

MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Date: April 21, 2021
Time: 3:00 pm
Place: MCTC Conference Room

GoToWebinar

Members Present: Chairman, Jose Rodriguez, Council Member, City of Madera
Vice-Chairman, Tom Wheeler, Supervisor, County of Madera
Waseem Ahmed, Council Member City of Chowchilla
Brett Frazier, Supervisor Madera County
Cece Gallegos, Council Member, City of Madera
Robert Poythress, Supervisor, County of Madera

Members Absent: None

Policy Advisory Committee: Above Members, Michael Navarro, Caltrans District 06, Deputy Director

MCTC Staff: Patricia Taylor, Executive Director
Troy McNeil, Deputy Director/Fiscal Supervisor
Dylan Stone, Principal Regional Planner
Jeff Findley, Principal Regional Planner
Evelyn Espinosa, Associate Regional Planner
Nicholas Dybas, Associate Regional Planner
Sandy Ebersole, Administrative Analyst
Sheila Kingsley, Office Assistant

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

This time is made available for comments from the public on matters within the Board’s jurisdiction that are not on the agenda. Each speaker will be limited to three (3) minutes. Attention is called to the fact that the Board is prohibited by law from taking any substantive action on matters discussed that are not on the agenda, and no adverse conclusions should be drawn if the Board does not respond to the public comment at this time. It is requested that no comments be made during this period on items that are on today’s agenda. Members of the public may comment on any item that is on today’s agenda when the item is called and should notify the Chairman of their desire to address the Board when that agenda item is called.

No other public comment.

MCTC SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

4. TRANSPORTATION CONSENT ITEMS

All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by MCTC staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Committee or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Committee concerning the item before action is taken.

- A. Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC) Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Housing Planning Grant Program

Action: Approve MCTC REAP Housing Planning Gants Program – Resolution 21-04

- B. Caltrans 2020-2024 Strategic Plan

Commissioner Robert Poythress pulled item for discussion.

Action: Information and Discussion Only

- C. CalSTA DRAFT Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure

Action: Approval for staff to draft and submit a comment letter

- D. FTA 5311 Call for Projects

Action: Information and Discussion Only

- E. Regional Surface Transportation Program Exchange Agreement-Resolution 21-05

Action: Approve Resolution 21-05, authorizing Executive Director to sign the RSTP/RSTBGP Exchange Agreement

Transportation Consent Calendar Action on Items A-E.

Upon motion by Commissioner Robert Poythress, seconded by Commissioner Brett Frazier to approve Transportation Consent Calendar Items A-E. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes: Commissioner Robert Poythress – Yes
Commissioner Jose Rodriguez – Yes
Commissioner Tom Wheeler -Yes
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed – Yes
Commissioner Brett Frazier- Yes
Commissioner Cece Gallegos - Yes
Vote passed 6-0

5. TRANSPORTATION ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PUBLIC HEARING: 2021-22 Unmet Transit Needs

Chairman Jose Rodriguez opened the Floor for public comments at 3:08 p.m.

Michael Lundy was available for Spanish translation.

A comment letter was received via email from Madeline Harris, Policy Advocate, Leadership Counsel. The Organization continues to hear from residents in Fairmead, La Vina, the City of Madera and the County whose transit needs remain unmet by MCTC. Unmet Transit Needs are listed below:

- Transit users in the City of Mader report up to on hour wait time for buses on occasion and expressed the need for routes in the City of Madera to run more frequently.
- Residents and transit users report a need to expand rate assistance programs to provide free rides to people who are unable to pay their bus fare buy who have transit needs, nonetheless. This need was raised during the COVID-19 pandemic, during which many transit users have experienced additional financial hardships.
- Residents and transit users report a need for street lighting in La Vina and Fairmead to ensure transit users' first and last miles are safely lit.
- Residents and transit users continue to elevate the need for wastebaskets at bus stops in the City of Madera.
- Residents and transit users in unincorporated communities have identified streets that need replacement and clean mobility infrastructure like sidewalks, crosswalks, and street lighting to facilitate their first and last miles, and thus, their use of public transit. A few examples that were elevated were sidewalks and street lighting along Avenue 9 and within the subdivision of homes located in La Vina, and road replacement to Road 26 in Madera Acres, Road 29 in Parksdale, and Valerie Avenue in Madera Acres.
- Resident and transit users report the need for electronic bus signs on buses and at bus stops. At bus stops, an electronic sign should indicate the estimated time of arrival of the bus and its destination along its current route, and electronic signs on the buses should confirm the direction in which the bus is travelling along its route with its destination. Residents report that this will greatly improve the user-friendliness of public transit in Madera County and encourage ridership.
- Residents and transit users in La Vina continue to elevate the need for more frequent routes between La Vina and the City of Madera. Currently, the bus only runs on Wednesday and Fridays, leaving transit-dependent persons with no other means of transportation without access to basic amenities (including healthcare, food, and other emergency services) most days of the week.
- Residents and transit users in Fairmead have elevated the need to continue working towards installation of a second bus stop in Fairmead. The Organization understand the status of this project is pending collaboration between the Fresno EOC and Madera County Public Works. The Organization ask that MCTC direct these agencies to continue their work on this project as soon as possible and oversee progress to ensure this project stays on track.

- The Organization request a breakdown of transportation funding (whether from general fund dollars, local tax, revenue, grant funding, or any other source of revenue) and expenditures on transportation and transit-related projects during the past two years in Madera County, City of Madera, and City of Chowchilla
- Also attached to the letter were resubmitted comments from the last two years' unmet transit needs survey process regarding unmet transit needs and comments regarding this process that we have elevated in previous years, which remain unaddressed by MCTC.

Hearing no other comments, Chairman Jose Rodriguez closed the floor for comments at 3:15 p.m.

Action: Receive Public Testimony. Direction may be provided.

B. Finish the 99 – Coalition Letter

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Robert Poythress, seconded by Commission Cece Gallegos to approve and direct staff to circulate the Finish the 99 Coalition letter for signatures. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes: Commissioner Robert Poythress – Yes
Commissioner Jose Rodriguez – Yes
Commissioner Tom Wheeler -Yes
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed – Yes
Commissioner Brett Frazier – Yes
Commissioner Cece Gallegos - Yes
Vote passed 6-0

C. Federal COVID-19 Funds: 2021 Mid-Cycle State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and State Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program – H.R. 133

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Brett Frazier, seconded by Commissioner Cece Gallegos to approve staff recommendation to request the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to (1) exchange the STIP funds for state only funds; (2) augment a current programmed project by supplanting local Measure T Funds with the Mid-Cycle STIP funds. The project is the SR 99 Madera South project. The Measure T funds will revert to the Measure T regional Flexible funds in the amount of \$83,706; and (3) request to program Planning, Programming, and Monitoring (PPM) funds in the amount of \$43,774 in FY 2021-22. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes: Commissioner Robert Poythress – Yes
Commissioner Jose Rodriguez – Yes
Commissioner Tom Wheeler -Yes
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed – Yes
Commissioner Brett Frazier – Yes
Commissioner Cece Gallegos - Yes
Vote passed 6-0

D. American Jobs Plan – INVEST in America Act

Action: Information and Discussion Only

E. Caltrans Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) letter

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Brett Frazier, seconded by Commissioner Tom Wheeler to approve letter supporting the inclusion of SR 41 from San Joaquin River to Yosemite National Park for inclusion in the interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP). A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes: Commissioner Robert Poythress – Yes
Commissioner Jose Rodriguez – Yes
Commissioner Tom Wheeler -Yes
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed – Yes
Commissioner Brett Frazier – Yes
Commissioner Cece Gallegos - Yes
Vote passed 6-0

MCTC SITTING AS THE MADERA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

6. REAFFIRM ALL ACTIONS TAKEN WHILE SITTING AS THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

Upon motion by Commissioner Brett Frazier, seconded by Commissioner Robert Poythress to reaffirm all actions taken while sitting as the Transportation Policy Committee. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes: Commissioner Robert Poythress – Yes
Commissioner Jose Rodriguez – Yes
Commissioner Tom Wheeler -Yes
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed – Yes
Commissioner Brett Frazier – Yes
Commissioner Cece Gallegos - Yes
Vote passed 6-0

7. ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

A. Approval of Executive Minutes of the March 17, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Action: Approve Minutes of the March 17, 2021 Regular Meeting

B. Transportation Development Act (TDA) Fund Compliance Audit Reports for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2020: County of Madera, City of Chowchilla

Action: Accept TDA Compliance Audit Reports

C. MCTC Employee Manual Update

Action: Approve MCTC Employee Manual April 2021 Update, and other employment policies.

D. Social Services Transportation Advisory Council meeting of April 1, 2021

Action: Information and Discussion Only.

Approval Administrative Consent Calendar Action A-D

Upon motion by Commissioner Brett Frazier, seconded by Commissioner Robert Poythress to approve the Administrative Consent Calendar Items A-D. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes: Commissioner Robert Poythress – Yes
Commissioner Jose Rodriguez – Yes
Commissioner Tom Wheeler -Yes
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed – Yes
Commissioner Brett Frazier – Yes
Commissioner Cece Gallegos - Yes
Vote passed 6-0

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Proposed FY 2021-22 Member Assessment Fees

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Tom Wheeler, seconded by Commissioner Robert Poythress to approve proposed 2021-22 Member Assessment Fees Schedule and direct staff to contact the local jurisdictions to incorporate the fee in its respective jurisdiction budget. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes: Commissioner Robert Poythress – Yes
Commissioner Jose Rodriguez – Yes
Commissioner Tom Wheeler -Yes
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed – Yes
Commissioner Brett Frazier – Yes
Commissioner Cece Gallegos - Yes
Vote passed 6-0

B. FY 2021-22 Overall Work Program and Line-Item Budget

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Tom Wheeler, seconded by Commissioner Cece Gallegos to approve FY 2021-22 Overall Work Program and Line-Item Budget – Resolution 21-06. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

C. Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) Members Appointments and Vacancies.

Action: Upon motion by Commissioner Brett Frazier, seconded by Commissioner Robert Poythress to appoint applicants to the Social Service Transportation Advisory Council. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes: Commissioner Robert Poythress – Yes
Commissioner Jose Rodriguez – Yes
Commissioner Tom Wheeler -Yes
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed – Yes
Commissioner Brett Frazier – Yes
Commissioner Cece Gallegos - Yes
Vote passed 6-0

MCTC SITTING AS THE MADERA COUNTY 2006 TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

9. AUTHORITY – ADMINISTRATIVE CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Measure “T” Fund Compliance Audit Report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2020, City of Chowchilla

Action: Accept Measure “T” Compliance Audit Report

- B. FY 2020-21 Annual Work Program Amendment No. 2

Action: Approve Annual Work Program Amendment No. 2

Authority - Administrative Consent Items Action A-B

Upon motion by Commissioner Brett Frazier, seconded by Commissioner Robert Poythress to approve the Administrative Consent Items A-B. A vote was called, and the motion carried.

Roll call for votes: Commissioner Robert Poythress – Yes
Commissioner Jose Rodriguez – Yes
Commissioner Tom Wheeler -Yes
Commissioner Waseem Ahmed – Yes
Commissioner Brett Frazier – Yes
Commissioner Cece Gallegos - Yes
Vote passed 6-0

10. AUTHORITY – ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Award Contact – Measure T Renewal Implementation Plan

Action: Authorize staff to negotiate a contract with TBWBH to provide services for the Measure T Renewal Implementation Plan.

Chairman Jose Rodriquez pulled this item from the Agenda. Staff will include this item on the May 19, 2021 Policy Board agenda.

OTHER ITEMS

11. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Items from Caltrans

Michael Navarro, Caltrans District 06 Deputy District Director, Planning, Local Programs & Environmental Analysis, provided a brief update on State Highway projects in Madera County.

B. Items from Staff

Patricia Taylor, MCTC Director provided the following comments:

- Recognized and thanked staff for their commitment to the Commission and willingness to work over and above while meeting many recent deadlines.
- Thanked Supervisor Wheeler for providing a recommendation, Frank Simon, for the SSTAC vacancy.

C. Items from Commissioners

This time was reserved for the Commissioners to inquire about specific projects.

12. CLOSED SESSION

None

13. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia S. Taylor
Executive Director
Madera County Transportation Commission