

# **Napa Valley Transportation Authority Meeting Minutes - Final Technical Advisory Committee**

625 Burnell Street  
Napa, CA 94559

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Thursday, November 1, 2018

2:00 PM

NVTA Conference Room

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## **1. Call To Order**

Vice Chair Ahmann Smithies called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**Present:** 10 - Brent Cooper  
Eric Whan  
Joe Tagliaboschi  
Dana Ayers  
Lorien Clark  
Juan Arias  
Ahmad Rahimi  
Chairperson Erica Ahmann Smithies  
Steve Hartwig  
Aaron Hecock

**Absent:** 3 - Member Nathan Steele  
Mike Kirn  
Doug Weir

## **2. Introductions**

Vice Chair Ahmann Smithies invited all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Also present:  
Dave Vautin, Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)  
Steve Lederer, County of Napa  
Antonio Onorato, NVTA  
Shaveta Sharma, NVTA  
Tim Wood, City of Napa  
Tim Healy, NapaSan  
Philip Sales, Napa Valley Vine Trail  
Kerri Dorman, Town of Yountville  
Patrick Band, Napa Valley Bicycle Coalition

## **3. Public Comment**

No public comment was received.

## **4. Committee Member and Staff Comments**

Rebecca Schenck, NVTA - asked Ahmad Rahimi to convey her thanks to Vanessa Chuang for adjusting the bike signal at Old Sonoma Road and State Route 121.

Steve Hartwig, City of American Canyon - also asked Mr. Rahimi to convey thanks to Ms. Chuang for correcting signal issues on State Route 29 (SR29).

Joe Tagliaboschi, Town of Yountville - thanked Caltrans for the paving job on SR 29 and on/off

ramps, requested that the related road work signs be removed.

Alberto Esqueda, NVT - The Measure T Guidelines will be provided at the next TAC meeting. Reminded jurisdictions that they need to request a Measure T Project number prior to starting a Measure T project.

Eric Whan, City of Napa - The California Boulevard/First Street Roundabouts project is out for bid. Bid opening date is December 13th. Expressed thanks to Caltrans for their work on the project.

- Finishing up the Measure T project on Trower. Cautioned TAC members that if they are using CIR to take several corings and have them evaluated to make sure there is no fabric in the existing pavement before starting the project.

Kate Miller, NVT - introduced NVT's new civil engineer, Sanjay Mishra.

- Provided an update on the Soscol Junction roundabouts.

## **5. STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

### **5.1 Congestion Management Agency (CMA) Report (Danielle Schmitz)**

Danielle Schmitz provided an update on the most recent Congestion Management Agency (CMA) meeting.

The CMA executive directors and planning directors met last Friday to work on the linking of housing to transportation funding and discussed ideas of partnering with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) on this issue.

### **5.2 Project Monitoring Funding Programs\* (Alberto Esqueda)**

Alberto Esqueda reviewed the changes to the Project Monitoring Spreadsheets.

### **5.3 Caltrans' Report\* (Ahmad Rahimi)**

Ahmad Rahimi reviewed the updates to the Caltrans Report, reporting that the Hopper Slough Creek Bridge replacement will require either completely closing that section of State Route 128 (SR 128) for four to five months to remove and replace the bridge or keep one lane open in that section, which would result in delays of approximately fifteen minutes, however the work would take approximately two years to complete. Mr. Rahimi asked the jurisdictions for their input on the options and their support of closing that section of SR 128 completely in order to replace the bridge more quickly.

Steve Lederer clarified that the above section of SR 128 is one mile West of Silverado on Rutherford Crossroad and noted closing SR 128 would require a lot of coordination with the jurisdictions and Caltrans. Mr. Lederer also noted they appreciate when Caltrans informs the County when highway work will be done, however, in the past month there were three times that the County was not informed of highway work that caused major traffic issues, specifically on State Route 29 (SR 29), reduced to one lane each direction, and the closing of State Route 121 (SR 121) on October 20 and 21.

Several jurisdictions reported that they also did not receive advance notice of highway work.

Mr. Rahimi apologized and stated they would try to notify jurisdictions ahead of time, and explained that in the case of the SR 121 closure involved work requiring a helicopter, they had been waiting since August, and the helicopter became available on very short notice. The

Public Information Office is short-staffed due to the open Public Information Officer position for this region.

Erica Ahmann Smithies noted that Caltrans provided notice for some of the work they did, but was unable to publish a press release and invited them to issue the press release, which the City did.

All the jurisdictions indicated they would be happy to issue a press release if the information is provided to them prior to work being done.

Kate Miller informed Mr. Rahimi that bicycle signs and pavement markings still need to be placed on SR 29.

Diana Meehan noted that the pavement has been marked at the entrances of each intersection, however, not in the areas between intersections.

Philip Sales informed Mr. Rahimi that the post miles from Pratt to Lincoln Vine Trail Project are not correct in the report.

Patrick Band asked for an update on his email to Kelly Hirschberg requesting "No Parking" signs on sections of SR 29 where the bike lane is a Class II, and there is not enough room for bikes to safely pass cars parked on the shoulder.

Vice Chair Ahmann Smithies thanked Caltrans for installing two audible pedestrian crossing signals at Mitchell/Pope and Adams.

#### **5.4 Vine Trail Update (Erica Ahmann Smithies)**

Vice Chair Ahmann Smithies reported that they are working on a feasibility study on the route through St. Helena.

Philip Sales reported on the following:

- Ehlers Lane site visit;
- Meeting with City of Napa regarding temporary access to the Trail on Redwood Road during the construction on the gas station which has resulted in the area being fenced off;
- Meeting with City of Napa Police Chief and the Parks and Recreation Department regarding installing security cameras and lighting on the commuter bike path;
- Plans for the Vallejo to American Canyon segment are 35% complete;
- Solano Transportation Authority has provided \$200,000 for the project.

#### **5.5 Transit Update (Matthew Wilcox)**

Report by Matthew Wilcox.

- Working on the service redesign, first phase to be implemented during the first quarter of 2019;
- Second phase consists of long-term goals;
- Will be working with the City of Napa regarding stop upgrades and changes.

Mr. Wilcox also requested that jurisdictions have contractors contact him prior to any and all road work.

### **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 6.1** Meeting Minutes of the September 6, 2018 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting (Kathy Alexander) (Pages 7-10)

**MOTION by HECOCK, SECOND by HARTWIG, to APPROVE the meeting minutes of the September 6, 2018 Technical Advisory Committee meeting. The motion passed with the following vote:**

**Aye:** 8 - Member Cooper, Member Tagliaboschi, Member Ayers, Member Clark, Vice Chair Arias, Chairperson Ahmann Smithies, Member Hartwig and Member Hecock

**Absent:** 3 - Member Steele, Member Kirn and Member Weir

**Abstain:** 1 - Member Whan and Member Rahimi

## **7. PRESENTATION**

### **7.1 Horizon Presentation (Metropolitan Transportation Commission Staff)**

Dave Vautin, Horizon Initiative Project Manager at Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), provided a presentation on Horizon that included:

- An overview of the project, the process and progress to date
- Futures - the "what if" scenarios, including disaster impacts and population changes
- Developing a potential strategy that may generally work with all the scenarios
- There will be a Call for Projects in June 2019 for projects below \$250 million

Kate Miller cautioned that the jurisdictions may not be ready to provide detailed information about projects by then as the Napa Countywide Transportation Plan process will not be launched until Spring 2019.

TAC members expressed concerns that the Horizon planning process will favor the densely populated counties making it very difficult for the smaller North Bay counties' projects to qualify for funding, as it has in past plans.

Mr. Vautin invited the TAC members to participate in the monthly working group meetings which are held via the web.

## **8. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

### **8.1 Regional Measure 3 Project Priorities for State Route 29 and Competitive Programs (Danielle Schmitz) (Pages 11-15)**

Danielle Schmitz reviewed the projected Regional Measure 3 (RM 3) funding and scenarios, and invited questions and comments from the TAC.

Ms. Miller and Ms. Schmitz provided additional updates on the status of the pending lawsuit on RM 3 funding/projects and Highway 37, including near-term projects.

### **8.2 Draft 2019 Technical Advisory Work Plan and Calendar (Danielle Schmitz) (Pages 16-19)**

Danielle Schmitz reviewed the Draft 2019 Work Plan and invited comments from the TAC.

Member Whan suggested change "as needed" on the Measure T Item to "ongoing".

Additionally Ms. Schmitz reported that the Independent Taxpayer's Oversight Committee requested that jurisdictions provide them an overview of their Measure T funded projects, during the planning/design phase and when they start construction. Information should include an

overview of the planning/thought process, issues encountered, how engineering was approached, and the development of project cost.

### **8.3 Napa Countywide Bicycle Plan Draft Outreach Schedule (Diana Meehan) (Pages 20-21)**

Diana Meehan provided a status on the Napa Countywide Bike Plan Admin Draft. The consultants should be providing the admin draft by Friday. Ms. Meehan will review it, and then forward the draft to the TAC member next week.

After the Draft is reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee and Active Transportation Advisory Committee it will be presented to the NVTB Board for approval to release of the draft for public comment. Open house meetings will be held in the City of Napa, American Canyon, and one of the up-valley cities. The open house meetings will also be streamed live through Facebook, and comments can be submitted through Facebook. Staff will also participate in community events to invite the public to make comments.

Vice Chair Ahmann Smithies requested the open house be held in St. Helena.

After the draft goes through the public comment process, it will then be submitted for environmental review.

Ms. Meehan stated that any significant changes to the projects listed in the plan must be submitted before the environmental process starts.

Vice Chair Ahmann Smithies asked if their Planning Commission could review the draft now.

Ms. Meehan encouraged all members to have their Planning Commissions and Councils review the document if possible. Ms. Meehan reminded the TAC that it currently is an administrative draft, for staff review only - this draft should not be released to the public.

### **8.4 Soscol Junction Update and Alternatives (Rebecca Schenck) (Pages 22-25)**

Rebecca Schenck provided an update on the Soscol Junction project, noting that since the meeting packet was sent, there has been a change - only one roundabout alternative, the double roundabout will be submitted to Caltrans and for environmental review.

### **8.5 Legislative Update\* (Kate Miller)**

Kate Miller reviewed the state legislative update, which included the impact if Proposition 6 passes in the November election, and the Wayfair decision that will affect how sales tax revenues are generated.

### **8.6 November 14, 2018 NVTB Board Meeting Draft Agenda\* (Kate Miller)**

Kate Miller reviewed the November 14, 2018 NVTB Board meeting agenda.

## **8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Measure T Guidelines
- Raising iron issue
- County of Napa Strategic Plan presentation
- Chair/Vice Chair elections

**9. ADJOURNMENT****9.1 Approval of Next Regular Meeting Date of December 6, 2018 and Adjournment.**

Staff reported that there were not any time sensitive items that needed to be addressed in December. The TAC members were in agreement to cancel the December 6, 2018 meeting. The next meeting will be January 10, 2019 at 2 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.