's Overall Work Program integrates the Commission's organizational activities into two broad work elements, Communication and Coordination, and Regional Planning. Each of these work elements is subdivided into projects that accomplish specific tasks or objectives. The FY 2022/23 Draft Overall Work Program includes four key planning projects, including the update of the Nevada County Regional Transportation Plan, the Rural Counties Task Force Rural Induced Demand Study, the update of the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee Program, and the update of the Eastern Nevada County Transit Development Plan. Any comments received from the Commission, its member jurisdictions, or Caltrans will be addressed and incorporated into the FY 2022/23 Final Overall Work Program, which will be presented to the Commission at the May 18, 2022 meeting.

10. Amendment 1 to Professional Services Agreement for RTMF Update
Resolution 22-07

The update of the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee program is currently underway. This amendment to the agreement with GHD will extend the contract termination date from June 30 to December 31, 2022 and increases the compensation amount by \$33,258. The additional time and increase in amount are necessary to address the need for additional traffic counts that have been identified, modifications to NCTC's Travel Demand Model to facilitate the analysis for this project, and additional work required for establishing compliance with the requirements of AB 602 that was adopted after the release of the scope of work.

ACTION: Approved Consent Items by roll call vote
MOTION: Strawser / **SECOND:** Hoek
AYES: Arbuckle, Burton, Hoek, Scofield, Strawser, Zabriskie
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

11. Correspondence

- A. California Transportation Commission, Highlights of the 2021 Annual Report to the California Legislature, File 370.0, 1/25/22.
- B. Betty T. Yee, California State Controller, Fiscal Year 2022-23 State of Good Repair Program Allocation Estimate, File 370.2.1, 1/31/22.
- C. Betty T. Yee, California State Controller, Fiscal Year 2021-22 Second Quarter State Transit Assistance Allocation, File 1370.0, 2/23/22.

D. Betty T. Yee, California State Controller, Fiscal Year 2021-22 Second Quarter State of Good Repair Program Allocation, File 370.2.1, 2/23/22.

12. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Woodman reviewed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021 that was signed into law on November 15, 2021 and is the federal bill that addresses the provisions related to federal aid to highways, transit, highway safety, motor carrier, research, hazardous materials and rail programs of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The bill includes \$1.2 trillion in investments over five years from FFY 2022 through 2026, including \$550 billion in new spending on transportation, water, power, infrastructure, and pollution cleanup, in addition to the regular annual spending on infrastructure projects. The major IIJA transportation formula and competitive discretionary funding programs are highlighted in the report, along with the amounts that California is estimated to receive for these programs. NCTC staff participates on eight different stakeholder IIJA sub-working groups that were established by the California State Transportation Agency to help guide the development of new discretionary funding programs. Staff will keep the Commission informed of funding opportunities as additional program details are developed. There will potentially be opportunities to pursue projects that address resiliency related to wildfires, funding for EV charging infrastructure, and benefits for transit, as well as additional funding for federal programs like the RAISE and INFRA grants, which staff will consider pursuing for State Route 49 funding. Staff will look for opportunities to keep rural areas competitive and not disadvantaged, and to bring some of these dollars to Nevada County.

13. Project Status Report:

A. Caltrans Projects: Sam Vandell, Caltrans District 3 Project Manager for Nevada County.

Sam Vandell reviewed the March Caltrans District 3 Project Status Report. The environmental document for the 4E170 Nevada 49 Corridor Improvement Project from La Barr Meadows up to McKnight Way has been completed and they are currently in the design phase of the project. The project 3H510 was recently approved as part of the 2022 SHOPP and is the safety project from La Barr Meadows to McKnight Way aimed at reducing the number and severity of collisions. This project will construct a northbound truck climbing lane, center two-way left turn lane, 10' shoulders, and right turn lanes in the southbound direction at Crestview Drive, Smith Road, Bethel Church Way, and Wellswood Way.

The slope stabilization project on Nevada 80, near Truckee, is scheduled to be completed this spring. The total costs have been updated for the Acid Flats Project on Nevada 80 near Floriston at the Truckee River bridge, and the Roadway Rehab Project on Nevada 80, from west of Donner Park over crossing the Trout Creek. There is a new rockfall protection project on Nevada 80 in Nevada County and Sierra County. The environmental document was completed, design is complete, and it will start construction this fall.

There is a safety project on Nevada 80 by Floriston to grind existing pavement, place polyester concrete overlay, groove the existing concrete pavement and repair and replace slabs if needed. Construction is to start in spring of 2023, target completion in spring of 2024. Construction has been completed on the Highway 174 Safety Improvement Project, and there is a one year landscaping and plant establishment plan on that project to make sure all the plantings and erosion control measures are established for stability on those fill and cut slopes. The planned establishment period should end fall of 2022.

There has been some concern among local residents about wildfire evacuation and backup of traffic during the bridge replacement at the Acid Flats Project on Nevada 80 near Floriston at the Truckee River bridge, and would detours be built to alleviate those issues. Mr. Vandell said the environmental part is due to be completed in the winter of 2024, so detours would not be developed at this point in time, but would be addressed in the preliminary draft conceptual process.

The commissioners spoke on the value of Mr. Vandell presenting the Caltrans Project Status Report at each meeting, saying that the report is helpful and informative and presented in an efficient way. The report helps to highlight all the projects that Caltrans is working on, and is a resource for the commissioners to share information with other groups.

Jim Day commented that of the other transportation commissions he works with, Mr. Vandell really sets the standard for being an exemplary Caltrans liaison, thoroughly updating the Commission on the projects that are in progress in our area.

Commissioner Burton asked about the Omega Curves project, and the historic water trough culvert near the two-mile mark on the trail. He wondered if that historic water trough would be retained in the project. He said it is the only water source from White Cloud through Skillman all the way up to Bear Valley, and is used by horseback riders as well as runners with dogs. Mr. Vandell said that the U.S. Forest Service manages those trails, being on Forest Service property. He said Caltrans has been working with them to see if there is a way to incorporate a temporary trail, but that topic would be in negotiations with the U.S. Forest Service. He said he would be happy to provide additional information on that.

Commissioner Strawser commended Caltrans on the low wait time on Highway 20 due to construction near the Omega Curves project, it is usually no longer than 10 to 15 minutes at all times of the day. Mr. Vandell appreciated the feedback and added that their Public Information Office will be sending out 7,000 direct mailers to residents off of Highway 20 to alert people about the road construction.

Executive Director Woodman talked about the Corridor Improvement Project on Highway 49. The SHOPP project 3H510 will provide improvements on the northbound section of State Route 49 between La Barr Meadows and McKnight Way. Project 4E170, hopefully in conjunction with the Caltrans SHOPP project, will be the southbound improvements to eliminate the merge, and add turn pockets and eight-foot shoulders. NCTC is pursuing state and federal funding for that southbound segment to secure the construction funding, and to align with Caltrans improvements that are slated for approval. The funding that NCTC staff submitted for the Regional Improvement Program, \$3,000,000, plus another \$3,000,000 from the Caltrans Interregional Improvement Program, for a total of \$6,000,000, is slated for approval today by the California Transportation Commission. NCTC staff will work to secure state and federal funding to get the construction of these two projects to coincide.

Mr. Vandell added that the 3H510 project will include improvements on the additional lane going northbound, the truck climbing lane, and a continuous two-way left turn lane through the project, as well as widening shoulders to eight feet. There will also be four southbound right turn lanes that will be part of the project.

Executive Director Woodman suggested updating the description on the Caltrans report for the 4E170 project to include the truck climbing lane and some of the new terminology.

Executive Director Woodman said Caltrans headquarters is emphasizing incorporating multimodal improvements of existing projects. NCTC staff has been discussing with Caltrans the possibility of

creating a permanent access via SR 49 to the new Transit Operation Center, located off La Barr Meadows Road, improving access to the EV bus charging infrastructure, as part of the 4E170 STIP project. Providing better access to the Transit Operations Center and improving the access to the EV bus charging infrastructure will also help in pursuing state and federal funding grant opportunities.

Commissioner Strawser suggested it would be helpful to have directional arrows in the southbound acceleration lane on Highway 49 south of the Combie/Wolf intersection where drivers merge into oncoming traffic. Mr. Vandell said he would bring it up to his operational staff to see if there could be some signage or pavement markings to improve safety in that location. Executive Director Woodman commented that Caltrans previously stated that these acceleration lanes were not long enough to meet the Caltrans standard for merge arrows, but given that we are experiencing issues there, he asked if Caltrans could make a design exception to add some kind of warning feature there. Mr. Vandell will see if Caltrans staff can do a field visit and review the situation for themselves, and he said he appreciated the feedback on these issues.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the NCTC will be May 18, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Carol Lynn, Administrative Assistant

Approved on:

May 18, 2022

By:



Ed Scofield, Chair
Nevada County Transportation Commission