

*Approved 9/15/21*

## MINUTES

### MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*Meeting Held Remotely via Zoom Meeting/Teleconference*

**May 19, 2021**

#### **Members Present**

Chantell O’Neal, City of Fort Bragg  
Jason Benson, City of Ukiah  
Tasha Ahlstrand, Caltrans  
Dusty Duley, City of Willits  
Jacob King, MTA  
Alicia Meier, County DOT  
Paul Andersen, City of Point Arena

#### **Members Absent**

Mitch Stogner, NCRA (*Non-Voting*)  
Barbara Moed, AQMD  
Mark Cliser, Co. DPBS

#### **Staff & Others Present**

Nephele Barrett, MCOG Administration  
Lisa Davey-Bates, MCOG Planning  
Loretta Ellard, MCOG Planning  
James Sookne, MCOG Planning  
Alexis (Lexi) Pedrotti, MCOG Planning  
Charlene Parker, MCOG Planning  
Danielle Casey, MCOG Administration  
Valency Fitzgerald, Caltrans  
Alexis Kelso, Caltrans  
Scott Burger, Caltrans  
Kyle Finger, Caltrans  
Rex Jackman, Caltrans

1. **Call to Order/Introductions** – Nephele called the meeting to order at approx. 10:02 a.m. Individuals present on the Zoom meeting/teleconference were identified.
2. **Public Expression** – None.
3. **Input from Native American Tribal Governments’ Representatives** – No tribal representatives were present.
4. **Approval of 4/21/21 Minutes** - Motion by Paul Andersen, seconded by Jason Benson, and carried unanimously on roll call vote (7 ayes – O’Neal, Ahlstrand, Duley, Meier, Andersen, Benson, King) to approve the minutes of 4/21/21.
5. **Final FY 2021/22 Overall Work Program** – Lexi reviewed her staff report, and gave a brief overview of the proposed Final FY 2021/22 OWP, totaling \$862,480. She summarized revisions that have been made since the draft OWP was reviewed, and advised that RPA carryover funds have been added to certain work elements (*WE 7 & WE 9*) so staff may begin expending those carryover funds as of July 1; while some other work elements (*WE 12, WE 14*) will not have carryover funds added until after the fiscal years closes, in the first amendment.

A brief discussion ensued with Lexi responding to questions.

**Motion by Tasha Ahlstrand, seconded by Alicia Meier, and carried unanimously on roll call vote (7 ayes – O’Neal, Ahlstrand, Duley, Meier, Andersen, Benson, King) to recommend approval of the Final FY 2021/22 Overall Work Program, and to include the certifications and assurances, appendices, and Information Element.**

**6. Caltrans Presentation – Project Development Update/Opportunities to Provide Input into the Caltrans Project Nomination Process** – Tasha Ahlstrand, Valency Fitzgerald, and Alexis Kelso, Caltrans District 1 staff, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Caltrans’ project development process. Valency explained that today’s presentation is a follow-up to the 2019 TAC presentation, and gives an overview of project input opportunities.

She reviewed the SHOPP Asset Management Cycle, noting opportunities for input at various stages in the cycle. She reviewed 2021 SHSMP District Performance Plan, including performance targets and objectives, advising that the 2021 District 1 Performance Plan has 20 objectives with targets, and a budget of \$1.1B over five years. A pie chart showed the majority of funding designated for pavement and bridge projects. She reviewed the SHOPP (State Highway Operation and Protection Program) project nomination process, which is currently in the “project nomination” part of the cycle.

Alexis reviewed input opportunities during pre-project and project nomination, PID (Project Initiation Document) development, and project development. She encouraged agencies to keep bike and pedestrian plans and community plans up to date, provide GIS data where available, communicate multi-modal needs, and inform Caltrans of projects adjacent to/on the state system. She confirmed that local plans are reviewed during project nomination process. She reviewed SB 1 competitive programs, advising that Caltrans applications typically go through Headquarters for approval. She said agencies may request letters of support from Caltrans for local projects if project is aligned with State goals.

Tasha reviewed the Transportation Planning Scoping Information Sheet (TPSIS), a “one stop shop” for compiling all the information about a project into a ten-section document for review by a project team. Alexis reviewed the post-programming communication process, including quarterly status reports, milestone reporting, project change request updates, and public engagement plans.

A brief discussion ensued. In response to an inquiry, Valency advised that she would forward the SHOPP project list. Nephele thanked Caltrans staff for the informational presentation.

**7. Upcoming Grant Opportunities** – Nephele reminded members of upcoming RAISE and FLAP grant opportunities, and inquired if any agencies are considering applying. She thought the RAISE grant might be a good possibility for the Orchard Avenue extension project, and asked if the County is interested in applying. Alicia said she does not have time right now due to focusing on getting the East Side Potter Valley project out. Nephele offered to set up a meeting with the County to discuss an application if there is interest. She noted this is an annual grant program so this is not the last opportunity to apply.

Brief discussion ensued. Alicia said the County has applied for FLAP in the past, and is working on another application this cycle for East Side Potter Valley. The 7/12/21 (RAISE) and 5/27/21 (FLAP) deadlines were noted, and Nephele invited members to contact MCOG staff for assistance.

Nephele reported the MCOG Board approved the CRRSAA (Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act of 2021) funding amounts, so local agencies now have STIP/STBG funds to program. She said some agencies have started programming the funds, and encouraged members to reach out to MCOG staff when they are ready to program projects. Brief discussion ensued, with Nephele and James responding to questions.

Tasha advised that the Caltrans transportation planning grant announcements are expected soon.

## **8. Staff Reports**

7a. 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Active Transportation Plan Update – Loretta briefly reported on the RTP/ATP update, advising that staff recently re-distributed the press release and flyer to direct more community members to the “Social Pinpoint” project page on MCOG’s website and generate additional public input. She reviewed online interaction numbers (*surveys completed, map comments, etc.*) and said staff is continuing to reach out to Native American tribes, and is working with local Municipal Advisory Councils (MACs) and the Mendocino County Climate Action Advisory Committee (MCCAAC) to schedule presentations at their meetings.

Nephele added the website link to the chat and said the public outreach tools will be left open but staff will start taking the input received into consideration. Staff hopes to be able to start bringing segments of the draft document, on a piece-meal basis, to the TAG for review at the next meeting.

<https://www.mendocinocog.org/regional-transportation-plan-rtp-active-transportation-plan-2022-update>

7c. Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) – Update – Loretta briefly reported that this project is on track, and the consultant has asked TAG members to re-publish the project website on local agency websites and social media platforms to gain additional public input. She said MCOG staff will also mention the website and opportunity for public input when giving RTP presentations at upcoming MAC meetings.

## **9. Miscellaneous**

Hopland Municipal Advisory Council – Nephele advised that she will be attending tonight’s Hopland MAC meeting, and asked if Caltrans could provide information on the ADA project (*to be constructed in a couple of years*) before tonight’s meeting, that she could pass along to the MAC. Tasha offered to follow-up.

East Side Potter Valley Project – Alicia reported on the recent bid opening for the County’s East Side Potter Valley project. Bids came in approx. \$1 million over available funding, with a low bid (Ghilotti Construction) of approx. \$4.22 million. She was hopeful a contract could be awarded by using/swapping some CRRSAA funds and requesting approx. \$150k from the County Road Fund or General Fund. She said the item is on next week’s Board of Supervisors’ agenda for direction to staff.

Gobbi Street/Waugh Lane Signal – Nephela noted that bids came in low for the City of Ukiah’s Gobbi Street/Waugh Lane signal project, so the City plans to expand the project to include a signal at Gobbi Street/Main Street.

8a. Next Meeting – 6/16/21 (*if needed*).

10. Adjournment – at approx. 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Loretta Ellard  
Deputy Planner

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