



# INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



P.O. DRAWER Q  
INDEPENDENCE, CA 93526  
PHONE: (760) 878-0201  
FAX: (760) 878-2001

Michael Errante, Executive Director

## MINUTES

INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
**Bishop City Council Chambers**  
301 W. Line St., Bishop, CA 93514  
8:00 a.m.

**August 21, 2024**

**8:02 a.m.** Open Meeting

### 1. Roll Call

#### **Commissioners Present**

Vice Chair: Jeffery Ray  
Commissioner: Jennifer Roeser  
Commissioner: Jose Garcia  
Commissioner: Stephen Muchovej  
Commissioner: Scott Marcellin

#### **Others Present**

Mike Errante: Executive Director  
Justine Kokx: LTC Transportation Planner  
Tina Chinzi: LTC Secretary  
Ryan Dermody: Caltrans  
Rick Franz: Caltrans  
Brian Wessling: Caltrans  
Neil Peacock: Caltrans  
Nora Gamino: City of Bishop  
Phil Moores: ESTA  
Elaine Kabala: ESCOG

### 2. Public Comment

None

## **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Consent Agenda
  - a. Request approval of the minutes of the meeting of June 19, 2024
  - b. Approve FY22-23 Audit Engagement Letter with Price Paige & Company, Certified Public Accountants
2. Approve Letter of Support for Caltrans Mammoth Wildlife Crossing project

**\*\*Approval of the consent agenda motioned by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Commissioner Marcellin. All in favor.**

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

3. ICEVCINP Stakeholder engagement - Request Commission provide input into representatives of the stakeholder action committee.

Discussion:

Justine presented an update regarding the Inyo County electric vehicle charging and infrastructure network plan. The plan has launched with DKS Associates as the successful bidder. We are scheduled to meet with them again this week to discuss the stakeholder engagement process. An initial list has been created of stakeholders that seem to be obvious players. Requested today are any additions, edits or changes the Commissioners might like to make to the stakeholder list. Commissioner Muchovej suggested that in lieu of some of the elected officials that maybe it should be transferred to actual staff since there is longevity and continuity about that and we can always add more. Suggestions were made from Commissioners and Justine will adjust and make additions as requested. Justine assured the Commission this is not a final list, only a beginning.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

4. City of Bishop Report

Discussion:

Nora Gamino presented the S Warren Improvement project just received the final signed document from Caltrans.

She then updated the commission on the East Line St Bridge project. In the July planning commission meeting, Nora presented elements such as crosswalk locations, rail design & traffic calming elements that need to be solidified before they can move forward with the final design. City Council has requested she give the same presentation at a City Council meeting soon.

Nora then discussed what she calls a tactical pause in the Whitney Alley Improvement Project because they are also in the process of doing a parking study throughout town to determine what the true parking demand, needs and availability are. This data will back up the decisions in the design of something meant for longevity.

## 5. ESTA Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director's Report

Discussion:

Phil Moores reported there are some exciting things happening in ESTA. They have just installed new software to help with their Dial-a-Ride Services. It not only offers an app for the public to use to schedule rides but also some more modern reporting for staff. ESTA is working with Justine on a Transit and Inner-City Rail (TIRCP) Program grant. They are also looking to purchase new bus shelters for Inyo County and to convert the Lone Pine Dial-a- Ride to an electric vehicle. There are also two big capital projects that ESTA does not currently have the money for but will eventually need to be done. One is a new administration building in Bishop, which is on hold while we wait for lease issues to be worked out. The second is the fleet of 13 buses in Mammoth that were purchased all together in 2012 and have begun to show their age and require expensive repairs at a fast rate. One bus has been approved and between Mono LTC, ESTA and the town of Mammoth Lakes they have a little over half of the funds they need.

Esta has acquired 6 new cutaways which are medium size buses with charging stations for your phone and offers a more comfortable ride between Lancaster and Reno. Phil went on to discuss future ideas using Red's Meadow service as an example of some of the things he would like to see.

## 6. Caltrans Report

- Caltrans Monthly Report

Neil Peacock encouraged ESTA Executive Director Phil with information that Caltrans is initiating a series of district plans with a heavy focus on appearance which will help cover items he had mentioned in his presentation. He agreed that more people are choosing transit as a viable mode of transportation to get around and that should include comforts and convenience amenities that go along with the actual transit service.

Rick Franz presented updates on projects currently going on within Caltrans District 9 such as the asphalt being placed between Coso Junction and Haiwee Canyon Road, and construction on the Westgard Arizona Crossing project ending last week. The Bishop Pavement project construction is scheduled to start in February 2025 and is expected to rehabilitate US 395 from Bishop to State Route 168 from Main Street to near the hospital. The Meadow farms ADA project went to the August CTC meeting for construction allocation and is tentatively scheduled to begin next Spring. Caltrans is also beginning a safety program called "Slow Down in Town" on Aug 30th that will run through September to encourage people by utilizing utilize banners, social media posts, interviews with local media and CMS boards to encourage drivers to slow down on the highway when entering cities. On Sept 4 Caltrans will close US 395 for 15 days North of Bridgeport in Mono County to install 2 wildlife crossings as part of the Sonora Junction project.

7. Tribal Report

None

8. DVNP Report

None

9. USFS Report

None

10. Executive Director's Report

- Whitney Portal
- HSIP Cycle 12 – Trona Wildrose
- LTC projects map & update

Mike Errante reported that the Whitney Portal project is underway and making good progress. The road has been constructed and they are now working on the armory and the embankments. The next step is the box culvert that needs to be built and then paving. We are on target to be done by the end of this year.

The HSIP Cycle 12 application is due Sept 9 and we are looking to identify Trona Wildrose as a project because it showed up as having a higher than average crash rate in the LRSP. LSC Transportation consultants are working on this data driven grant.

Mike then reviewed the LTC map updates on a couple of current highlighted projects within Inyo County. He further advised that we are catching up on our pavement management program and implementing an AI pilot program where the camera captures the road information by identifying potholes, debris, and the frequency of cracks.

11. Reports from all members of the Inyo County LTC

Commissioners praised the efforts of Inyo County staff on the multiple projects completed as well as those in progress.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Caltrans D9 report AADT through 2023 and truck AADT

**ADJOURNMENT 9:50am**

Adjourned until 8:00 a.m. Wednesday September 18, 2024, Bishop City Chambers

**UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS**

Caltrans presentation Mammoth Lakes US 395 Wildlife Crossing Project

LTC Funding Workshop

Letter of Support for WaterSMART Grant Program: Lone Pine Water Systems Upgrade