

Summary of Minutes of the
Lassen County Transportation Commission – Technical Advisory Committee (LCTC-TAC)
February 24, 2011

Committee Members in Attendance:

Jim Mackay (Susanville Indian Rancheria); Jared Hancock (City of Susanville); Larry Millar, Maury Anderson (County of Lassen), by phone link, Marcelino Gonzalez (Caltrans, D2)

Others in attendance: Dan Newton, City of Susanville, Cynthia Raschein, LCTC, Dan Douglas, LCTC

(1) Convene – Meeting convened at 10:30 am.

1.1 Agenda Approval Additions/Deletions
There were no changes to the agenda.

(2) PUBLIC COMMENT

2.1 Public Comment – None

(3) NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Audit Proposal Evaluation

Discussion was held on the three audit proposals received. Overall, Nystrom's proposal was ranked the highest, although it was pointed out their cost was higher than the other two bids received. The group recommends that the proposal should be a part of the executed agreement of whichever firm is selected. It was questioned if that was negotiable. The group will present all three proposals to the LCTC for their review.

3.2 Transit Stop Location - Diamond Mountain Casino

The Rancheria has funding available for bus stops but requires direction from the Lassen Transit Service Agency. The issue of relocating the transit stop located at the Diamond Mountain Casino was discussed. The current stop is in front of the mini mart which creates a problem for the riders; crossing the parking lot can be troublesome due to inclement weather and for riders in wheelchairs, and the stop location lies within a "deceleration lane" which is an unacceptable location for the bus stop. An alternate location on Skyline near the north entrance to the Casino parking lot was suggested, but during winter that entrance ices up and that entrance is blocked for safety. Dan N. commented that there was no entrance at that location to the Casino. Jim stated the casino would prefer a stop at the casino door. Dan D. stated that if the bus enters the parking lot and drops the riders off at the casino door, it would put the bus behind schedule. It was stated that entering the parking lot could pose a liability problem and that entering the casino's parking lot, and not entering other businesses' parking lots, would give the casino a competitive edge. Dan D. stated that the bus route was designed around the basic human needs of the people. It was decided before making any recommendations to the LCTC, a survey should be done to find out what the riders

want, liability issue should be pursued and the bus route be reviewed for time allowances. These issues will be discussed with the consultant selected to update the Transit Development Plan.

3.3 Transit Design Manual

Dan D. stated the Transit Design Manual is in its final completion stage but not yet completed. He distributed pictures of the proposed shelter design and bench. Dan D. added the benches would be placed at the designated bus stops based on passenger load and that all stop locations would be properly signed as a designated bus stop. After discussion on the color of the shelters and benches, it was agreed that the design and color of benches should be consistent with the city benches. It was decided that pictures of a current shelter and a picture of a city bench will be included in the Design Manual. Dan will update the draft TDM with pictures of acceptable bus benches and shelters and submit for review by committee before submitting to the LTSA Board at the meeting on March 14th.

3.4 US 395 @ SR36 Junction Turn Pocket

The transit operator has relayed their concerns to us that at times there have been vehicles, both transit and private cars, not able to obtain safe harbor within the left turn pocket lane on NB US 395. Because of this, vehicles waiting to turn left are occupying the northbound lane and are creating a safety issue for through traffic. Dan D. requests that Caltrans take a look at what measures can be taken to lengthen the turn pocket lane to accommodate at a minimum 2- 40 transit vehicles and 2 private vehicles. Marci will speak with Caltrans maintenance on this issue.

3.5 Engineering Project Update (Walmart Bus Stop)

The location of the bus stop by Wal-Mart was discussed. Dan D. stated an engineering firm is doing a study regarding relocating the stop for a safer location. It was requested that the new courthouse be considered when relocating this stop.

Short discussion held on how to improve the bus service to the V.A. clinic.

(4) OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Matters brought forth by LCTC-TAC:

Jim Mackay stated that FTA Grants are open. The Rancheria still runs its route from Susanville, Chester, Red Bluff, Redding and back and is still being run for free.

Dan D. stated that LRB is currently running a once a month service from Bieber to Susanville and would like to expand the service to twice a month.

4.2 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.