

INTERAGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ITAC)

MINUTES

Thursday, February 19, 2004
1:30 p.m.

SCCRTC Conference Room
1523 Pacific Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

ITAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Teresa Buika, UCSC
Maria Esther Carranza, City of Watsonville Community Development Proxy
Sandra Coley, Pajaro Valley TMA
Mark Dettle, City of Santa Cruz Public Works and Planning Proxy
David Fairchild, MBUAPCD
Michelle Fodge, City of Scotts Valley Planning and Public Works Proxy
Gabriel Gutierrez, Cabrillo College
Thomas Hiltner, Santa Cruz Metro Transit District
David Koch, City of Watsonville Public Works
Steve Jesberg, Capitola Public Works and Planning Proxy
Bill Williamson, County Public Works and Planning Proxy
Charles Sanchez, Caltrans District 5

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Giuliano, Caltrans Local Assistance
Ted Lahti, SolTrain
Dave Murray, Caltrans District 5
Darleen Panico, Caltrans Local Assistance
Howard Renyolds, Caltrans TE – via phone
Steve Weesner, County Public Works

STAFF PRESENT

Rachel Moriconi
Kim Shultz
Linda Wilshusen

Chair David Koch called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

- 1. Introductions** -- Introductions were made.
- 2. Oral Communications**

Dave Fairchild noted that AB2766 grant applications are now available. He noted that there is slightly less funding available this year.

Kim Shultz announced that the regional traffic model, prepared by AMBAG, should be ready in mid-March.

3. Status of Ongoing Transportation Projects, Programs, Studies and Planning Documents

Pajaro Valley TMA-- Sandra Coley announced that the Transportation Management Association's (TMA) Going Places promotion was going great. The TMA has been distributing bus passes and the program is well received by students.

County of Santa Cruz – Bill Williamson reported that the County is working with Caltrans to rebuild El Rancho Road. Caltrans has offered \$750,000 in Minor A funds towards the project. The County will be requesting the California Transportation Commission approve its allocation request on February 26, 2004. He thanked Caltrans, including Mike Giuliano, for their assistance with the project. He also reported that Charlie Jones, of the County Public Works department recently passed away.

Capitola- Steve Jesberg reported that the City's TDA-funded bike lane striping project was completed the week of February 9, 2004. The new lanes were striped on streets throughout the city, including along Jade Street, Wharf Road, Bay Avenue, and Hill Street.

SCMTD – Tom Hiltner reported that the Transit District received a Caltrans' Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) grant to upgrade all of the bike racks on buses. The racks will hold 3 bikes each. Transit District will initially test the 3-stall racks on buses to UCSC.

Caltrans – Charles Sanchez reported that Caltrans District 5 is updating its district-wide bicycle map. The map will be reviewed the Commission's Bicycle Committee.

UCSC – Teresa Buika reported that the University's Transit Study report is being finalized and identifies several possible new routes.

SCCRTC- Rachel Moriconi reported that the Commission will be holding a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on March 4, 2004 at the Board of Supervisors Chambers to decide whether or not to finish the environmental document on recreational rail service.

4. Additions/Changes to the Agenda – None

CONSENT AGENDA (Jesberg/Carranza)

5. Approved Minutes of the January 15, 2004 meeting

6. Approved Minutes of the January 23, 2004 meeting

7. Accepted Highlights of the January and February 2004 Commission meetings

8. **Received News Release on State Budget Crisis**
9. **Received Update on the Highway 1 Widening/HOV Project**

REGULAR AGENDA

Gabriel Gutierrez and Michelle Fodge arrived.

10. **Provided Input on Rescheduling Projects for the 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)**

Rachel Moriconi presented three options for shifting projects in the *2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)* to address the statewide shortage of STIP funding. After presenting a best case, or “first choice,” scenario which includes minimal project delays, reprogramming \$7.8 million to the MetroBase project, and continued funding for ongoing Commission programs, she presented alternatives which more closely meet the CTC identified annual programming targets. She noted that if the SCCRTC and CTC approve GARVEE bonds for the Highway 1/17 Merge Lanes project and AB3090 reimbursement for the Rail Right-of-Way Acquisition project, most local projects would be able to proceed on their current schedules. Under the worst case scenario, strict enforcement of the CTC targets without GARVEE bonds, almost every STIP project in the region would be delayed one to four years and the Commission’s ongoing programs would be significantly cut.

The committee discussed the three options. Tom Hiltner requested that funds for the MetroBase project be programmed in FY06/07 if possible. Linda Wilshusen noted her understanding that Metro just needed the project to be included in the RTIP, but that the program year was not critical. Bill Williamson noted that the County will lose \$2 million in FEMA funds if STIP funds for El Rancho are not allocated this year.

11. **Amendments to SCCRTC’s Rules and Regulations**

Rachel Moriconi highlighted some of the changes proposed for the Commission’s Rules and Regulations. Committee members requested additional time to review the proposed changes. Staff requested that members provide any input to staff within the next two weeks and agreed to place the item on the March ITAC agenda if any concerns regarding the proposed amendments were raised.

Mark Dettle and Bill Williamson left the meeting. Ted Lahti arrived.

12. Workshop on the 2004 Transportation Enhancement Federal-Aide Program

Caltrans and Commission staff reviewed the project application, timeline, project eligibility, and federal-aide process with attendees.

13. Adjournment

Chair Koch adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

The next meeting of the ITAC is scheduled for March 18, 2004 at 1:30 P.M. in the SCCRTC Conference Room, 1523 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz.

Respectfully Submitted

Rachel Moriconi, Senior Transportation Planner