



**Santa Cruz County
Regional Transportation Commission
Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC)**

DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, November 20, 2014, 1:30 p.m.
SCCRTC Conference Room
1523 Pacific Ave, Santa Cruz, CA

ITAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Teresa Buika, UCSC
Russell Chen, County Planning Proxy
Murray Fontes, Watsonville Public Works and Planning Proxy
Kelly McClendon, Caltrans District 5
Chris Schneiter, Santa Cruz Public Works and Planning Proxy
Steve Wiesner, County Public Works
Eliza Yu, AMBAG
Lt. Brian Hawkins, CHP (Ex-Officio)

STAFF PRESENT

Cory Caletti
George Dondero
Rachel Moriconi
Karena Pushnik
Tegan Speiser

OTHERS PRESENT

Heidi Boarders, Caltrans Local Assistance
Donn Miyahara, Caltrans Local Assistance
Evelyn Gonzalez, SJSU student

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- 1. Call to Order:** Chair Schneiter called the meeting to order.
 - 2. Introductions:** Self introductions were made.
 - 3. Oral Communications:** Rachel Moriconi shared information about the Moss Landing Sea Level Rise Technical Advisory Committee meeting on January 12, 2015. Tegan Speiser shared business cards which people can use to report bicycle or pedestrian [hazards](#). Karena Pushnik shared the brochure: "[What Pedestrians and Motorists Want Each Other To Know](#)" which was prepared by the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Advisory Committee's (E&D TAC) Pedestrian Safety Workgroup. She requested that members make the brochure available at their agencies and offices.
 - 4. Additions/Changes to consent and regular agenda:** Handouts for items 9 and 12 were distributed during those items.

CONSENT AGENDA: *Fontes moved and Schneiter seconded approval of the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously with Buika, Chen, Fontes, McClendon, Schneiter and Wiesner voting "yes".*

- 5.** Approved minutes of the October 16, 2014 ITAC meeting.

6. Received Federal and State memoranda and frequently asked questions regarding design flexibility for multimodal projects.
7. Received letter to Congress from national organizations regarding federal transportation funding.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Status of ongoing transportation projects, programs, studies and planning documents - Verbal updates from project sponsors

County of Santa Cruz: Russell Chen reported that storm damage repair projects continue on Branciforte Drive, Nelson Road, North Rodeo Gulch, Vienna Drive, East Zayante Road, and three spots along Highland Road. Steve Wiesner reported that the roundabout in Rio Del Mar is 60% complete; most of the County's pavement management projects are complete for the year; the County's first green bicycle lanes were painted in Soquel Village.

City of Santa Cruz: Chris Schneiter reported that the Laurel Street pavement rehabilitation project is nearing completion and was expanded to include dashed boxes in potential bicycle, pedestrian, and automobile conflict zones from Mission Street/Highway 1 to Front Street/San Lorenzo River Bridge area. He noted that the cost for the dashed boxes is approximately \$100,000. To utilize this same treatment citywide would cost approximately \$10 million.

The City of Santa Cruz is soliciting proposals for environmental and design work on Segment 7 of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (Santa Cruz Wharf to Natural Bridges Drive) with a focus on reducing costs and environmental impacts. City Council is receiving a check for \$40,000 from private donors for the project at its meeting.

Construction continues on the roundabout at the Wharf and the pathway to the San Lorenzo Trestle bridge. Construction is nearly complete on the Arana Gulch/Broadway-Brommer bicycle/pedestrian path.

AMBAG: Eliza Yu reported that AMBAG is updating the federally-mandated Public Participation Plan and will be seeking committee input early next year, with adoption scheduled for the April AMBAG board meeting.

Caltrans: Kelly McClendon reported that Caltrans has been working with the County to add high visibility pedestrian signage and modify parking on Highway 9 through Boulder Creek.

RTC: RTC staff reported that construction continues on the La Selva railroad bridge; the passenger rail study consultants are working on preliminary ridership, cost and revenue estimates; the RTC has approved a new mural along the rail line in Aptos. The RTC recently received reports on using volunteer labor and private funding for the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Network (MBSST). Staff will be working with local jurisdictions on design guidelines for the trail.

9. Received update on pursuing new local revenue to implement the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

Karena Pushnik reported that the RTC and community groups have been discussing options to address some of the backlog of transportation needs in the region and to implement the 2014 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), including a sales tax or other funding measure for the 2016 ballot. The committee discussed ways to communicate: what is being done with very limited funds; that existing state, federal, and local revenues are severely insufficient; and what could be done if more funding is available. Optimally, this communication would dovetail with efforts already underway. It was recognized that the City of Santa Cruz has been able to do a significant amount of work because of its local tax measure and that they regularly communicate project updates with the community and council. Committee members suggested that the expenditure plan should minimize use of jargon and be kept simple.

10. Received Update on Cruz511 Project

Tegan Speiser provided an overview of the planned 511 traveler information system for Santa Cruz County, which will provide a central, online place for residents and visitors to go for transportation resources and information. The site's homepage will feature a real-time traffic map that includes traffic speeds, traffic camera images, changeable sign messages, incidents and closures on highways and major arterials. The site will integrate information from various existing resources on traffic conditions, construction projects, walking, bicycling, carpooling and riding the bus. This includes Google's multi-modal trip planner for planning transit, bike and walking trips. The site, scheduled to launch in early 2015, also includes traveler alerts, CHP incident reports and could eventually list local road closures, alternate roads and information during extraordinary events with first responder/911 center links.

Committee members suggested ways in which the new Cruz511 service could be used to communicate information about local partner agencies' projects and services including route options to popular destinations and information on planned and recently completed projects.

11. Provided input on Caltrans Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan

Rachel Moriconi and Kelly McClendon provided an overview and fact sheet for the California Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) which is currently being updated by Caltrans. The document is used to identify and prioritize interregional transportation projects with an emphasis on improving movement of goods and people between regions. ITAC members noted that Highway 1 and Highway 17 are essential for interregional travel during emergencies and strongly recommended that they continue to be identified as High Emphasis Routes. In addition to interregional projects in Santa Cruz County identified in the staff report, committee members recommended Caltrans include the following in the plan: the Highway 1 High Emphasis Route be extended from Highway 17 to Highway 9 in order to connect to the City of Santa Cruz; the Interregional Road System boundaries for Route 9 be extended to Route 1; Route 9 be identified as an

interregional route for bicyclist; vanpools traveling over Highway 17 to connect students to UCSC be identified in the plan; and MST bus service between Santa Cruz and Monterey. It was also recommended that a technology component also be added to the ITSP.

12. Received overview of project implementation process

Heidi Borders from Caltrans Local Assistance provided an overview of the implementation process for state and federally-funded transportation projects. This included the programming, allocation, and invoicing process for State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), Active Transportation Program (ATP) projects. She emphasized that the deadline for requesting ATP and STIP funds for projects programmed in FY14/15 is April 27, 2015.

13. Officer Elections

The Committee unanimously approved a motion (Buika/Fontes) electing Steve Wiesner as the new Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) chair. The Committee unanimously approved a motion (Wiesner/Buika) electing Murray Fontes as the new vice chair. Voting yes on these motions were Buika, Chen, Fontes, McClendon, Schneiter, Wiesner, and Yu. There were no "no" votes.

Rachel Moriconi presented a certificate of appreciation to Chris Schneiter for his service as chair since 2011.

14. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Rachel Moriconi