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<p><b>Councilmembers Representing City of Placerville</b>          Carl Hagen, Chair          Mark Acuna          Patti Borelli          Kathryn Mathews, Executive Director</p>	<p><b>Supervisors Representing El Dorado County</b>          John Knight, Vice Chair          Ray Nutting          Jack Sweeney</p>
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**DATE:           OCTOBER 1, 2009**

**TO:             EL DORADO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**FROM:         KATHRYN MATHEWS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**SUBJECT:      EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*The following is a brief overview of some of the issues and projects currently being advanced by EDCTC. An asterisk (\*) notes items on this month's Commission agenda.*

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

**\*EDCTC Budget:** The El Dorado County Auditor's Office revised the FY 08/09 TDA estimate to reflect a 2.14% reduction from the February 2008 estimate. All anticipated revenues to EDCTC for FY 08/09 have been received on or ahead of schedule. Fourth quarter billings were submitted timely and payment is expected on schedule. The semi-annual RCTF voluntary dues were invoiced June 1 and payments received significantly exceed budgeted amounts. EDCTC financial accounts display the strong financial position of the Commission due to the continued employment of sound fiscal management, financial planning, investment management, budgeting, and internal financial controls.

#### **Transit Technical Assistance Grant – El Dorado County Rural Transit Emergency**

**Preparedness Plan:** EDCTC submitted a grant application for FTA Transit Technical Assistance grant funds, in the amount of \$46,000, to prepare the El Dorado County Rural Transit Emergency Preparedness Plan. The purpose of the Preparedness Plan is to develop the framework, in accordance with Caltrans' Rural Transit Emergency Planning Guidance, for effective transit and emergency response in the event of a disaster or crisis in the greater El Dorado County region. The plan will effectively serve El Dorado County and extend benefits to Sacramento, Placer, and Amador counties as well as the Tahoe region. By letter dated September 22 we were notified that we were awarded this grant. The work plan is being finalized and this planning effort will begin in earnest this month.

**\*National Rural Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Conference:** Woodrow Deloria, Assistant Transportation Planner, was awarded a scholarship to attend the National, Rural ITS Conference held August 23 – 27 in Seaside, Oregon. An informational report on the conference is calendared for today's EDCTC meeting.

**Fiscal and Compliance Audit:** As a result of the RFP process, the Commission approved a contract with Richardson and Company for the fiscal and compliance audits of EDCTC and EDCTA for FY 08/09. The field work for both the EDCTC and EDCTA audits is complete. It is expected that the final audit reports will be presented at your December meeting.

**\*Triennial Performance Audits:** EDCTC circulated the RFP for the Triennial Performance Audits of EDCTC and EDCTA for the FY 06/07 – 08/09 period. Eight proposals were received and as a result of the review and interview process, a recommendation to contract with LSC for the Triennial Performance Audits is calendared for today's EDCTC meeting. The Triennial Performance Audits are due to Caltrans no later than June 30, 2010.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION**

**Placerville 50 Operational Improvements Project:** Please refer to the attached project update, provided by Mic Restaino, Caltrans Resident Engineer.

**State and Local Partnership Program:** The California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted the State and Local Partnership Program (SLPP) guidelines at the December 10/11 CTC meeting. EDCTC worked collaboratively with El Dorado County DOT and the City of Placerville to develop the most competitive projects for the first year of the five-year State and Local Partnership Program. On April 16, the CTC adopted the initial SLPP program (through calendar year 2009) which included the City of Placerville's Point View Drive extension project. Based in part on EDCTC testimony, the CTC revised SLPP guidelines for the second year of the SLPP. Applications for the FY 09/10 funding cycle were due to the CTC August 15 for programming in October. EDCTC submitted the Silva Valley Parkway Widening, White Rock Road Widening, and Durock Road intersection / signalization projects. These three projects are all ranked by CTC and Caltrans staff in the top five recommended for funding.

**STIP Project – Missouri Flat Phase 1B:** The Missouri Flat Phase 1B project, including the bike/ped facility, was allocated at the May 14 CTC meeting. Funding for the project includes State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP), Proposition 1B, State ARRA TE, Regional ARRA TE, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), and a federal appropriation. This complex funding scenario is illustrative of the partnership strategies employed to bring this important project to construction. El Dorado County DOT has circulated this project for bid and expects project award on or before October 27.

**CMIA Project – HOV Lane Extension:** At the September 25, 2008 meeting, the California Transportation Commission allocated \$20 million in Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) funds to the US 50 HOV Lane project from El Dorado Hills Boulevard to Bass Lake Road. Funding for this project also includes El Dorado County TIM Fees and regional Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. The construction contract was awarded to Nehemiah Construction, Inc., at the November 18 Board of Supervisors meeting. Construction is underway and the Pooled Money Investment Board restored CMIA funds to this project following recent bond sales.

**\*American Recovery and Reinvestment Act:** President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) on February 17. EDCTC continues to work closely with the City of Placerville, El Dorado County DOT, EDCTA, SACOG (the MPO responsible for listing El Dorado County ARRA projects in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program), and Caltrans to advance El Dorado County projects.

El Dorado County DOT has completed the Forni Road and Pony Express Trail overlay projects. Teichert Construction began work on Lotus Road on September 25 and Granite Construction is scheduled to begin work on Malcolm Dixon Road on October 9.

The City of Placerville is scheduled to open bids on the Carson Road and Cold Springs Road projects on October 20 with construction scheduled to begin on November 1, weather permitting.

EDCTC, working in collaboration with El Dorado County DOT, submitted an ARRA Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant application for consideration as a component of the California TIGER application. The proposed project is the US 50 HOV Lane Extension from Bass Lake Road to Ponderosa Road. The total project cost is \$58 million, including the minimum TIGER request of \$20 million. The project is one of 26 statewide projects on the Tier 1 list submitted to the Governor for transmittal to US DOT. An extensive lobbying / educational effort is underway to brief State and Federal officials about the US 50 HOV Lane project.

**Rural Safety Innovation Program (RSIP):** EDCTC is coordinating the delivery of the Rural Safety Innovation Program (RSIP) grant project. The project will use \$304,000 in RSIP Federal-aid funds to install a collision countermeasure system at the intersection of Still Meadows Road and US 50. The system will automatically activate signs that will advise westbound and eastbound US 50 drivers of the presence and direction of approaching cross traffic. The project was advertised for construction bids on September 8 and bid opening is scheduled for October 6. The project will serve as a demonstration project for Caltrans. This implementation project is advancing on schedule and on budget.

**50 Corridor TMA:** A Commuter Club luncheon was held at the El Dorado County Government Center on September 10. Walk to School Day planning is well underway, with Schnell, Sierra, and Northside Schools participating in the event to be held October 7.

**El Dorado Trail – Forni Road to Missouri Flat Road:** Trails Now has scheduled a Trail Opening Celebration for the El Dorado Trail, Forni Road to Missouri Flat Road, on Saturday, October 17 at 10:00 am at the El Dorado County Government Center on Fair Lane Court. Please refer to the attached Trails Now flier.

### **TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

**SR 49 Realignment Study – Coloma to El Dorado:** The Caltrans Transportation Planning Grant Program selected EDCTC to receive \$250,000 in Partnership Planning Grant Funds for the State Route 49 Realignment Study – Coloma to El Dorado. As a result of the RFP process, the contract for the SR 49 Realignment Study was awarded to TY Lin International. Approximately 130 people attended the Open House held on April 30 at the Fairgrounds. PDT and SAC meetings held in June focused on level one (yes/no) screening of 52 alternatives and reduced to 11 the alternative alignments to be carried forward for further analysis. The Intermediate Level One Screening Process reduced the list from 11 to 3 alternative alignments to be carried forward and analyzed in the Level Two Screening Process. A second Open House is scheduled for October 14 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Marshall Building at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds. This project is expected to be presented to the EDCTC as an information item at the November 5 Commission meeting. This planning project is advancing on schedule and within budget.

**Broadway Village Corridor Multi-Modal Implementation Plan:** The Caltrans Transportation Planning Grant Program selected EDCTC to receive \$125,000 in Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant Funds for the Broadway Village Corridor Multi-Modal Implementation Plan. As a result of the RFP process, the contract for the Broadway Village Corridor Plan was awarded to Lumos and Associates. The fourth SAC meeting was held August 19. Topics of discussion included land use options and recommendations, intersection alternatives, and prioritization of the proposed project list. A community meeting was held on September 9, which was well attended and focused on the layout plan. The administrative draft plan is currently in development and is expected by October 9. The draft plan will be presented to EDCTC at the November 5 meeting, to be followed by presentations to the City Planning Commission and City Council in November. This planning project is advancing on schedule and within budget.

**Camino Corridor Project Study Report:** EDCTC held a focused traffic forecasting meeting on January 12 and an alternatives review meeting on February 4. The Camino Corridor project team developed four project alternatives to present to the Camino SAC on February 10. At the February SAC meeting, the consensus was to carry two alternatives forward into the Project Study Report. The Administrative Draft Project Study Report (PSR) was reviewed in May and the Draft PSR was submitted to Caltrans on June 1 for review. A second Open House was held July 21. Following the presentation of the Draft PSR at the August Commission meeting, the draft PSR was submitted to Caltrans for Executive Review and then submitted to District 3 Director Jody Jones for signature. The signed PSR will be presented to EDCTC to accept as complete Overall Work Program work element 281 no later than December 31. This planning project is advancing on schedule and within budget.

**City of Placerville and El Dorado County Bicycle Plan Updates:** The Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) met November 12, January 14, February 11, April 22, May 27, and August 19 to review the existing bicycle plans and existing conditions and to discuss proposed goals, objectives and policies and proposed improvements. The draft plan is scheduled to be complete in October for review by the BAC. This planning project is advancing on schedule and within budget.

**Regional Transportation Plan 2010 – 2030:** The draft of the Policy Element, Chapters I – V, was approved by the Commission at the June meeting. EDCTC staff is currently focusing on the multi-modal Action Element, both short-term (1-10 years) and long-term (10-20) years. The next meeting of the RTP Advisory Committee is scheduled for November. This planning project is advancing on schedule and within budget.

**Federal Highway Reauthorization/Appropriations:** The FFY 2010 appropriations request forms were submitted to Senator Feinstein and Senator Boxer in accordance with the priorities established at the February 5 Commission meeting. Congressman McClintock did not accept appropriations requests; however, EDCTC did submit High Priority Project (HPP) requests for Congressman McClintock's consideration. Congressman McClintock included the Western Placerville Interchanges HPP funding request for consideration in Reauthorization. HPP requests were also submitted to Senator Feinstein and Senator Boxer. Please refer to the attached Monthly Activity Report prepared by Pete Evich of Van Scoyoc Associates.

#### **EVENTS/MEETINGS ATTENDED**

- Aug 12 attended Assemblyman Gaines' annual Regional Leadership Breakfast, in Roseville
- Aug 12-13 represented the Rural Counties Task Force at the California Transportation Commission meeting, in Sacramento
- Aug 14 attended the APWA awards luncheon, in Sacramento
- Aug 18-19 represented the Rural Counties Task Force at the statewide TIGER screening committee meetings, in Sacramento
- Aug 25 attended the Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting, at Pioneer Park
- Aug 26 met with Assemblymember Gaines and Senator Cox regarding the EDCTC TIGER project, in Sacramento (with Commissioners Hagen, Knight and Sweeney)
- Aug 31 met with Assemblymember Huber regarding the EDCTC TIGER project, in El Dorado Hills (with Commissioners Hagen and Knight)
- Sept 1 met with Congressman McClintock's staff regarding the EDCTC TIGER project, in Roseville (with Commissioners Hagen and Knight)
- Sept 2 met with Congressman Lungren's staff regarding the EDCTC TIGER project, in Sacramento
- Sept 8 met with Congresswoman Matsui's staff regarding the EDCTC TIGER project, in Sacramento (with Commissioner Knight)
- Sept 8 attended the Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting, in Georgetown
- Sept 9-10 represented the Rural Counties Task Force at the California Transportation Commission meeting, in Long Beach
- Sept 13-16 attended the American Planning Association conference, in Squaw Valley
- Sept 17 met with Senator Feinstein's staff regarding the EDCTC TIGER project, in San Francisco

- Sept 21 met with Senator Boxer's staff regarding the EDCTC TIGER project, in Sacramento
- Sept 22 attended the Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting, in Camino
- Sept 24 met with SACOG staff regarding the EDCTC TIGER project, in Sacramento (with Commissioners Hagen and Knight)
- Sept 25 attended the Rural Blueprint Workshop, in Sacramento
- Sept 25 chaired the Rural Counties Task Force meeting, in Sacramento
- Sept 30 met with the Miwok Tribe regarding the EDCTC TIGER project, at Redhawk Casino (with Commissioner Sweeney)
- Oct 1 attended the El Dorado SAGE meeting, in Placerville

KFM:

- Attachments:
- A) Monthly Activity Report, Van Scoyoc Associates
  - B) 50 Operational Improvements Project Monthly Report
  - C) Trails Now flier, Trail Opening Celebration

**EDCTC**  
**August**  
**September**  
**2009 Report**



Pete Evich, Vice President

**Congress and Administration Wrangle over Short-Term Extension of Current Transportation Authorization Law**

On September 23, the House of Representatives passed a 3-month extension of the nation's current surface transportation law which is set to expire at the end of this month. By taking this action, the House of Representatives, led by Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman James Oberstar, has challenged the Obama administration and Senate Democratic leaders on extending surface transportation law. The Senate and the Administration are advocating for an 18-month extension while the House's 3-month bill will only last through the rest of this year.

This sets up a game of chicken with the White House and Senate Democratic leaders, who believe an 18-month extension is needed to give time to focus on other pressing priorities like health care and climate change. With health care dominating the atmosphere in the Senate and the chamber not even half done with its FY09 spending bills, it is unclear whether Senate Democratic leaders have the time to go back and forth on the issue this month.

A major hurdle to a 6-year transportation reauthorization bill is how to finance a \$500 billion bill which Congressional leaders are saying is needed to adequately address our nation's surface transportation needs. While Chairman Oberstar is prepared to act on a 6-year bill, he still needs the House Ways and Means Committee to act on the financing portion. Oberstar has had a tough time getting the House Ways and Means Committee to focus on the larger reauthorization measure because that Committee is currently focused on financing a major healthcare overhaul.

**TIGER Grant Opportunity for EDCTC**

The TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Discretionary Grant program was created by Congress through the economic stimulus package to finance significant performance-driven projects and those that involve multiple jurisdictions or modes. The TIGER program focuses on longer-term, strategic infrastructure development along with the Economic Recovery Act's primary focus on immediate job creation.

The state of California had an extremely competitive process related to TIGER grant submissions which would be given the imprimatur of being officially supported by the state. As the Commission is aware, EDCTC's project made the State short list and was one of 26 total California projects (1 of only 2 rural projects) that will be officially supported by Caltrans – kudos to the EDCTC Team!

The EDCTC project is an extension of U.S. 50 HOV lanes from the Bass Lake Road interchange to the Ponderosa Road interchange. This effort is part of a larger plan to add HOV lanes from El Dorado Hills to Shingle Springs in El Dorado County. The total project cost is \$58.4 million, and the federal DOT TIGER application request is for \$20 million.

The U.S. Department of Transportation announced last week that it received nearly 1,400 applications from all 50 states, territories, and the District of Columbia vying for a share of \$1.5 billion the Department will award for innovative transportation projects that show significant economic and environmental promise for the nation, a region, or metropolitan area.

Of the \$57 billion in TIGER grants requested, more than half of the applications are for highway or bridge projects, with the rest of the applications focusing on transit, railroad, port infrastructure, multimodal, or other investments.

Once it was announced that the U.S. 50 HOV project made the list, VSA began assisting EDCTC in an outreach effort with key California Congressional offices in an effort to secure letters of support for the U.S. 50 HOV TIGER grant application. VSA helped arrange and schedule the following meetings for Executive Director Mathews related to this effort:

1. Dan Brennan (District Director) and Ross Branch (El Dorado County Field Representative), Office of Congressman Tom McClintock
2. Liz Donnelly (Senior Field Representative) Office of Congressman Dan Lungren
3. Gina Banks (Director of Field Services) and John Murray, Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein
4. Stacey Smith (Deputy State Director) and Brandon Ida (Community Representative), Office of Senator Barbara Boxer
5. Nathan Dietrich (District Director), Office of Representative Doris Matsui
6. Liz Murguia (Field Representative), Officer of Representative Mike Thompson

As a result of these California Congressional staff meetings, which occurred throughout the month of September, letters of support were committed by Representatives McClintock, Lungren, and Matsui's offices. Senator Boxer's staff also indicated that the Senator would provide a letter of support for the EDCTC project. Executive Director Mathews had a very productive meeting with Senator's Feinstein's staff; however, they indicated that Senator Feinstein was reluctant to support individual projects in this process. A meeting with Representative Thompson's office is still pending.

Projects selected will be announced no later than February 17, 2010. The Secretary of Transportation, however, has committed to announcing all of the projects by January. The TIGER Discretionary Grants program was announced May 15, 2009.

## **HIGHWAY 50 OPS UPDATE – September 29, 2009**

*Report from Mic Restaino, Caltrans Resident Engineer*

### **03-3555U4 Placerville Operational Improvements**

- Bid Opening Date: February 8, 2006
- Bid Approved on May 8, 2006
- Low bidder Mitchell Engineering \$34,154,559.40; 540 WD
- Location 1 – Connect West Placerville Drive with Main Street and Forni Road; Includes construction of new Hangtown Creek Bridge and replacement (three stages) of the US 50/West Placerville Drive Undercrossing.
- Location 2 – Widen Eastbound US 50, replace the Bedford Avenue Pedestrian Overcrossing (POC) and improve the operation of local cross traffic by widening three bridges, which connect Main Street to US 50 (Bedford, Spring, and Canal Street bridges).
- Relocation of the City of Placerville sewer line – approximately half is new mainline and half is collector replacement.
- Temporary Suspension due to cold temperatures – 12/1/09 to 5/4/09
- Construction anticipated to be complete in August 2009

### **Work Completed in as of September 29, 2009**

- Iron fence installed at pedestrian overcrossing
- Remove Bedford/US 50 crosswalk
- Iron barriers at all three City bridges
- Joint Seal on US 50, west Placerville Drive undercrossing - final punchlist
- Mitchell Engineering field office moved out of area at Ray Lawyer Drive, winterized grounds

### **Work to take place**

- Verification of final quantities and change order payments
- Preparation of Proposed Final Estimate (PFE) (40 days from acceptance)
- Mitchell analyzes PFE and responds with any claims (30 days from PFE)
- Should any claims be included in the response, resolution would begin

### **Future work is now focused on:**

- Veerkamp is working for El Dorado County and AT&T at Bedford Avenue raising lids of utility boxes - not Caltrans contract work



## TRAIL OPENING CELEBRATION

### The El Dorado Trail from Forni Road to Missouri Flat Road

ENJOY THE VIEW FROM THE HISTORIC TRESTLE BRIDGE

OVER WEBER CREEK

SATURDAY– OCTOBER 17<sup>th</sup> 10am



The celebration will start at **10 AM on October 17<sup>th</sup>** at the El Dorado County Government Center on Fair Lane Court. After a short presentation about the new trail section, we'll be **walking, biking or horseback riding** on the newly paved 2.75 mile section of the El Dorado Trail. Starting at Forni Road near the County Government Center, the trail heads south to the Weber Creek trestle bridge and continues on to Missouri Flat Road.

### DIRECTIONS TO THE CELEBRATION

**From Hwy 50 heading east:** Exit at Forni Road off ramp. Continue in the R lane onto Placerville Drive. Turn R at the second signal onto **Fair Lane** and proceed to top of hill. Look for **the Administration Building sign (300-360 Fair Lane)** on your right. Park in the lot and look for the celebration.

**From Hwy 50 heading west:** Exit at Forni Road off ramp. Take a R at the light and make an immediate R onto **Fair Lane** and proceed to the top of the hill. Look for **the Administration Building sign (300-360 Fair Lane)** on your right. Park in the lot and look for the celebration

Maps and descriptions of the El Dorado Trail can be seen on the Trails Now website at:

<http://www.trailsnow.org/maps.htm>