

LASSEN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

Regular Commission Meeting

January 11, 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 1:50 P.M. and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

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

1.2 Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Consent Calendar:

It was moved by Commissioner Hammond and seconded by Commissioner Schuster that the Commission adopt the agenda with the following conditions, Agenda Items 4.13 and 4.14 were moved up in the agenda before Agenda item 4.11, and approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was passed by the following vote:

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

1.21 Minutes Approval of the November 9, 2020 Regular Meeting

Adopted Minutes of the November 9, 2020 Regular Meeting

1.22 Payment of Clerici Consulting Executive Secretary and LCTC staffing fees and costs in the amount of \$27,819.29.

Approved payment of Clerici Consulting fees and costs in the amount of \$27,819.29, as shown in Invoice #009-8 for December 2020. This invoice included separate invoices for

sub-consultants Borroum Engineering in the amount of \$7,883.20 and LSC Transportation Consultants in the amount of \$9,473.00.

1.23 Fiscal Year 2020/21 Overall Work Program and Budget Amendment #3.

Adopted Resolution 21-03 approving Amendment #3 to the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Overall Work Program and Budget.

2. CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENT

No written communications were received.

No oral comment was received.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Caltrans

Mike Mogen provided the following update to the Commission:

- **Good Fred** project is on winter suspension on 11/10/2020. Project has one more construction year and should wrap up next year. Currently all the drainage is done, and only the pavement for the reroute is left. A commissioner asked if something could be done with the old store (empty) in that location. Maybe make it available for someone to run a business or something.
- Although it is in Plumas County, the Chester Causeway is getting rehabilitated including a roundabout. A question was asked about snow removal, and Mike responded that yes you can remove snow from one.

3.2 CHP

No report was provided.

3.3 City of Susanville

Dan Newton reported that they would be proceeding with their Rehab FC project (Richmond Road) will be commencing this summer. He added that there will be a water project as well in this area since the roads will be torn up.

He added that the Southeast Gateway project (Jack in the box east to the City limits) is in design with an anticipated building date in summer 2022.

3.4 Lassen County

Pete Heimbigner, Lassen County, reported that their two rehabilitation projects, Rehab B and Rehab C, will go to construction this summer. He noted that the Rehab C project continues repairs on Center Road.

It was also reported that the Sierra Army Depot received funds to rehabilitate the road in Patton Village.

3.5 Susanville Indian Rancheria

No report was provided.

4 NEW BUSINESS

4.01 Announcement of Items to be Discussed in Closed

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

The Commission was asked to, by motion, take the following actions:

- *Adopt Resolution 21-01 approving definitions of “Unmet Transit Needs” and “Reasonable to Meet”.*
- *Approve recommended membership of the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council.*
- *Set February 24, 2021 at 2:00 PM via Zoom for a public hearing regarding unmet transit needs. Those without internet access can participate via telephone.*

It was moved by Commissioner Hammond and seconded by Commissioner Herrera to approve the actions as requested. The motion was passed with the following vote:

AYES: Hammond, Hemphill, Herrera, McCourt, Schuster

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTIAN: None

4.12 Authorization for Chair or Executive Secretary to Temporarily Assign Executive Secretary Duties

The Commission was asked to adopt by motion, Resolution 21-02 giving authority to the LCTC Chair, or the Executive Secretary, to temporarily assign Executive Secretary responsibilities to LCTC staff member as needed.

It was moved by Commissioner Herrera and seconded by Commissioner Hammond to approve the motion as requested. The motion was passed with the following vote:

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

4.13 SR 36/Main Street Complete Streets and Safe Mobility Report

The Commission was asked to receive and file, by motion, the SR 36/Main Street Complete Streets and Safe Mobility Report. Direct staff to transmit the SR 36/Main Street Complete Streets and Safe Mobility Report to Caltrans.

Genevieve Evans provided the Commission with a brief history and update on the SR 36/Main Street project. She reminded the Commission that goal of report was to develop a plan to create a more vibrant corridor which will improve existing businesses, attract new businesses, and increase safety for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians and transit users. The report combines work conducted through previous studies with current public input. The report includes a list of priority roadway projects for State Route 36 along with a funding and implementation plan. The report divides recommended improvements into sections and identifies grant funding sources which could pay for the improvements.

She noted that a Draft report was completed and presented by Mark Thomas Consultants to the Susanville City Council on October 7th.

Public outreach began on October 8th and consisted of the following:

- *Project website*
- *On-line survey*
- *Voice-over Power Point presentation (similar to City Council presentation) – 75 views*

Public input closed on November 13th. The LCTC Team compiled a summary of input and public participation plan by November 20th, allowing sufficient time for Mark Thomas to complete a Final Report by January (grant deadline).

Ms. Evans reported that total of 383 responses to the survey were received. She noted that Attachment 15 of the main report presents summaries of all public comment including the on-line survey (Attachment A). Respondents ranked all SR 36 improvement concepts in terms of priority as follows:

- Priority 1: Street lighting*
- Priority 2: Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)*
- Priority 3: Sidewalk repair*
- Priority 4: Street trees*
- Priority 5: Colored concrete banding*
- Priority 6: Wayfinding signage*
- Priority 7: Gateway feature*
- Priority 8: Lane reallocation*

Many respondents saw the proposed concepts as an effective way of increasing safety along SR 36. Others were concerned that the improvements would only increase maintenance costs. A number of specific suggestions were made for locations for RRFBs and streetlights.

John Clerici added that assuming the Commission takes action the recommended action, the Final Report will be transmitted to Caltrans as required by the grant. In addition, the report will be transmitted to the City of Susanville for their consideration and potential action. The City is not obligated to take any action on the report in order for the Commission to fulfil its obligations under the grant.

Commissioner Herrera commented that he appreciated the thoroughness of the Report and thinks that it should be taken up by the City Council. Commissioner McCourt supported this idea.

Elizabeth Norton commented that she thought that the report was well done and agreed that the community (The City) should discuss the various elements suggested.

4.14 SR Presentation on the US 395 Coalition Development and Phase Two Engineering and Economic Study

Members of the California State University Sacramento consulting teams provided updates on their US 395 study efforts.

Economic Impact Analysis

Dr Herman Li and Dr Katherine Chalmers, provided the Commission with and update on their efforts to determine the economic impacts of implementing substantive improvements to US 395 between Hallelujah Junction and Susanville. They provided the Commission with background on the types of analysis and date they would be using, and the kinds of outcomes the Commission might expect from their work.

Their analysis would include:

- *Assessment of current economic conditions in Lassen County*
 - *Industry specific analyses of employment and income*
 - *Economic Base Analysis to capture trade flows*
- *Estimate of construction's economic impacts*
 - *Changes in jobs and economic activity due to transportation improvement*
 - *Direct, Indirect, Induced effects*
- *Estimate operational economic impacts*
 - *Changes in accident rates and operating costs*
- *Development of an economic analysis report identifying expected economic benefits and potential drawbacks of making the improvements*

Traffic Safety Analysis

Dr Ghazan Kahn and Arsalan Gharachorloo PE, provided the Commission with and update on their efforts to develop a safety evaluation of current conditions and future expansion of US 395.

They explained the project description and objects as a way to conduct a safety analysis of the current conditions and evaluate the safety impact of the corridor expansion in the future. This included:

- Analysis of historic crash data, trends, and traffic data including heavy vehicle traffic to identify and understand safety deficiencies, crash hotspots, and potential improvements.*
- The use of state-of-the-art methods from the ASSHTO Highway Safety Manual to compare the safety of a “no-build” scenario versus the proposed corridor expansion. This includes comparing the future expected crash frequency of the two-lane highway versus the predicted crash frequency of the four-lane divided highway.*

Both efforts will report back to the Commission at critical intervals. Both are expected to be done by the Fall of 2021.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

Due to time constraints the Executive Secretary provided a brief update on both transportation funding initiatives at the state and federal level (both in flux and waiting for the new administration), and efforts to disseminate previously approved covid relief funds for transportation. He mentioned that the US 395 Coalition Building was moving ahead, and that a more formal presentation would be provided at the May meeting.

He also mentioned that he would be going in for a medical procedure that would require some significant recovery time, and that he would be vesting Steve Borroum with temporary executive authority starting January 15 (2021) and extending for at least two weeks.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Matter brought forth by the Commission

None.

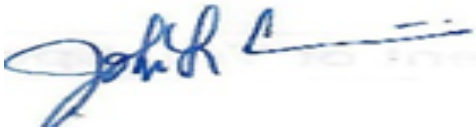
7.2 Next Commission Meeting

Next meeting of the LCTC will be on Monday, March 15, 2021 at time 1:30 PM, at Jensen Hall, Lassen County Fairgrounds, Susanville.

7.3 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Submitted for approval by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Clerici", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Clerici
Executive Secretary