

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**DATE:** FEBRUARY 7, 2019  
**TO:** EL DORADO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
**FROM:** WOODROW DELORIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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*The following is an overview of the issues, projects, and coordination currently being advanced by EDCTC.*

### **TRANSIT PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION**

#### **County Line Multi-Modal Transit Center Study**

On January 24, 2018, the project kickoff meeting was held to review project scope and schedule with staff from El Dorado Transit, El Dorado County DOT, Caltrans, EDCTC, and the consultant Fehr & Peers. The draft Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) list was ratified at the February 1, 2018 EDCTC meeting. The first SAC meeting was held on Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at the El Dorado Hills CSD, and the first PDT was held on Tuesday, April 17 at El Dorado Transit. Public Workshop #1 was held on Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at the El Dorado Hills CSD Pavilion. The second public workshop was held November 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Silva Valley Elementary School and provided the public with an opportunity to provide input on potential site evaluations. The open house included information stations with maps and illustrations showing possible site locations, first and last mile access, transit center amenities, as well as other evaluation considerations to ensure that the new transit center will serve the community now and into the future. Now the project team is identifying air quality and other community benefits. The team will begin identifying site amenities once the final two sites have been determined.

#### **Short- and Long-Range Transit Plan Update**

On May 11, 2018 Caltrans notified EDCTC that it had been awarded a Strategic Partnership Transit Grant for \$150,000. EDCTC staff distributed the Request for Proposals (RFP) on July 19, 2018. One proposal was received from LSC which was evaluated according to the criteria specified in the RFP by EDCTC staff as well as staff from EDCTC's planning partners, El Dorado County Transit Authority, and El Dorado County Community Development Services Transportation Department. On September 6, 2018 the EDCTC Board awarded the consulting contract to LSC. The project kickoff meeting with LSC, El Dorado Transit, El Dorado County, City of Placerville, EDCTC, and other stakeholders was held at EDCTC on Friday, November 2, 2018 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. LSC distributed on-board surveys on Transit buses during January 2019. The first stakeholder advisory committee meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2019 at the El Dorado Hills CSD Pavilion. The first public meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2019 and will be held at the following two locations to accommodate constituents' schedules:

- Placerville Main Library: 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm
- El Dorado Hills Library: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

#### **Triennial Performance Audits**

EDCTC is statutorily required to designate entities other than itself to conduct a Triennial Performance Audit of the activities of the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and the Transit Operator to whom it allocates Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds, in this case El Dorado Transit. The performance audit generally follows the guidelines established in the Performance Audit Guidebook for Transit Operators and Regional Transportation Planning Entities, published by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Division of Mass Transportation. EDCTC staff distributed the Triennial Performance Audit Request for Proposals (RFP) on August 6, 2018. By the

deadline, September 21, one proposal was received from LSC Transportation Consultants, Inc. On November 1, 2018 EDCTC awarded the consulting contract to LSC.

## **TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

### **2020-2040 El Dorado County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**

The Draft RTP Goals, Objectives, and Strategies have been finalized to include comments from previous meetings held with advisory committee members. Collaboration continues between SACOG, EDCTC, City and County staff regarding the lists of short- and long-term projects for the 2020-2040 RTP. EDCTC is working with SACOG to help meet required greenhouse gas reduction targets for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update. SACOG conducted a second model run in early December to include additional El Dorado County projects which were not previously included in the discussion draft scenario. From an air quality standpoint, it appears that all El Dorado County projects will be eligible for inclusion in the preferred MTP scenario. Projects will need to be reviewed for fiscal constraint as financial projections for the RTP and MTP are still being developed.

### **Senate Bill 743 VMT Analysis**

EDCTC staff was successful in securing Rural Planning Assistance grant funds to develop an SB 743 Vehicle Miles Travelled requirements analysis for El Dorado County and the City of Placerville. This will provide the City and County with an introductory strategy to update the necessary policies, travel demand modelling tools, and land use analytics in order to comply with SB 743. On March 1, 2018 EDCTC awarded a contract to Fehr & Peers to complete the work. A kickoff meeting was held in late May with the City of Placerville and El Dorado County staff. EDCTC and the project team are now reviewing the draft threshold setting transportation demand tools memos to finalize the analysis. Furthermore, EDCTC is working with the team to determine the necessary updates to the County's Travel Demand Model.

## **TRAVEL DEMAND MANAGEMENT**

EDCTC staff will be attending a SACOG Travel Demand Management workshop on programs and activities aimed at reducing car trips to improve air quality. Early planning has begun for May is Bike Month activities for 2019.

### **El Dorado County Freeway Service Patrol (FSP)**

FSP operates from 6:30 AM to 9:00 AM and from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM Monday through Friday on US 50 from the El Dorado/Sacramento County line extending eastward to Greenstone Road. FSP is funded by the Capital Valley Regional Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways and the Caltrans FSP program, no local funds are required. On February 1, 2010 one Extreme Towing FSP driver was awarded the driver of the year for 2018 for the greater Sacramento region. One recent quote from an FSP-assisted driver was:

*"Garren the (ANGEL) was extremely helpful and kind. This is a wonderful service and definitely appreciated and very much needed. Would be great to extend it further up hwy 50 one day."*

## **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

### **El Dorado County and City of Placerville Active Transportation Plans**

Alta Planning and design, the consultant under contract to perform the work on the plans, has provided EDCTC with the following deliverables toward development of the Plan: Goals, Objectives and Strategies, Relationship to Other Documents Memo, Sidewalk Audit Methodology, Existing Conditions Report, a comprehensive map set, and web survey content. Web survey content will be included in an online tool which is being developed to garner additional input on routes needing improvement, preferred routes, barriers to active transportation, and destinations.

## **COORDINATION, OUTREACH, AND ADVOCACY**

### **EL DORADO COUNTY**

#### **El Dorado Hills Business Park Community Transportation Plan**

EDCTC worked with Caltrans to secure \$144,000 in State Planning and Research grant funds to support the El Dorado Hills Business Park Community Transportation Plan. The effort will be closely coordinated with El Dorado County and the El Dorado Hills Business Park Association to look at future traffic and circulation in and around the business park. EDCTC received a Notice to Proceed and a Request for Proposals was released on January 28, 2019. Proposals are due to EDCTC on March 6<sup>th</sup> and a contract award is anticipated at the April EDCTC Board meeting.

#### **Coloma Sustainable Community Mobility Plan**

The Coloma Sustainable Community Mobility Plan will address safety, active transportation, and mobility deficiencies in Coloma, specifically on State Route (SR) 49 through Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park (State Park) and Lotus Road near Henningsen-Lotus Park. A contract was awarded to Omni Means, a GHD Company at the June 7, 2018 EDCTC Board meeting. The first Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting was held on September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Gold Trail Grange and the first public workshop was held on October 4<sup>th</sup>, also at the Grange. The second SAC meeting was held on November 28<sup>th</sup> at the Grange. The main focus of the meeting was to gain input from the SAC on potential concepts for mobility improvements in the project area. A third SAC meeting was held on January 30, 2019 to receive comments on layouts and drawings of proposed mobility improvements in advance of the next community workshop. A second Community Workshop was held on February 5, 2019 to receive public comment on layouts and drawings of proposed mobility improvements that were revised based on comments from the SAC at the January 30<sup>th</sup> SAC meeting. Fifty-six members of the public participated in this recent public meeting and were very engaged and supportive of the effort.

### **CITY OF PLACERVILLE**

#### **Western Placerville Interchanges Phase 2**

The allocation request for \$5.542 million in STIP was approved at the August 16-17, 2017 CTC meeting. The City of Placerville awarded the construction management services contract to Drake Haglan and Associates at the October 24, 2017 City Council meeting. At the January 9, 2018 meeting, the Placerville City Council awarded the construction contract to Doug Veerkamp Engineering for a not-to-exceed amount of \$9,064,856. The project began construction at the end of January 2018. On October 24<sup>th</sup> access to the County Jail was switched over to the newly realigned segment of Forni Road. The remaining segment of Forni Road between Ray Lawyer Drive and the County Jail driveway was closed on October 24<sup>th</sup> so work on it can commence. The Park-and-Ride lot was recently paved. The project is ahead of schedule and pending weather conditions could be completed during the spring 2019.

#### **WPI Phase 2.2**

On May 16, 2018, the CTC awarded \$1,070,000 in LPP funds to the City of Placerville to advance delivery of the eastbound on-ramp for the Western Placerville Interchanges Phase 2 project. On August 2, 2018 EDCTC programmed \$200,000 in Highway Improvement Program (HIP) funds for construction of the eastbound on-ramp. However, following discussion with CTC staff it was determined that the eastbound on ramp will be constructed as a stand-alone project called WPI Phase 2.2. The City of Placerville is working with EDCTC and Caltrans to secure the remaining funding necessary to construct Phase 2.2 in 2019. On August 28, 2018 the City Council approved a contract with R.E.Y. Engineers, Inc., to obtain design level topographic survey of the eastbound on-ramp area adjacent to Ray Lawyer Drive and the WPI 2 project. R.E.Y. performed the Lidar survey and provided the survey data to Dokken Engineering to develop project layouts. The City released an RFP for Engineering Design and Environmental Consulting Services on January 16, 2019.

**Upper Broadway Bike Lanes Project**

On October 18, 2017, the California Transportation Commission awarded \$1,886,000 in 2017 ATP Augmentation – Statewide and Small Urban and Rural Components funding for the Upper Broadway Pedestrian Connection Project that will provide strategically located sidewalks and additional pedestrian improvements and new transit stops on Broadway between Schnell School Road and Point View Drive. The environmental document was approved by Caltrans on April 19, 2018. The City recently completed appraisal reviews as well as 65% preliminary plans and estimates. On November 13<sup>th</sup> the Placerville City Council approved entering into negotiations with property owners for two ROW acquisitions and two temporary construction easements. Right-of-Way Utility Relocations and Design are the two critical path items.

**Broadway Sidewalks Project**

The project improves pedestrian safety by constructing new curb, gutter, and sidewalk on four segments of Broadway between the Main Street/Mosquito Road/Broadway intersection and Orchard Lane where there are currently no pedestrian facilities. The project is funded by Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds. On January 23, 2019 the City received an E-76 for \$40,000 of HSIP funding for additional PA&ED work. The project is scheduled to go to construction in August/September 2019.

**Placerville Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Project**

The project will design bicycle facilities and sidewalks along Placerville Drive from west of the US 50 undercrossing to Green Valley Road and sidewalk on the west side of Green Valley Road from Placerville Drive to Mallard Lane. In June 2016 EDCTC programmed \$1.1 million of CMAQ funds to the project. The consulting contract was awarded to Drake Haglan and Associates at the July 10, 2018 City Council meeting. The project kickoff meeting between City staff and the consulting team was held on September 27, 2018. The City placed bike counters at the intersection of Placerville Drive and Green Valley Road on November 26<sup>th</sup>.

CALTRANS**State Route (SR) 49 South Fork American River Bridge Project**

Construction began on March 8, 2017 and is now complete. Recent concerns about the intersection of Lotus Road and SR 49 have led to more analysis of the safety elements. Caltrans is considering placing a flashing red stop light at the intersection to improve safety. Other safety options are also being considered within the Coloma Mobility Plan being completed by EDCTC.

**US Highway 50 Hot Spot Study**

On August 28, 2017 EDCTC and City of Placerville staff met with Caltrans to form a plan to identify and analyze improvements to traffic and circulation along the US 50 corridor through Placerville. This effort was formalized through the Caltrans led US 50 Corridor Hot Spot Study. Caltrans is leading this effort to identify issues and opportunities along US 50 from Placerville into the Tahoe Basin. The kickoff meeting was facilitated by Caltrans on October 28, 2018.

After reviewing the scope of work for the study, EDCTC determined that additional public outreach and engagement would be necessary in the City of Placerville. EDCTC secured \$45,000 in Caltrans grant funding to support this additional work. EDCTC released an RFP on September 10<sup>th</sup>, and received proposals from AIM consulting and MIG. EDCTC entered into a contract with AIM consulting on November 1, 2018. The public engagement will begin in early 2019.

**US Highway 50 Camino Safety Project**

EDCTC has been working with Caltrans to develop a strategy to continue moving forward with the project. Alternative 4.7 costs increased from \$35 to \$56.6 million creating the need to break the project into fundable phases. Caltrans has finalized the Project Report to include the first phase which will be the completion of the median barrier closure from Still Meadows Road to Upper Carson Road and a minimum undercrossing at Lower Carson Road. Caltrans, El Dorado County, and EDCTC will be developing a plan to deliver and fund the remaining elements. Caltrans held a public meeting on August 30 to present the phased approach to the community members.

EDCTC continues to seek out funding for the ultimate project to include an interchange at upper Carson Road. EDCTC is working with Caltrans and El Dorado County to submit an application for the next round of Federal INFRA grant funding. While this grant is highly competitive, EDCTC will continue to pursue any and all opportunities to secure funding for the project.

## **STATE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING**

### **Proposition 6 and SB 1**

The effort to repeal SB 1, Proposition 6, failed to pass during the November 2018 election. Consequently, EDCTC staff will be working with El Dorado Transit, El Dorado County, and the City of Placerville to develop prioritized projects to submit for the competitive programs under SB 1. Additionally, EDCTC is working with the CTC staff to develop guidelines on the seven funding programs under SB 1. Primarily, staff is focusing on the Local Partnership Program guidelines and Solutions for Congested Corridors Program.

Governor Newsom released his first budget proposal on January 10<sup>th</sup> which includes \$209 billion which is an increase of 4% from Governor Brown's last budget. The Governor emphasized that much of the increase will support one-time expenses on projects such as lump sum payments toward the state's public employee pension liability and grants for statewide programs. The proposal includes significant focus on housing, education, and health care. For the first time transportation funding is included within the housing line item and not a standalone line item. The Governor's proposal alludes to conditioning some of the transportation revenue on a City or County's ability to meet their housing targets. However, it appears this may get rolled back and not be included in the final budget proposal in May. The emphasis on housing has also trickled down to the legislature by splitting the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee into two separate Committees.

## **FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING**

### **Federal \$1.5 Trillion Infrastructure Plan**

The President released a \$1.5 trillion infrastructure plan to Congress to find long-term reforms on how infrastructure projects are regulated, delivered, and maintained. The plan would invest \$200 billion in new federal revenue to leverage \$1.3 trillion in incentivized state, local, and private investment. This equates to an unprecedented four-to-one match for every federal dollar spent. The plan is focused around four primary principles: make targeted federal investments, encourage self-help, align infrastructure investment with entities best suited to provide sustained and efficient investment, and leverage the private sector.

The President's plan emphasizes rural infrastructure improvements, focusing one quarter of investments on rural roads, water, and broadband expansion. Half of the funding would be programmed to the Infrastructure Incentives Initiative which would encourage state, local, and private investment in core infrastructure. The entire plan can be viewed here:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/INFRASTRUCTURE-211.pdf>.

On February 7, 2019 the first meeting of the Federal House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee included a hearing on "The Cost of Doing Nothing: Why Investing in Our Nations' Infrastructure Cannot Wait". This hearing aimed at elevating the importance of infrastructure investment, led by Chairman DeFazio, was further strengthened by Senator Markey and Representative Ocasio-Cortez announced a joint resolution of the "Green New Deal" to be introduced to Congress later today. This resolution has a primary focus on renewable energy and climate adaptation and resiliency. The two focal points of the Green New Deal are social justice and investment. Within each of these, job creation remains central to the focus of the deal. More details on how this plan would be funded are likely to come to the forefront in the coming months.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED *(since the last Commission meeting, December 6, 2018)*

12/11 Metro Chamber Transportation Committee  
12/14 Erik Johnson, SACOG  
12/17 Caltrans District 3 Managed Lanes Feasibility Study Stakeholder meeting  
12/18 FSP US 50 Corridor Restructure meeting  
12/19 Camino Safety Project PDT  
12/19 Mark Acuna  
01/02 Mitch Weiss, Teresa Favila CTC  
01/03 Camino Safety Project PDT  
01/07 SB 743 meeting  
01/07 CMAQ Call for Projects Coordination meeting  
01/07 Camino Safety Project PDT  
01/08 EDC EDH CSD  
01/09 Mark Rayback, Wood Rodgers  
01/10 Camino Safety meeting, Amarjeet Benipal  
01/14 US 50 Hot Spot Recreation Study Coordination meeting  
01/15 CDAC meeting (CALCOG)  
01/16 Camino Safety Project PDT  
01/17 SACOG Board meeting  
01/28 EDCTC TAC meeting  
01/29 CTC Project Delivery Workshop  
01/30 CTC Reception – Rocklin  
01/31 EDCTC Orientation: Parlin, Saragosa, Thomas  
02/01 FSP Annual Awards Luncheon