

Mono County Local Transportation Commission

PO Box 347
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PO Box 8
Bridgeport, CA 93517
760.932.5420 phone, 932.5431 fax
www.monocounty.ca.gov

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

November 18, 2019 – **9:30 A.M.**

Town/County Conference Room, Minaret Village Mall, Mammoth Lakes
Teleconference at CAO Conference Room, Bridgeport
Call 1-669-900-6833, enter meeting number 760-924-1815

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
3. **MINUTES**
 - A. Approve minutes of October 7, 2019 – **p. 1**
4. **CALTRANS:** Activities in Mono County & pertinent statewide information
5. **TRANSIT**
 - A. Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA)
 - B. Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
 1. YARTS 2020 holidays & free days – **p. 5**
6. **LOCAL TRANSPORTATION**
 - A. 2020 RTIP (*Gerry Le Francois*) – **p. 6**
 - B. Letter on Tioga Pass opening plan (*Tony Dublino*) – **p. 9**
 - C. Support letter for US bike route along US 395 (*Gerry Le Francois*) – **p. 10**
 - D. Draft 2019 RTP (Regional Transportation Plan) update (*Gerry Le Francois*) – **p. 13**
7. **ADMINISTRATION:** No items
8. **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**
9. **QUARTERLY REPORTS**
 - A. Town of Mammoth Lakes – **p. 14**
 - B. Mono County (verbal)
 - C. Caltrans (verbal)
10. **INFORMATIONAL:** No items
11. **UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS:** Adopt Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), adopt 2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP), YARTS request for additional funding
12. **ADJOURN** to December 9, 2019

More on back...

COMMISSIONERS

Jennifer Kreitz Sandy Hogan John Peters Lynda Salcido Fred Stump John Wentworth

***NOTE:** Although the LTC generally strives to follow the agenda sequence, it reserves the right to take any agenda item – other than a noticed public hearing – in any order, and at any time after its meeting starts. The Local Transportation Commission encourages public attendance and participation.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, anyone who needs special assistance to attend this meeting can contact the commission secretary at 760-924-1804 within 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to ensure accessibility (see 42 USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130).

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SPECIAL MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

October 7, 2019

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Jennifer Kreitz, John Peters, Fred Stump
TOWN COMMISSIONERS: Sandy Hogan, Lynda Salcido, John Wentworth
COUNTY STAFF: Gerry Le Francois, Tony Dublino, Garrett Higerd, Hailey Lang, CD Ritter
TOWN STAFF: Haislip Hayes
CALTRANS: Brent Green, Austin West
ESTA: Karie Bentley
PUBLIC: Don Condon, Lynn Boulton, David Rosky

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chair Fred Stump called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. at the Town/County Conference Room, Minaret Village Mall, Mammoth Lakes. Attendees recited pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed in commemoration of last week's Lee Vining traffic fatality and injuries.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Don Condon reported 100 rides on seven vehicles at EV day, Teslas plus one plug-in Prius. Non-Tesla chargers lacking. Expect 33 million EVs on road by 2030, need to accommodate. *Peters: Town or MMSA converted yet?* Condon: Unknown.

3. MINUTES

MOTION: Approve minutes of September 9, 2019, as amended: 3. **Absent Abstain:** Hogan. 8. Salcido: The Parcel will **intercept coordinate with**. Kreitz: ~~The Parcel is a version of MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organizations), discretion on where to put money. No room to talk about housing and mobility that would bolster viability.~~ (*Peters/Salcido. Ayes: 6-0.*)

4. **CALTRANS:** Brent Green attended ECTPP (Eastern California Transportation Planning Partnership) meeting led by Gerry Le Francois, who expressed continued support for MOUs, completing corridor. Aim is safety not congestion relief. Head-on collisions on two-lane sections of Freeman Gulch (FG) and Olancho/Cartago (O/C). MOU boon for everyone to allow counties to share project development. Kern COG still focusing on completion of SR 46 and San Luis Obispo corridors, refocus on truck lanes eastbound on SR 58. No STIP funding this cycle. Representatives of Kern COG board interested in upholding MOU but no additional funding soon on RTIP shares from them. Funding comes and goes over years. If preparation work done, get funding.

Le Francois: Note importance of MOU projects. San Bernardino not party to SR 14 projects; take time, keep chipping away. Bryan Winzenread of Caltrans expressed lack of funding but not lack of support.

Stump: No local STIP shares for FG-2 and 3. O/C fully funded. How far on SR 58 to next district? *Green: More in line with Kern projects. District 9 stepped into all three projects eastbound. Kern politically connected in DC, \$600 million in Bakersfield. Bundle projects on 58 as one project.*

No go for Mono if Kern does not participate? *Green: MOU does not expire for couple years, need to re-up MOU then.*

Le Francois: Mono and Inyo each pay 10%, Kern 40%, and the State 40%.

Wentworth: Federal highway funds threatened by Trump. *Green: FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) said proceed quickly. Now 18-19 states suing federal government.*

Funding separate? *Green: Nothing in general fund impacts transportation.*

Wentworth: No critical safety or construction issue but maybe think of Plan B. If political will in Kern is to not play ball, start thinking down road.

COMMISSIONERS

Jennifer Kreitz Sandy Hogan John Peters Lynda Salcido Fred Stump John Wentworth

Peters: Impossible without MOU to do Conway Passing Lane project. Solely slated as MOU. Plan B for project already in queue?

Le Francois: If MOU dissolves, Mono is on its own. Maybe two or three STIP cycles. Mono relies on SB1, Town not so much. Could partner with Inyo; e.g., Black Rock.

Hogan: Ten years ago, re-upped MOU, some commissioners wanted to pull out. Hope State keeps Kern's feet to fire. Set good precedent for MOUs that State thinks highly of.

Le Francois: Refresh MOU in 2022. Not much said about it by Kern.

How approach? *Le Francois: Two years prior started talking about.*

Stump: Having read MOUs, no enforcement from prior to now, so could drop it and Mono/Inyo would just be out. It's non-binding. Understands SR 58 and 46 issues, but Mono made good-faith commitments, expected reciprocity.

Green: Governor appointed new director. Since then two new CTC (California Transportation Commission) appointments. Whole flavor of State direction is changing. Executive order on reducing carbon emissions. Shift from cars, more inter-city housing, other transportation means, percentage of EV State is aiming for. Governor also looking at Air Resources Board to increase Green vehicle programs.

Green: Rail project more favorable. SB1 designed to fix current infrastructure, not add additional lanes. CTC promoting projects with safety goals not congestion-relief.

How get rationale to line up with State policies? *Hogan: Hopefully Angelenos are skiers, promote FG.*

Kreitz: Talk about jobs, housing, transit links in RTP in clear and obvious way.

Green: K-rail update: Moved to east side, inside of curve. No date of winter suspension. All but one week's work to be done. Mono Cone incident: Law enforcement can't speed through construction zones or go through hard closure. Flagger will call.

Stump: Caltrans comment at BOS tomorrow, attend from Mammoth. *Peters: Meeting with sheriff today in Mammoth.*

Stump: Carries more weight for State department to say. Glad for heads up. BOS next week in Mammoth.

Green: May just call Sheriff Braun.

Caltrans assets in power safety shutoffs? *Green: Same messaging as Mono and Town. Not outreach itself, but traffic signals not working. Already dealt many times. No independent public info outreach, no outreach from Edison.*

Wentworth: Town Council met with Edison last week. Edison said no resources to mitigate or no commitment if snow on ground. Safety scenarios.

5. TRANSIT

A. Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA): Karie Bentley said ESTA operates inter-valley shuttle, readying for winter with creative outreach for drivers at Bishop swap meet. Good summer ridership, statistics later. One new trolley on order. Awaiting word on other funding. ESTA's non-emergency medical transportation program: If volunteer driver is available, program reimburses person at \$.20/mile. Brief application process.

Bentley: Kern Regional Center reach out. *Stump: Ask them to contact service brokers, State changed rules.*

Application on website? *Bentley: For seniors, disabled, low-income. Application process simple, just say have a need, volunteer driver with car and insurance, no income guideline. Protected by HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act). Proof went to appointment. Reimburse person to appointment not driver.*

B. Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS): Sandy Hogan read text of YARTS award to Mono, which was original proponent along with Mariposa and Merced. 20th anniversary of JPA, next year of YARTS itself. Annual meeting in Valley, Gardner and Corless there. JPA had only one member from each county, changed couple years ago to two from each county. Nice luncheon. Executive director attended. Take award to Town Council meeting.

6. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

A. Transit needs process update: Convene SSTAC (Social Services Transportation Advisory Council) this winter. Town set March-April on transit needs hearing. Dan Holler working on it. Contractual issues on services Town provides, public comment with specific unmet need. Sit down with ESTA and Town this winter.

Wentworth: Useful for update to Town. Something new to talk about.

Le Francois: June requesting service that's not unmet need.

Kreitz: Requests from public sought.

B. 2020 RTIP & MOU projects: Gerry Le Francois noted STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program) fund estimate. RTIP (Regional Transportation Improvement Program) by mid-December. Current balance of \$3 million. Not lot of new money coming in. figuring out where best to allocate resources. No split allocation between Mono and Town.

Where is money set aside? *Shares are in reserve but State likely loaned money. Work with CTC staff doing master balancing act.*

Shares/funds for local projects? *Yes.*

How correspond to prior years? *Five-year funding cycles. Been in \$5 mil to \$6 mil. 2016 was lowest (nothing). Hope SB1 would level out peaks and valleys. Kern noted more robust STIP when MOUs established, projects great, not so much now.*

Wentworth: Town Council priority workshop Oct. 28-29. Discussion of capital transit.

C. Tioga Pass opening plan: Tony Dublino noted Mono commits resources when Caltrans gets to gate. Conversed with Gene Smith of NPS. Get pass open sooner rather than later. Not heard back from others. Trying to apply constant pressure on notification and outreach to start conversation. LTC members could mention interests.

Wentworth: Meet with Dublino and Matt Paruolo on NPS-signed grant. *Dublino: Mountain Gate Park?*

Wentworth: No, two grants.

Construction plans next year? *Construction on hard closure and soft closure.* Not spoken about Tuolumne construction plans.

How do construction factors into opening? Huge Tuolumne project, unknown construction schedule.

Kreitz: Add commissioner names to letterhead. Few typos.

Stump: Correct letter, send next meeting.

Dublino: Sooner the better, but opportunity to work on throughout winter. Not urgent. Resource protection as reason for delayed opening. Not want lots of people when meadows are wet.

Peters: Once road is open, means a lot to east side. Olmsted is sticking point.

Hogan: Partial opening seemed to work. With through traffic only, YARTS could run.

Wentworth: Invite NPS's Kathleen Morse (former Mammoth District Ranger) for presentation.

Peters: Put off letter. NPS may have issues, not revisit it every year. July 1 opening not good.

Green: NPS mission is to work with gateway communities. Wentworth: Gateway applies to east and west. Green: Tied to sustainability.

--- Break: 10:40-10:50 a.m. ---

D. CSAC support letter on transportation issues: Another Edison power shut-off advisory tomorrow. Gerry Le Francois noted State sending what it wants out of next reauthorization plan.

Typically with CSAC? *Le Francois: No annual position. Bombarded with Legislature issues, RCRC (Regional Council of Rural Counties), RCTF (Rural Counties Task Force) for transportation issues. SB 152 with ATP (Active Transportation Plan), urban areas in power grab.*

Downside to doing this? *Le Francois: Independent commission, not have finger on pulse of a lot of things, rely on other entities.*

Support yes, but unsure about adopting? Hogan: Millions of acres of public land, not just thousands.

Kreitz: Take items as they arise, be more prescriptive on rural need as LTC, not something so generic and sweeping. Be more articulate about what rurals need from proposal under consideration. Specific topics as they come. Letter very broad. *Le Francois: Included it all, really four graphs on CSAC information that apply to LTC.*

Peters: CSAC looks at items all year long. Target specifics for rurals.

Wentworth: Mono state how we fit in, our role.

Kreitz: Letter not specific. Sounds like carte blanche support of CSAC, which may be more urban-centric.

Wentworth: "Regions Rising Together" possible opportunity for Mono. Another bond fund next year.

Le Francois: Staff needs to be alerted to issues of importance.

Stump: Emphasize in letters that rail is non-starter in Mono (no capacity). Point out lack of infrastructure. Need to acknowledge, not punish.

E. RTP (Regional Transportation Plan) review: Gerry Le Francois de-emphasized every strike-through. Couldn't get pdf format to work, so Word document instead.

Comments? *Le Francois: Save-as, edit with track changes.*

Hailey Lang incorporated Hogan's comments, awaiting data from other agencies, working through technical changes, correct dates, etc.

Commissioners-only comments? *Lang: Insert into final document, post on website when finalized.*

7. ADMINISTRATION

A. **2019-20 Overall Work Program revisions:** Gerry Le Francois got conditional approval letter from District 9. Ties into general transit and unmet needs. Town working on The Parcel, has multiple encroachment permits. No budget adjustment, just improved document. *Hogan: Found highlighting helpful.*

Austin West: On statewide level, Sacramento more stringent. Mono needs more flexibility. Check on eligibility.

Stump: P. 81. Bike? Be specific to maximize what need to do. Creating capacity for buses to take bikes, what about ebikes? Need correct language. *Le Francois: Bike means non-motorized.*

Wentworth: Distinctions need to be made. Town has ongoing discussion on such. No data for decisions.

West: District 9 understands small county's staff needs.

Le Francois: Paruolo installed new trail counters on non-Town trails; e.g., Rock Creek.

Wentworth: Talking with USFS on snow storage pit. *West: Contact West or Gayle Rosander.*

Kreitz: Capitalize [formal] documents like Walk/Bike/Ride.

8. **COMMISSIONER REPORTS:** **Kreitz:** Shared photo of intense Labor Day traffic. People driving powerline dirt road created danger. **Peters:** Attended RCRC annual at Tahoe. Merced talked of turning economic blight into useful resource (Castle AFB). Autonomous vehicles. Bodie tour to train station renovated to museum. Back to DC, met with Rep. Paul Cook's chief of staff on many issues; Cook resigning to run for county supervisor. Construction on Hackney Drive, Eastside Lane delayed till 2020 due to weather. **Hogan:** None. **Wentworth:** Climate Change conference. Route 50 on Columbia River Gorge. Sustainable Recreation Tourism meeting in Bishop next week, elsewhere later. Ran into 11 different parties on PCT (Pacific Crest Trail) who asked how to get to Bishop. Seasons getting extended. **Salcido:** None. **Stump:** Left-turn pocket at Chalfant, drainage. Hess Park EV type 2 completed in Lee Vining. Lynn Boulton: Added second circuit so both are full power, not split; i.e., two cars at once.

9. **INFORMATIONAL:** Garrett Higerd reported rubberized chip seal on Benton Crossing Road (coarse, not extended all across shoulders). Awaiting comments from cyclists. Will help with truck traffic to landfill. Mono City: Slurry seal project done. Crowley Lake: Start soon on South Landing Road past trailer park, general store, up to Crowley Lake Drive. Grinding on edges will tie asphalt to other surfaces like concrete. Drainage structures. Striping at end. Hackney Drive: Core service area. Eastside Lane: Contracts signed, but into winter suspension. Same contractor.

Sweeping debris off bike lanes on Benton Crossing Road? *Higerd: To be expected.*

Peters: Restrooms open at Hackney. Higerd: Working with senior center on specific needs. No full road closure at any one time. Noise, dust, inconvenience but no hard closures.

10. **UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS:** 1) 2020 STIP; 2) Yosemite letter with specific request; 3) Kathleen Morse presentation; 4) support letter for US bike route along US 395; and 5) national scenic byway designation.

11. **ADJOURN** at 11:45 a.m. to November 11 (a holiday) so reschedule to November 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Prepared by CD Ritter, LTC clerk

YARTS 2020 HOLIDAYS AND FREE DAY SCHEDULES

HOLIDAYS 2020 - YARTS will operate on a limited schedule - see www.yarts.com for more info

- Presidents Day – Monday, February 17, 2020
- Memorial Day – Monday, May 25, 2020
- Independence Day – Saturday, July 4, 2020
- Veterans Day – Wednesday, November 11, 2020

FREE DAYS 2020 - reservations not accepted (except Amtrak) - boarding based on first come, first served

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Monday, January 20, 2020 (*Hwy 140 ONLY*)
- Earth Day (Yosemite) – Saturday, April 18, 2020 (*Hwy 140 ONLY*)
- National Parks Week – Saturday, April 25, 2020 (*Hwy 140 ONLY*)
- YARTS 20th Anniversary – Wednesday, May 20, 2020 (*Hwy 140, Hwy 120 Sonora and Hwy 41*)
- Memorial Day Weekend – Saturday, May 23, 2020; Sunday, May 24, 2020 and Monday, May 25, 2020 (*Hwy 140, Hwy 120 Sonora and Hwy 41*)
- Independence Day – Saturday, July 4, 2020 (*ALL CORRIDORS*)
- NPS Birthday – Tuesday, August 25, 2020 (*ALL CORRIDORS*)
- National Public Lands Day – Saturday, September 26, 2020 (*Hwy 140, Hwy 120 Sonora and Hwy 395/120 Mammoth Lakes*)

NO SERVICE DAYS - YARTS will not operate on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day – Wednesday, January 1, 2020
- Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 12, 2020
- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 26, 2020
- Christmas Day – Friday, December 25, 2020

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LTC Staff Report

TO: Mono County Local Transportation Commission

DATE: November 18, 2019

FROM: Gerry Le Francois, Co-Executive Director

SUBJECT: Draft 2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)

RECOMMENDATION

Provide any desired direction to staff on the 2020 RTIP, State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and MOU projects on SR 14/US 395

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The RTIP and STIP fund local and regional transportation projects in Mono County. The CTC Fund Estimate has restricted programming in the beginning of this new five-year cycle. Complete programming amounts are only available in the last year of the five-year cycle, fiscal year 2024-25.

	\$ 1,000s
Current RTIP shares / reserve	3,005
New 2020 \$ available to program through 2023-24	1,069
Remaining 2020 \$ shares to program 2024-2025	2,492
subtotal	3,561
\$ available to program in 2020 RTIP	6,566

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

All RTIP/STIP projects require environmental compliance as a condition of project planning and allocation. The adoption of the 2020 RTIP is a statutory exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines section 15276 (a).

RTP/RTIP CONSISTENCY

All RTIP/STIP projects are required to be consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan.

DISCUSSION

The STIP cycle occurs every two years and is a new five-year funding cycle for transportation projects in Mono County. The 2020 RTIP/STIP schedule is below:

Regions submit RTIPs	Dec. 15, 2019
Caltrans submits final ITIP	Dec. 15, 2019
CTC STIP hearing, North	Jan. 30, 2020
CTC STIP hearing, South	Feb. 6, 2020
CTC publishes staff recommendations	Feb. 28, 2020

MOU Projects

As the Commission is aware, the remaining identified MOU projects are: 1) Olancho/Cartago (O/C) (funded); 2) Freeman Gulch (FG) segment 2 (funded through plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E)); 3) Freeman Gulch segment 3 (unfunded at this time); and a future Mono County project.

On the southern US 395 corridor in San Bernardino County, the planning approval and environmental (PA&ED) was started but deprogrammed in the 2016 STIP cycle, and currently this project is not active.

Local Projects

Town of Mammoth Lakes and County are currently being worked on for inclusion into the 2020 RTIP. RTIP is scheduled for adoption by this commission at its December 9 meeting.

ATTACHMENT

- Draft 2020 RTIP

MONO 2020 DRAFT RTIP (Nov 18)					(\$1,000's)												
					FY Totals						Component Totals						
Agency	Rte	PPNO	Project	Total	Prior	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	ROW	Const	PA & ED	PS & E	R/W sup	Con sup	
Mono LTC		2003	Planning Programming and Monitoring (300k in new PPM)	570	0	135	135	150	150			570					
Mono County	loc	2603	Airport Rd Rehab	1566	166	1400					0	1400	31	135	0	0	
Mono County	loc	2605	Eastside Lane, Phase 1, rehab (\$500 incr at vote)	1,650	1,650							1650					
Mono County	loc	2656	Long Valley Streets Rehab	2550	300	2250					0	2250	100	200	0	0	
	Caltrans	14	8042B	Kern, 4-lane, Freeman Gulch (Inyo amount of 130k in design), segment 2	620	620											
unfunded MOU	Caltrans	14	8042C	Kern, 4-lane, Freeman Gulch (RIP 10%), segment 3													
	Caltrans	395	170	Olancha-Cartago 4-lane expressway - total needed 10.94m (+ 1,250 above 10% MOU for const)	10,545	4,498	10,545				2480	9560	937	731	350	985	
new	Mammoth Lakes	loc	xxx	Local streets & road rehabilitation (2,700 k)	2,700							2675		25			
new	Mono County	loc	xxx	any cost increases to existing projects?	?												
				subtotal new 2020 RTIP programming	2,700												
				subtotal	20,201	7,234											
				Unprogrammed Balance	3005												
				STIP target share for 2020 - table 4	3561												
				total share	6566												
				share less new programming	3866												
				under/over programmed													

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November 18, 2019

Dear Yosemite,

The Mono County Local Transportation Commission has a vested interest in the operation of Highway 120 through Yosemite National Park over Tioga Pass due to the regional transportation impacts and opportunities that it creates. When open, the route provides the most direct transportation link between the Eastern Sierra and the Central Valley of California and eliminates untold numbers of vehicle miles traveled and related environmental impacts. The route provides much-desired recreational access to Yosemite National Park from the Eastern Sierra region for locals and tourists alike. The communities of Lee Vining, Bridgeport, June Lake, Mammoth Lakes and Bishop all experience major, indisputable shifts in economic activity that are directly attributed to the passage of vehicles over Tioga Pass.

The LTC recognizes the operation of an exposed, high-alpine route through a national park is a challenging and sensitive task, and applauds the Park's efforts in developing policies and procedures to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the route, including the Spring 2019 approach of allowing "no-stop" vehicle passage twice daily. Mono County and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area have provided the Park with assistance with the opening of the Pass for many years in recent history, and would like to continue to contribute to the effort, with the intent of creating the earliest possible opening (and longest season of operation) of the route to extend the associated benefits to our region.

Throughout our assistance efforts, Mono County and Mammoth Mountain have developed operational ideas that we expect would make for earlier openings of the Tioga Pass while significantly reducing the associated safety risk. The Park's 2019 Spring Road Opening Operations Plan is an excellent approach to memorializing the operational aspects of opening roads throughout the Park, and the County would like to respectfully request an opportunity to discuss these operational ideas with the Park and determine whether the concepts fit within the current regulatory framework and operational needs of the Park. It is our sincere hope that these concepts could be included in future Operations Plan, thereby eliminating risks to Park personnel while extending the season and the associated benefits of an open and operating Tioga Pass highway.

Please reach out to Tony Dublino at 760-932-5459 or tdublino@mono.ca.gov to coordinate a meeting to discuss these concepts and make some initial determinations about whether they may be successfully pursued in the future.

Sincerely,

Fred Stump
LTC Chair

COMMISSIONERS

Jennifer Kreitz Sandy Hogan John Peters Lynda Salcido Fred Stump John Wentworth

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LTC Staff Report

TO: Mono County Local Transportation Commission

DATE: November 18, 2019

FROM: Gerry Le Francois, Co-Executive Director

SUBJECT: Support letter to District 9 for US Bicycle Route 85

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss and consider a letter of support for US Bicycle Route 85 through Mono County

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None at this time

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Project would utilize existing bicycle routes and/or lanes.

RTP/RTIP CONSISTENCY

Project is consistent with the 2015 Regional Transportation Plan Chapter 4 Active and Non-Motorized Transportation goals and policies and the Mono County Bicycle Transportation Plan Chapter 3 goals and policies.

DISCUSSION

Staff was contacted by Inyo County LTC and the Adventure Cycling Association (ACA) about a US Bicycle Route through Mono County. A few years ago, another route option was under consideration that used SR 120 Tioga Pass and Yosemite National Park. This route was not adopted. Working with Inyo County, Mammoth Lakes Recreation, and ACA, the current route USBR 85 has been developed.

In addition, it is recommended that both the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County provide approval and/or letters of support since technically, these agencies own and maintain portions of this proposed route. USBR 85 route can be found here: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/26882556>

ATTACHMENT

- Draft USBR 85 letter of support

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November 18, 2019

Ryan Dermody, Deputy District 9 Director
500 So. Main Street
Bishop, CA 93514

Re: Support of US Bike Route 85 CA in Mono County

Dear Ryan Dermody,

Mono County LTC would like to offer our support for the designation of the proposed U.S. Bicycle Route 85 (USBR 85) through Mono County. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has designated a bicycle route corridor through California to be developed as USBR 85 that follows the Sierra Nevada range. Mono County lies within that corridor.

As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA), the LTC finds the proposed route is consistent with the adopted Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Chapter 4, Regional Policy Element, Active and Non-Motorized Transportation:

GOAL 12. PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF NON-MOTORIZED MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION, WHICH INCREASES THE PROPORTION OF TRIPS ACCOMPLISHED BY BIKING AND WALKING, INCREASES THE SAFETY AND MOBILITY OF NON-MOTORIZED USERS, ENHANCES PUBLIC HEALTH, AND PROVIDES A BROAD SPECTRUM OF PROJECTS TO BENEFIT MANY TYPES OF ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION USERS.

Policy 12.A. Develop and implement multi-modal transportation plans, programs or projects for all community areas to provide for the development of well-coordinated and designed non-motorized and motorized transportation facilities.

Policy 12.B. Seek opportunities for federal, state, county, town, and private participation, when appropriate, in the construction and maintenance of non-motorized facilities.

Objective 12.B.1. Seek partnership opportunities for the following projects:

- *Countywide bicycle and pedestrian trail development*
- *Pedestrian improvements in community areas*
- *Transportation options to Bodie State Historic Park*
- *Other non-motorized transportation projects as applicable*
- *ADA compliance*

In addition, the Mono County Bicycle Transportation Plan within the RTP states the following:

CHAPTER 3: POLICIES

The following goals, policies and programs provide specific direction for the planning and implementation of bicycle facilities in Mono County. The policies have been developed to be consistent with, and

COMMISSIONERS

Jennifer Kreitz Sandy Hogan John Peters Lynda Salcido Fred Stump John Wentworth

complementary to, policies in the Mono County Circulation Element, the Mono County Regional Transportation Plan, the Inyo County Collaborative Bikeways Plan, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes Mobility Plan.

COUNTYWIDE SYSTEM

Goal 1. Develop a cohesive regional and community bikeway system that provides safe and convenient access to all communities and recreational opportunities in Mono County.

Policy 1.A. Maintain a Bikeway Master Plan that identifies existing and future needs, and provides specific recommendations for facilities and programs including adequate provisions for bicycle use to, within, and from Mono County.

Action 1.A.1. Review the Mono County Bicycle Transportation Plan biannually and revise as necessary.

Policy 1.B. Develop a system of community bikeways that connect commercial, recreational and residential areas in communities and that link communities to regional bike routes.

Policy 1.C. Designate regional bike routes that connect communities and that allow for regional travel to, within, and from Mono County.

RECREATIONAL USE

Goal 3. Develop and implement a bikeway system that supports bicycle-oriented recreation.

Policy 3.B. Support on-road bicycle touring opportunities within the Eastern Sierra.

Action 3.B.1. Work with local biking groups to identify bicycle touring opportunities within the Eastern Sierra.

Action 3.B.2. Develop and implement a uniform signage program to identify bicycle touring routes and to direct bicyclists to biking facilities (parking, restrooms, etc.).

Action 3.B.3. Work with Caltrans, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Inyo County, the Collaborative Planning Team, land management agencies, local biking groups, and other interested entities to develop promotional materials (printed, video, online) that highlight biking opportunities in the Eastern Sierra.

We recognize that bicycle tourism is a growing industry in North America, contributing to the economies of communities that provide facilities for such tourists. Our local communities stand to benefit from this opportunity both economically and from the health- and environmental-related benefits of encouraging bicycle travel in the Eastern Sierra region.

I am contacting you to indicate our support for designating USBR 85 through Mono County. A link to the proposed route can be found here: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/26882556>

LTC staff has investigated the proposed route and found it to be suitable for bicycle tourists as the proposed route is along state highways and/or along Town of Mammoth Lakes/Mono County facilities currently designated as bike lanes or routes.

Please contact LTC staff Gerry Le Francois, with any questions or comments regarding our support.

Sincerely,

Fred Stump
LTC Chair

cc: Kerry Irons, Adventure Cycling Association

Mono County Local Transportation Commission

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LTC Staff Report

November 18, 2019

FROM: Hailey Lang, Planning Analyst
Gerry Le Francois, Co-Executive Director

SUBJECT: Draft 2019 Regional Transportation Plan Update

RECOMMENDATION

Provide any direction to staff.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Not applicable

RTP/RTIP CONSISTENCY

The RTP is required to be updated every four or five years (based on Regional Housing Needs Allocation-RHNA cycle adjustments).

DISCUSSION

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a 20-year-planning-horizon transportation planning policy document. The RTP provides a clear vision of the region's transportation goals, policies, needs, and assessments.

Although the most-recent adopted RTP is highly comprehensive, staff is working to update the document to reflect the current transportation network needs, as well as adding additional technical information that is required of the RTP.

Changes in red reflect additions, new language, and/or updated data to the document. Changes in blue reflect language that was already in the document but was moved to another chapter or section for greater consistency and readability.

Staff recommends making only minor technical changes and additions to the RTP to stay within an Addendum. An addendum makes prior CEQA documents adequate when the proposed changes to the RTP do not create any new or substantially more-severe significant environmental impacts. An addendum does not require public circulation.

ATTACHMENT

- Electronic format of the Draft 2019 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is available here: https://monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/local_transportation_commission_ltc/page/617/rtp_2019_redlined_version_red_and_blue.pdf

Mono County Local Transportation Commission

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LTC Staff Report

TO: Mono County Local Transportation Commission

MEETING DATE: November 18, 2019

FROM: Grady Dutton, TOML Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Town of Mammoth Lakes LTC Projects

RECOMMENDATIONS: Receive quarterly update from Town of Mammoth Lakes regarding current status of LTC projects.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: n/a

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE: Environmental compliance is determined during the appropriate component of the project development on a project-by-project basis.

RTP / RTIP CONSISTENCY: All of these projects are programmed in previous STIP cycles. Consistency with the RTP / RTIP was established at time of programming.

DISCUSSION:

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>Design Features</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
<i>Rt 203 (North Main St.) Sidewalk Safety Project</i> <i>STIP Funds</i>	Sidewalk on the north side of Main Street from Mountain Boulevard to Sierra Boulevard and from the Post Office to Forest Trail. Also on the south side from Laurel Mountain Road to Manzanita.	The project is substantially complete. The Town, Caltrans and Contractor are now working on punch list and closeout items.