

LASSEN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

Regular Commission Meeting

March 15, 2021

Jensen Hall – Lassen County Fairgrounds
Susanville, CA

1:30 P.M. Open Session

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1. **Convene**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:40 P.M. and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Roll Call: **Present:** Albaugh, Hammond, Hemphill, McCourt,
 Absent: Herrera, Schuster

1.2 Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Consent Calendar:

It was moved by Commissioner Albaugh and seconded by Commissioner Hammond that the Commission adopt the agenda and approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was passed by the following vote:

AYES: Albaugh, Hammond, Hemphill, McCourt
NOES: None
ABSENT: Herrera, Schuster
ABSTAIN: None

1.21 Minutes Approval of the January 11, 2021 Regular Meeting

Adopted Minutes of the January 11, 2021 Regular Meeting

1.22 Payment of Clerici Consulting Executive Secretary and LCTC staffing fees and costs in the amount of \$41,259.01.

Approved payment of Clerici Consulting fees and costs in the amount of \$41,259.01, as shown in Invoice #009-10 for February 2021. This invoice included separate invoices for sub-consultants Borroum Engineering in the amount of \$7,155.52 and LSC Transportation Consultants in the amount of \$22,293.75.

1.23 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) Allocation Request

Adopted by motion, 1) Resolution 21-04 authorizing the request for funds from the LCTOP program and designating the Executive Secretary as the Authorized Agents on behalf of the Commission, and 2) authorize Executive Secretary to sign agreements, and submit all documentation necessary to receive LCTOP funding.

1.3 Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

REQUESTED ACTION: BY MOTION, elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman to preside at meetings of the Commission during calendar year 2021 (ending in March 2022).

Commissioner Albaugh nominated Jeff Hemphill to continue as Chair. No other nominations were received. *The nomination was passed by the following vote:*

AYES: Albaugh, Hammond, Hemphill, McCourt
NOES: None
ABSENT: Herrera, Schuster
ABSTAIN: None

Commissioner Hemphill nominated Mendy Schuster for Vice-Chair. No other nominations were received. *The nomination was passed by the following vote:*

AYES: Albaugh, Hammond, Hemphill, McCourt
NOES: None
ABSENT: Herrera, Schuster
ABSTAIN: None

2. CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENT

No written communications were received.

No oral comment was received.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Caltrans

No Report was provided.

3.2 CHP

No report was provided.

3.3 City of Susanville

No report was provided by city staff. Erik Edholm of the Lassen County Air Pollution Control District reported that there would be some additional funding

coming to the region as per some of the Covid relief efforts. As details became available, he would provide us with updates.

3.4 Lassen County

Pete Heimbigner, Lassen County Public Works Director, that they had two bridges (7C-12 & 7C-81) on Hackstaff Road, over Long Valley Creek and Long Valley Overflow (near Doyle), will be bid later this month for replacement. He also added that SB-1 funds would be used to do some chip and seal overlay on Hackstaff Road as well.

In addition, he added that STIP projects Rehab B (Bieber area road rehab projects) and Rehab C (Center Road rehab from Correctional Center to HWY 395) will bid late Spring and most likely both projects will be pushed to Spring 2022 to accommodate projects under construction this year.

3.5 Susanville Indian Rancheria

No report was provided.

4 NEW BUSINESS

4.01 Announcement of Items to be Discussed in Closed Session

There was no closed session.

4.02 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

There was no closed session.

4.10 Action/Discussion Items

4.11 Fiscal Year 2021/22 Unmet Needs Process

Genevieve Evans provided the Commission with a brief update on this year's Unmet Needs process. She noted that the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council held a zoom public hearing on February 24, 2021, to gather comments regarding potential transit service needs that were not being met. She summarized the comments received during the hearing and reported that they would be used to develop an unmet needs requests, and then determine if they were reasonable to meet. She noted that COVID was mentioned frequently and its impacts to transit service (Modoc County suspending trips to Reno) and ridership (some riders not wanting to use the service).

John Clerici added that the unmet needs process informs the allocation of TDA and STA funds, and that the preliminary apportionments, as well as the findings of the evaluation will be brought back to the Commission at their May meeting.

4.12 Fiscal Year 2021/22 Overall Work Program Preview

The Executive Secretary provided a brief recap of this fiscal years Overall Work Program activities, and what the Commission should expect for FY 21/22. The update and preview were designed to show the Commission how the LCTC's work was building a solid foundation for access to future funding opportunities for its member jurisdictions.

Mr. Clerici provided the following information to the Commission:

In the FY 2020/21 OWP included:

- *Regional transportation planning and data collection*
- *Active Transportation Program planning – bicycle and pedestrian mobility*
- *Transit planning (Transit Development Plan)*
- *SR 36 Project Management*
- *US 395 Phase 1 completion*
- *US 395 Phase 2 management*

In FY 2020/21 the following studies and plans were either completed, or we anticipate will be completed by June 30, 2021:

- *Updated Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan*
- *SR 36/Main Street Complete Streets and Safe Mobility Plan*
- *US 395 Coalition Implementation Plan*
- *Transit Development Plan and Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan*

For Fiscal Year 2021/22 your staff is planning to engage in the following activities:

- *On-going administration of TDA and other Commission funds and mandated responsibilities*
- *Completion of the following studies and plans:*
 - *Grant funded US 395 Economic and Traffic Safety*
 - *Local Road Safety Plan*
- *In addition, Commission staff is expecting to execute a minor update to the Regional Transportation Plan*

He added that the draft FY 2021/22 OWP and Budget will be brought to the Commission at your May meeting for review and comment, with the final document being brought to you at your June meeting for adoption.

Commissioner Albaugh asked why we had contracted with CSUS and not University of Nevada Reno for example. Mr. Clerici responded that there were several reasons for dealing directly with CSUS.

- *As a state entity there are mechanisms in place to bring them on to projects where state funds are being used thus eliminating the administrative costs of the RFP process.*
- *These efforts are focused on the California side of the coalition, and so having a California based study group is appropriate.*
- *They are good at what they do.*

Commissioner McCourt expressed his desire that we get the full measure of data and analysis from the two teams. Mr. Clerici agreed, saying that it is always the focus of staff to get the most value from the funds we commit to any project.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

The following is an overview of some of the issues, projects, and coordination currently being advanced by LCTC.

COORDINATION, OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

US 395 Coalition Building & Phase Two Studies

Phase 2 of the US 395 effort is underway well underway. Staff met (via zoom) with the consultants to set up another update for the Commission and potentially some outreach to the broader public and constituent groups. We are targeting May.

In addition, we will be developing a couple of information pieces for each study effort to coincide with a more robust focused stakeholder and coalition member outreach effort in the next few months.

STATE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

State Transportation Funding

Governor Newsom submitted his 2021-2022 State Budget proposal to the Legislature on January 8, 2021. The Governor's proposal includes a total of \$227.2 billion which is focused on pandemic response and relief combined with broader economic recovery.

Economic recovery is also a focus of the proposal to build upon the investments made to address pandemic relief. This includes \$777.5 million for a California jobs initiative for job creation, regional development, and climate innovation.

In conjunction with the 2021-2022 budget proposal, the Governor has also released a 2021 Five Year Infrastructure Investment Plan. This five-year plan is focused on strategic and targeted investments in infrastructure that can be leveraged to contribute to California's economic recovery.

State Transportation Policy

In addition to statewide legislation, LCTC is tracking statewide transportation policies which impact project planning, funding, and delivery. Some of the recent policies we

are currently tracking include Executive Order 79-20 (Sept 2020). Governor Newsom's order setting a target for 100% of all new cars, buses, and trucks sold in 2035 and beyond to be zero emission, and Executive Order N-19-19 (Sept 2019). Governor Newsom's order to address climate change through state investments, including CalPERS, and purchasing. Includes commitment to "accelerate" milestone of 5 million zero emission vehicle (ZEV) sales by 2025.

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

With the \$1.9 trillion stimulus package California is expected to receive over \$900 million. LCTC staff is now meeting with other state and regional agencies to advocate for a portion of the funding.

In addition, there is a likelihood that Federal earmarks will return after an 11-year absence for both the Fiscal Year 2022 federal appropriations process, as well as the reauthorization of the surface transportation bill. The House Appropriations Committee just released a factsheet on what they are calling Community Project Funding (see attachment). LCTC staff will be working closely with our partners, focusing on our efforts in the US 395 Coalition Building, to prepare projects which have potential to receive this Federal discretionary funding.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Matter brought forth by the Commission

None.

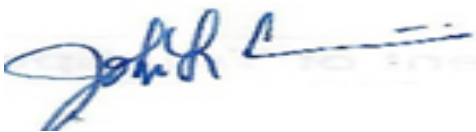
7.2 Next Commission Meeting

Next meeting of the LCTC will be on Monday, May 10, 2021 at time 1:30 PM, at Jensen Hall, Lassen County Fairgrounds, Susanville.

7.3 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Submitted for approval by:



John Clerici
Executive Secretary