



INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Michael Errante, Executive Director

MINUTES

INYO COUNTY LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION Inyo County Board Chambers 224 N. Edwards St., Independence 8:00 a.m.

January 15, 2025

8:02 a.m. Open Meeting

1. Roll Call

Commissioner's Present

Chair-Celeste Berg
Vice-Chair-Jeffery Ray
Commissioner Jennifer Roeser
Commissioner Jose Garcia
Commissioner Scott Marcellin
Commissioner Stephen Muchovej

Other's Present

Justine Kokx: LTC Transportation Planner
Mike Errante: Executive Director
Tina Chinzi: LTC Secretary
Catherine Carr: Caltrans
Marcella Castleberry
Cyndee Kiddoo
Rick Franz: Caltrans
Nora Gamino: City of Bishop
Supervisor Will Wadelton
Jill Tognazinni: Caltrans
Mary

2. Public Comment

None

ACTION ITEMS

1. Election of Officers - The LTC By-Laws state the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be nominated and then elected at the first meeting of the Calendar year.

*Commissioner Muchovej nominated Commissioner Celeste Berg as Chair and was seconded by Commissioner Roeser. A vote was called and approved unanimously.

Commissioner Muchovej then nominated Commissioner Jeffery Ray as Vice Chair and was seconded by Commissioner Garcia. A vote was called and approved unanimously.

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of the meeting of December 4, 2024.

- b. Request Commission approve via Minute Order the Letter of Support for Caltrans District 9 Proposal to the PROTECT Grant Program

*Motion made by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Commissioner Garcia; all in favor.

3. Request Commission approve Resolution No. 2025-01 Amendment No. 1 to the FY2024-2025 Overall Work Program

Amendment No. 1 to the FY24-25 OWP was presented to the Commission. The amendment incorporates the FY23-24 carry-over of \$41,193.54. Work Elements 100.1, 400.1 and 500.1 were increased to reflect need through year-end.

*Motion made by Commissioner Muchovej and seconded by Commissioner Roeser; all in favor.

4. Request Commission approve Resolution No. 2025-02 to allocate FY2023-2024 LTF Reserves

*This distributes local transportation fund reserves from the prior year according to the traditional allocation method of administration, bicycle and pedestrian, and to the trust with the remaining amount going to ESTA or to transit..

*Motion made by Commissioner Roeser and seconded by Commissioner Muchovej; all in favor

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. Q1 FY24-25 Overall Workplan Progress Report and Rural Planning Assistance invoice
Justine stated she had nothing to report but would be happy to answer any questions.

6. City of Bishop Report

Nora Gamino stated she had nothing to report but would also be happy to answer any questions.

7. ESTA Executive Director's Report

Phil Moores submitted an update in the agenda packet but since he is not in attendance, we will route any questions we have directly to him.

8. Caltrans Report

Catherine Carr provided an overview of the Protect Grant Program (Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient Cost Saving Transportation). The objective of the grant is to study climate resilience and adaptation against flood risks for State Route 190 to ensure that we are prepared for the next extreme weather event in the district.

Jill Tognazinni provided updates on upcoming construction and planning projects:

*Fish Springs bid opening had 5 bidders. Road and Highway was the low bidder coming in 19% under the engineers estimate and construction is anticipated to start in Summer 2025.

*Bishop Paving Project and Meadow Farms ADA, currently working through the construction contract award process. Papich is the low bidder on both projects also set to begin in Summer 2025.

*Inyo LTC is applying for a grant for an evacuation plan project with the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant program.

9. Tribal Report

None

10. DVNP Report

None

11. USFS Report

None

12. Executive Director's Report

Mike Errante provided updates beginning with Whitney Portal. They are planning the final walkthrough with the contractor in the next week. The road was built for better resilience by armoring the slopes and adding 2 large box culverts to sustain future storms.

They will be asking for a 20-month extension of STIP for the Lone Pine Town Streets project to allow for time to replace the current water systems in Lone Pine that are well beyond their useful life. We had a very encouraging visit with USDA representatives a few weeks ago and we are diligently working to get this done before we begin building the roadways.

We held a meeting with DKS, our consultant who is helping to develop the EV Charging Network Plan. A stakeholder virtual meeting is scheduled for Jan 30th at 2pm. It will be the kickoff to begin the assessment of potential charging sites, identifying current capacity, and constraints. Commissioner Ray suggested also looking into appropriate amenities and receptacles as this is a concern at existing charging locations.

Justine summarized an effort to advance the Old Spanish Trail Hwy rehab project (west end) which the Commission flagged as a high priority in 2021. Working with The Ferguson Group to

take advantage of an upcoming grant opportunity called the Rural & Tribal Assistance Program. We are seeking funding through this program to pay for two phases, the environmental phase and a portion of the design phase. Max request is \$750,000.

Mike added that the County is preparing to recruit the LTC Technician position to help Justine. He will keep the Commission up to date on the outcome.

13. Reports from all members of the Inyo County LTC

*Commissioner Roeser reported that she and Justine recently participated in a working group for Fort Independence Long Range Transportation Plan. She also acknowledged the work done by the Road Department on Bircham Rd. The improvements have been noticed.

*Commissioner Marcellin stated that he would like to actively look for funding for the bike path on Barlow Lane from Line St to Sunset Rd. He stated it is a very active bike path in dire need of repairs. He would also like to extend from Underwood towards Chipmunk Canyon.

*Commissioner Muchovej echoed the request of Commissioner Marcellin adding that it has become a popular route to access mountain biking at Chipmunk. BLM is currently in talks with a volunteer group in the area to make the Chipmunk trails official, which will increase bike traffic on Barlow.

Mike added that the Road department looked at the condition of the path on Barlow and determined that they will attempt to grind some of the rough areas. They are working up the numbers to see if they can use an inexpensive temporary coal mix overlay using RMRA funds.

A question was asked about the recent appearance of orange flags at the pedestrian crossings in Lone Pine and Independence. Did Caltrans place them? Supervisor Wadelton explained that they were placed by a group of concerned citizens to improve visibility of crosswalk users.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned until 8:00 a.m. Wednesday February 19, 2025, Bishop City Chambers

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

SSTAC Unmet Transit Needs meeting and public hearing
FY25-26 Overall Work Program Draft – due March 1st
Triennial Performance Audit of the ICLTC