



HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority
Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies
611 I Street, Suite B
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 444-8208
www.hcaog.net

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
MEETING RECORD

Regular Meeting
September 2, 2021, 2:30 p.m.
Conducted via Zoom Video Communications
(in accordance with Executive Order N-29-20)

Present:

Netra Khatri (Chair)
Mike Foget
Jesse Willor
Vanessa Blodgett
Brendan Byrd (Vice Chair)
Josh Wolf
Tom Mattson
Jon Hunt (Alternate)
Leslie Sanders (Alternate)
Greg Pratt
Saskia Burnett
Wendell Freeman
Brandi Natt (Alternate)
Captain Shawn Morris
Nathan Sanger
Leann Schuetzle

City of Arcata
City of Blue Lake
City of Eureka
City of Ferndale
City of Fortuna
City of Trinidad
County of Humboldt
Blue Lake Rancheria
Trinidad Rancheria
Humboldt Transit Authority
Caltrans District 1
Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria
Yurok Tribe
California Highway Patrol
City of Rio Dell
Arcata & Mad River Transit System

Absent:

Misty Rickwalt
Jeff Hodge

Karuk Tribe
Hoopa Tribe

Staff:

Beth Burks
Debbie Egger
Oona Smith
Stevie Luther
Linda Reynolds

Executive Director
Fiscal Administrative Officer
Senior Regional Planner
Associate Regional Planner
Executive Assistant

1. Call to Order

Chair Netra Khatri called the meeting of September 2, 2021, to order at 2:32 p.m.

2. Roll Call

3. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

There was no public participation for items not on the agenda.

4. Approval of Meeting Records – August 5, 2021

Motion was made (Freeman/Wolf) to approve the meeting record of August 5 as submitted.
Motion carried unanimously

5. Presentation - Caltrans Report on the 101 Corridor Project

Caltrans Project Manager Jeff Pimentel provided an update on the Eureka/Arcata Corridor Project informing the TAC that Caltrans repackaging and readvertising the project. The timeline goal is to have a contractor on board to begin breaking ground during the early 2022 construction season. Jeff will continue to provide updates to the TAC monthly.

Mr. Pimentel also provided an overview of the bids having been received for the spartina removal on Tuluwat Island and the additional STIP funds needed. For Caltrans to move forward and award the mitigation contract they need approval from HCAOG to increase the regional STIP shares.

6. Action Items

a. 2022 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Fund Estimate

Beth Burks followed up on the Caltrans 101 Corridor Project presentation and requested that the TAC give guidance as to when to account for the \$300k. Options included the 2022 STIP or in a later STIP cycle.

Motion was made (Mattson/Pratt) to recommend the HCAOG Board allocate up to \$300k to the Highway 101 Corridor Project (for the spartina removal mitigation) out of the 2022 STIP.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Regional Transportation Plan Update 2021: Administrative Draft of “Introduction” Chapter

Stevie Luther presented the draft Introduction chapter of the 2022 RTP. It was noted that the major changes to this portion of the RTP were consistent with the overall direction and goal of the 2022 RTP which consists of an increased emphasis on transportation’s role in addressing issues of climate change, housing, safety, and equity.

Saskia Rymer-Burnett shared that Caltrans had provided their comments and recommendations which related to the planning assumptions (under the travel mode) to include air and marine transportation and that the technology bullet could be expanded more to include transportation management systems such as, call box, broadband pedestrian push button, and data modeling. It was also noted that Caltrans has an Active Transportation Plan that could be included in the RTP.

Motion was made (Foget/Byrd) to recommend that the HCAOG Board approve the administrative draft of the Introduction chapter for release as a public draft.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. HCAOG Staff and TAC Member Reports

HCAOG Executive Director’s Report

Beth Burks reported on the following:

STIP projects were due to her by September 15 for them to be considered at the October TAC meeting.

The CRRSAA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act) allocation, recommendation by the TAC, was approved by the Board. Beth will send out instructions on submitting the list of projects. Deadline to submit a project is October 11 in order for it to be on the December CTC agenda.

Caltrans has announced a (grant-based) Clean California beautification and litter abatement program with a total of \$296m being available through a competitive process statewide. Call for projects will be due by December. HCAOG will coordinate with entities that have projects and want to apply.

A representative from Caltrans will be scheduled to provide a presentation to the TAC on the Caltrans Active Transportation Plan at an upcoming meeting to summarize the plan and public comments received which will include in final version.

TAC Member Reports:

Tom Mattson informed the TAC that he sits on a Steering Committee for a Strategic Highway Safety Plan. There are 16 different challenge areas with subject matter experts coming up with new actions to improve safety throughout various means in the state of California. The Steering Committee is recommending that the Executive Committee move towards the zero fatalities goal statewide.

Tom noted that there is a need for local participation on the Steering Committee from those interested in areas of emerging technology. If interested in the new safety features and testing for automated vehicles, then please contact Tom and he will provide the contact information to join the committee.

Gregg Pratt reported that a hydrogen fuel cell bus would be at the Humboldt Transit Authority (HTA) on September 9. Any interested parties were welcome to come and view the bus (9:00 – 11:00) and those interested in joining the test ride would need to be at HTA by 9:00 a.m.

Saskia Rymer-Burnett reported on the FY 2022-23 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant, the grant guidelines were expected to be released in the coming week. Application deadline is October 27, 2021. Caltrans will be holding a (virtual) application workshop tentatively scheduled for September 23.

8. Adjournment 3:27 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Egger
Fiscal Administrative Officer