



## MINUTES OF MEETING November 16, 2016

A meeting of the Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) was held on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 in the Nevada County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 950 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, California. The meeting was scheduled for 9:30 a.m.

Members Present: Nate Beason, Jason Fouyer, Ann Guerra, Larry Jostes, Valerie Moberg, and Ed Scofield

Members Absent: Carolyn Wallace Dee

Staff Present: Daniel B. Landon, Executive Director; Mike Woodman, Transportation Planner; Dale Sayles, Administrative Services Officer; Toni Perry, Administrative Assistant

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

Pledge of Allegiance

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

### CONSENT ITEMS

1. Financial Reports

A. August 2016 and September 2016. *Approved.*

2. NCTC Minutes

September 21, 2016 NCTC Meeting Minutes. *Approved.*

3. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update Contract Amendment. *Adopted Resolution 16-33 authorizing the Chairman to sign Amendment Number 1 to the Agreement between NCTC and Fehr & Peers to prepare an update of the Nevada County RTP.*

4. Nevada County Subrecipient Agreement. *Adopted Resolution 16-34 approving the Subrecipient Agreement between NCTC and Nevada County.*

5. Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) Annual Report. *Approved the RTMF Annual Report for FY 2015/16.*

6. Approval of Proposition 1B California Transit Security Grant Program Allocation Eligibility List and Submission of an Application by the County of Nevada. *Adopted Resolution 16-35 approving the FY 16/17 Allocation Eligibility List and approving Nevada County's request to submit an application for funds to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services for FY 2016/17.*
7. 2017 NCTC Meeting Schedule. *Approved meeting schedule for 2017.*
8. Disposal of Surplus Equipment. *Adopted Resolution 16-36 authorizing the Executive Director to dispose of a desktop computer and copier/printer, in accordance with the procedure referenced in the NCTC Administrative Operating Procedures Manual.*
9. Nevada City Local Transportation Funds (LTF) Claim (Pedestrian and Bicycle Funds). *Adopted Resolution 16-37 allocating \$28,800 of LTF to the City of Nevada City for sidewalk improvements in Nevada City as requested.*
10. Nevada City Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) Claim. *Adopted Resolution 16-38 allocating \$150,318.15 of RSTP funds to Nevada City for Street Rehabilitation Projects in various locations within Nevada City as requested.*

Commissioner Fouyer made a motion to adopt the Consent Calendar. Commissioner Beason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Aye votes from Commissioners Beason, Fouyer, Guerra, Jostes, Moberg, and Scofield. Commissioner Dee was absent.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

##### 11. Correspondence

- A. California Energy Commission (CEC), *Notice of Proposed Award.* File 370.1, 10/10/16.

Executive Director Landon explained that there is a company known as "ChargePoint, Inc." that received awards for the Truckee Tahoe Corridor, which is from Auburn up to the State of Nevada line on I-80, and also for their Empire Express Interregional Corridor Project, which is on SR 49 from Auburn to Grass Valley. He requested information from the CEC on what the awards include, but has not received a response. Mr. Landon hopes to be able to tell the Commission in the near future what the awards include. He suspected the reason ChargePoint was successful was due to them providing significant match amounts for the two projects.

Commission Beason stated that recently there was a controversy of sorts where PG&E wanted to increase rates to put in charging stations and it was delayed with protests. He was curious if that proposal is still alive. Executive Director Landon said he did not know. He had seen some news about that particular item just before the last NCTC meeting and it has been totally quiet since. Commissioner Beason said other companies in southern California were also doing it and the question was why would ratepayers be paying for something that someone else would get a benefit from. He thought this funding was coming from some energy related source. Executive Director Landon replied he was not certain of the source.

Chairman Jostes questioned if these two projects are funded at this point. Executive Director Landon replied yes. Chairman Jostes said if there are driving stations, he was curious ultimately if PG&E would supply the power. The answer was yes. Executive Director Landon said it was

interesting that there was a coalition made up of the City of Auburn, City of Colfax, and Truckee Tahoe PUD that put in an application for the I-80 corridor, and Truckee Donner would provide the power, but their project was not awarded funding. Commissioner Beason said every time he turns around there is a new notice in the newspaper of a rate increase coming from PG&E for all kinds of things.

12. Executive Director's Report

12.1 2016 American Planning Association (APA) Conference

Executive Director Landon reported that he received a request earlier this fall that Mike Woodman participate in the California APA Conference and speak on a panel regarding the rural impacts of Senate Bill (SB) 743, which Mr. Woodman did very ably. Mr. Landon received a call the afternoon that Mike gave his presentation from someone at the conference lauding his presentation and knowledge. Mr. Landon said NCTC is really blessed to have Mr. Woodman on staff with his knowledge of things going on in the state. Mr. Landon said as a result of this, a gentleman by the name of Chris Ganson, who is with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, has contacted him and there will be discussions, as they go forward with the implementation guidelines on how the guidelines should be adjusted for rural areas. Mr. Landon gave Mr. Woodman kudos for his efforts on behalf of NCTC and for all rural counties in California.

13. Project Status Reports

A. Caltrans Projects: Sung Moon and Cameron Knudson, Caltrans Project Manager for Nevada County.

Executive Director Landon noted that Sung Moon, who has been Nevada County's Project Manager for several months, is going to be replaced by Cameron Knudson. Mr. Knudson told the Commission he was new as a Project Manager; he comes from Caltrans Construction.

Mr. Knudson gave a summary of projects listed in the Project Status Report.

- *SR 174 Safety Improvement from Maple Way to You Bet Road* – Mr. Knudson reported this is a SHOPP (State Highway Operations and Protection Program) project. The project will realign curves, widen shoulders to 12 feet, add a left turn lane at Greenhorn Access Road, and improve the clear recovery zone. The purpose of the project is to help reduce the number and severity of collisions on the existing highway. The Project Report and Environmental Document are complete and Final Design has started. Construction is scheduled in summer 2018.

Commissioner Beason asked if they were having any difficulties with right-of-way acquisitions on SR 174 in the project area. Mr. Knudson said there is some and Caltrans is trying to get all of the permissions to enter. He said some of those, he understood, are not being given, so they are trying to figure out if they can get the information without going on those properties and to what extent do they need to go onto the properties, or can they get it by looking over the fence. He said Caltrans staff is in the process of determining that information. Commissioner Beason said he represents that district and he has not received one phone call complaining about the project. He did not know if Public Works has received complaints. Mr. Knudson said he did not hear of many complaints given at the public hearing during the Open House on the project. Commissioner Beason asked if there was any problem with funding or cash flow of \$28 million

for the project. Mr. Knudson said he was not aware of any problems. Commissioner Beason asked how much Dorsey Drive Interchange cost. Executive Director Landon replied the total project cost was around \$24 or \$25 million.

Commissioner Guerra said she lives on SR 174, but not in the project area. She is really concerned about the impacts outside of the project area because it will become a smooth path and people are going to increase their speed and there are no shoulders and many places to turn off. She said at Meadow Road, for example, she sees people trying to get off SR 174 traveling in either direction and she is surprised there have not been more accidents in that location. She predicted there will be more and she hopes that Caltrans will look at the impact on the entire corridor by making these improvements. Commissioner Guerra noted that by Cedar Ridge there is an area that floods every time it rains; it is heading into Grass Valley on SR 174 just east of the Y intersection. She said eventually it gets cleaned out and she appreciates it, but it is very dangerous when it floods there. She said if it is possible to prevent that in the first place it would be a good thing. Commissioner Guerra said she is expecting a lot more traffic on SR 174. Commissioner Beason asked if that area was south of where the businesses are at the Y. Commissioner Guerra replied yes, and said it is on the east side of the road, but it is significant because it forces vehicles into the oncoming traffic. Executive Director Landon said it is between the Y intersection and Laws Ranch Road.

Commissioner Guerra congratulated Sung Moon and thanked him for addressing the issues brought up by the Commission in his short time with Nevada County projects.

- *SR 49 Widening to Five Lanes Starting at the North End of the La Barr Meadows Road Project to just before the McKnight Way Interchange* – Mr. Knudson reported that at the previous meeting there was an extensive report on this project. He said Caltrans will have another public meeting after the Draft Environmental Document is complete, which is scheduled for July 2017, where they will present alternatives. He plans to bring someone to the meeting in January to discuss some of the environmental issues and studies that may have to be done.

Commissioner Scofield said this project is probably years away from being constructed, so he would like to continue to focus on individual projects on the SR 49 corridor. He said he was disappointed in the Lady Bird project that was just completed. It basically was just a widening on the shoulder more than anything. He said it does allow vehicles an opportunity to get around a vehicle making a left hand turn, but he would like to see it become more of a left hand turn lane. Commissioner Scofield said he also had a constituent who lives in that area request the same. He also stated the same for the Smith Road improvement. He said it is hard to see the improvement that was made there; it is definitely more of a right hand lane there, but it is not much. He said the area coming off of McKnight Way onto the freeway is really becoming an impacted area on SR 49. Commissioner Scofield said it is almost as if Caltrans is going to have to deal with that section of the highway, not looking at the entire proposed project, because it is becoming so congested there. He thought there were major concerns in that area that will hit before the funding is available for the entire project. Mr. Knudson said if the Commissioners have any questions to get his contact information from Executive Director Landon and to feel free to contact him to address their concerns. He said he looks forward to working with the Commission and getting to know the Commissioners much better and learn about the area.

Executive Director Landon noted that Sung Moon communicated to Mr. Knudson about how NCTC operates and how everyone remembers the angst and unpleasantness that was had regarding cost overruns on SR 49 at La Barr Meadows. He said Mr. Knudson brought with him

that morning a detailed chart showing what is being charged against the current SR 49 project and he promised he would provide Mr. Landon with that information on a regular basis to make sure something like that does not occur again. Mr. Landon said he was pleased to receive it.

Commissioner Beason said he gets off the highway at McKnight Way a lot, but he does not get on the highway going south at that location. He asked Commissioner Scofield if the congestion is at the end of the freeway entrance ramps. Commissioner Scofield responded that he did not think so. He noted the traffic heading south on SR 49 that goes onto SR 20 seems to make a swift transition. He said he did not think it was the on-ramp at McKnight Way because he uses it frequently and he never has a problem, but when you get beyond the on-ramp he thought it was where you narrow down to the two lanes and it is at certain times of the day when there is peak hour commuter traffic. Commissioner Scofield thought it puts more pressure on La Barr Meadows Road and those areas. He said it is surprising with the growth the county has had he did not think SR 49 would be impacted as heavily as it has been. Commissioner Beason said there has been a three year decline in population. Commissioner Fouyer said there are more commuters and more people going out of town. Executive Director Landon said it is also due to the people living in Alta Sierra.

- *SR 49 Operational Improvements at Smith Road* – Mr. Knudson said the project is a right-turn pocket lane for operational improvement with a standard public road approach tapering off with 4 foot shoulders. He reported that construction is complete.
- *SR 49 Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Overlay* – Mr. Knudson said the project, which is between post mile 23.2 and 32.6, is a cold-in-place recycle of existing pavement and places new hot mix asphalt pavement. The project is currently being advertised for construction. He said he did a project like this with cold-in-place recycle this past summer and it cuts down on a lot of trucking. It is scheduled to be constructed in summer 2017.
- *SR 20 Yuba/Nevada Counties Safety Project to Widen Shoulders and Correct Curves* – Mr. Knudson reported the Final Design and Right-of-Way work has started and is scheduled for completion in spring 2018. Construction is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2018.

Chairman Jostes welcomed Mr. Knudson in his new position. He informed Mr. Knudson that SR 49 is a safety corridor and because NCTC is unsure of when the widening project will be funded, the Commission cannot ignore the safety issues that occur on that road. As background, Chairman Jostes also said there has been from the beginning a little bit of concern about the cost of the SR 174 project relative to Dorsey Drive. He said cost overruns on that project, although it is not NCTC's money specifically, would be a concern to the Commission because the Dorsey Drive project cost \$24 million. He said these issues will be coming up in future meetings.

Commissioner Beason said the idea of the individual safety improvements on SR 49 was in lieu of the overall project being planned on SR 49 and it has been part of the focus since about 2005. He said Caltrans has done a good job and he hates to see that marred by incomplete work or work that does not make any sense to the public. He said the shoulder improvements are good. He told Mr. Knudson that he might want to take a look at a couple of those things. Mr. Knudson said a shoulder widening project will typically make people more comfortable and it does improve the safety by giving people places to move. He said sometimes those projects are relatively small costs and you typically will get a pretty good return for money spent on some of those projects. Mr. Knudson said he would bring the Commission's concerns back to the Caltrans Design team and talk with them about it.

Executive Director Landon said another group Mr. Knudson will become familiar with is the Citizens for Highway 49 Safety Committee and there will be an upcoming meeting with them. He said the committee has driven a lot of ideas, particularly relative to some of the smaller projects. He said the committee will probably have some thoughts on this and it will help Commissioner Scofield develop some ideas that will possibly translate into projects in the future. Executive Director Landon said the project listing and map provided in the meeting packet was appreciated. Commissioner Scofield asked what "PID" stood for on the map. Mr. Knudson replied it is "Project Initiation Document".

#### B. Overview of the Town of Truckee's Transit Operations

Executive Director Landon reported that Kelly Beede, Town of Truckee's Administrative Analyst II, was unable to attend the meeting, but asked a few details be highlighted on her report. He said several years prior, when the Commission met in Truckee, there was some concern over operations of the Truckee Transit. He said in the interim the Commission stepped up the review of what they are doing and things have greatly improved.

Executive Director Landon reported the Town operated shuttles for their Thursday Night market events and on the Fourth of July, similar to the shuttles done in western Nevada County,. He reported that the total ridership for those events was over 17,000 riders and they found it significantly reduced the need for parking in the downtown area, so they have been very successful with that service.

Executive Director Landon stated that the Transit Services Commission that morning approved an OES (Office of Emergency Services) Grant for Nevada County for California OES funding and Truckee has also been receiving that funding. The Town has installed solar lighting in some of their shelters and they have also taken delivery of two new dial-a-ride buses that were funded with a 5310 grant. He said Truckee's fleet is now four buses and their operations have been greatly improved by that.

Executive Director Landon said the Town received a third year of grant funding from Area 4 Agency on Aging for the North Tahoe Truckee Transport senior shuttle. It is a service that provides non-emergency medical trips to five areas surrounding Truckee; details about the cost of that service were provided. He said that has been a very successful senior program.

Mr. Landon reported that currently the Town is gearing up to do their winter shuttle service in the downtown Truckee area between December 26 and 31 that will again help to alleviate holiday congestion. He noted that the overall fare box ratio in Truckee is 21.1% and that is due to a lot of private sector partners they have that help fund their employees' transit. Mr. Landon noted they also have a 29.5% increase in fare revenue that is actual dollars coming in over last year, so they have had a very successful year that they are hoping to be able to continue.

Chairman Jostes said he knows there are special circumstances in Truckee regarding the fare box ratio compared to western Nevada County. He asked what the fare box ratio is for western Nevada County. Executive Director Landon replied it is between 9% and 12%. Chairman Jostes asked on an apple-to-apple basis if they ever compare, just for interest, the western county fare box ratio with the eastern Nevada County fare box ratio. He said maybe it is not possible. Mr. Landon said it really is not feasible because the ski areas provide significant funding, so their employees have a way back and forth to work.

## ACTION ITEMS

### 14. Approval of Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) 2016 Administrative Plan and Agreements

Executive Director Landon reported the Commission approved the RTMF Nexus Study at the previous meeting, which is the background information about the RTMF. The Administrative Plan provides the information that the cities and county will need to implement the fees. He said there are draft agreements that have been circulated to the cities and county staff and are being worked on and prepared for signature. Mr. Landon noted that on the final two pages of the Administrative Plan is Exhibit 6 and Exhibit 7 and the only action remaining at this point is on Exhibit 6, the last column to the right called "Funding Priority to be Determined". He said the Technical Advisory Committee will be meeting to look over these projects and staff will bring back a proposed funding prioritization for the projects and that will then be included in the Administrative Plan and will flow into Exhibit 7, as to the schedule for funding for those various projects.

Commissioner Beason said there previously was a hierarchy of needs. He asked if that was going to change much. Executive Director Landon said he did not think so, but this is just a formality they have to go through. Commissioner Beason said they just have to take a look at it, but asked was there any burning emerging project. Mr. Landon said he was not aware of any new project priorities.

Commissioner Beason made a motion to adopt Resolution 16-39 accepting the RTMF 2016 Administrative Plan and authorizing the NCTC Chairman to sign the RTMF Agreements upon approval by the City of Grass Valley, the City of Nevada City, and Nevada County. Commissioner Guerra seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Aye votes from Commissioners Beason, Fouyer, Guerra, Jostes, Moberg, and Scofield. Commissioner Dee was absent.

## SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Chairman Jostes noted that this would be the last NCTC meeting Commissioner Beason would attend before he leaves the Board of Supervisors. He said the Commission would like to recognize Commissioner Beason for his lengthy service of 12 years as a Commissioner. Chairman Jostes read the Certificate of Appreciation. Chairman Jostes stated, personally, what a pleasure it was to work with Commissioner Beason. He said Commissioner Beason is exactly the type of person he enjoys working with who is straight forward, practical, and to the point. He thanked Commissioner Beason for his service.

Commissioner Beason said people say this is a job but it is really time well spent. He said of all the committees and commissions he has served on locally and regionally, he thought NCTC is the most important commission in the entire Nevada County that does county business. Commissioner Beason said the only thing he regrets is there are not more members of the public attending the meetings, because what is done is so important to their lives. He said he enjoyed being on the Commission and the other Commissioners are great and they are all doing the right things with the right values and priorities and going in the right direction. He commended Chairman Jostes for his contribution as chair. Commissioner Beason said you could not ask for a better staff and he knew he had been kind of irascible at times about certain things, but that did not mean he did not love them and respect what they do. He thanked the Commission and said it has been his pleasure.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Commissioner Announcements.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the NCTC is on January 18, 2017 at the Nevada County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 950 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, CA starting at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Chairman Jostes adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Antoinette Perry  
Antoinette Perry, Administrative Assistant

Approved on:

January 18, 2017

By:

L. A. Jostes  
Lawrence A. Jostes, Chairman  
Nevada County Transportation Commission