

California Transportation Permits Advisory Council (CTPAC) Steering Committee Meeting

Monday, April 22, 2019
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm
Omni LaCosta Resort
San Diego, CA

Meeting Summary

Item #1 – Welcome

CTPAC chairperson Eric Sauer, Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs with the California Trucking Association (CTA), welcomed attendees to the meeting. Eric expressed his appreciation for Caltrans and CHP presence. Attendees started self-introductions to one another around the room, and a sign-in sheet is circulated during the meeting. Eric introduced Steven Todd from Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association (SC&RA), representing a large portion of the specialized transportation, crane and rigging industry in North America.

Questions regarding David Collins' replacement was brought forth by those in the room. Caltrans might backfill David to maintain the program or twist a bit and move forward with some changes for more efficiently.

Eric said it is good that Caltrans is looking for all way to continue inspection program in one form or another.

Item #2 – SC&RA Steven Todd

Steven Todd, vice president from SC&RA, said thank you to Eric, CTA and Caltrans that have open discussion with Truck industry, and he recognized leadership in the Truck industry around the meeting attendees.

Steven asked Caltrans to join the working group meeting with Commercial Vehicle Safety Association. If load exceeds limitation, they must stop at all state lines for 2-4-hour inspection or one or two days later, which causes redundancy amongst states. He advocates for information sharing between states.

NTSB and FHWA is looking into new methods to prevent bridge strikes. 3500 plus bridge strikes reported for 35 states with the majority not permit loads. Cost estimated at 1.1 billion dollars.

SC&RA provides online training for their carriers to avoid bridge strikes. Perhaps states should consider pilot car training and certification.

Steven also mentioned that SC&RA wants automated single trip permit without human input by staff. He expects more State will use the automated system in issuing truck permits. He quoted FHWA statistics regarding safety increased, state revenue increased, and haulers are more likely to get permit if the process was automated. He hopes to get more states to fully automate the permit process for 16' wide, 17' high, 125' long, and up to 250,000 lbs in weight vehicles/loads.

Item #3 – Caltrans Updates

Kien Le, Office Chief of Commercial Vehicle Operation (CVO), introduced Ai Tran as a new senior in the Office of Commercial Vehicle Operations. Ai Tran has replaced John Holzhauser as the supervisor over the Transportation Permits Policies and Compliance Branch. Ai Tran, who was promoted two weeks ago, joined Caltrans in 1998 after graduating from U.C. Berkeley in Civil Engineering. Over the last 20 years, he has worked in Highway Design, Traffic Signing and Striping, Traffic Design, and HQ Traffic Operations.

Kien Le wants to improve the inspection program to be more efficient by adopting new ways of performing inspections. He plans to replace field vehicle inspectors with office inspectors. Physical inspection will be replaced by remote inspection through video provided by hauler that captures all information required.

Permit office is always looking for improve the process to be more efficient, and to improve STARS to 95% issuance within 2 hours. Vaik, Devinder, and Venkata in permit office are revamping the training program for permit writer to be more efficient and shorter from 6-month time to 3 or 4 months' timeframe. The training program will improve the process within permit issuance, which makes for faster turnaround for annual permits and provides more time dedicated to issue permits. Kien also mentioned the permit office is always willing to listen to improve efficiency while maintaining safety for users and protection of the Highway system.

Caltrans' purpose is to keep the system sustainable to preserve it to all our customers. California charges only \$16 per single trip permit fee, which is much cheaper than other states' fees.

Kien Le mentioned that all States are different in their respective highway systems, and Caltrans attempted automation system 2000 and it did not work out.

Item #4 – Public Comments

How is STARS system being improved?

We have different time zone, we come in office with many applications already submitted. There is a huge portion of STARS received in the A.M, and we put all available staff to work on STARS till 9:00 or 10:00 A.M. STARS efficiency goes up and down possibly due to 9/80 schedule, and staff that take leave on or call in sick Mondays and Fridays. Kien recognizes the 9 hours it is taking to obtain a permit versus the 3-4 hour turnaround time he is expecting.

Steven Todd recognized the improvement made on to STARS – Automation would solve staffing needs, leave, etc.

Item #5 – Action Item Review

Update membership list.

Need co-chairman to replace Greg Dineen.

Item #6 – Workgroup Updates

a) Crane Group – Michael Vlaming

Michael Vlaming, Crane Owners Association,

b) Annuals – Tim McVay

Tim McVay, Marco Transport, stated that electronic copy of permit is open to discussion by CHP.

c) Fixed Loads/Tow Trucks – Greg Dineen

Greg Dineen was not in attendance to provide an update.

d) Overweight Corridor

Issues resolved and no longer needed.

Item #7 – Transportation Policy Proposal

Southern California Contractors Association (SCCA) requested information for the proposal asking for relief for the concrete pump truck from the single-trip permit requirement on Red Routes within downtown Los Angeles. The concrete pump trucks are legal width, height, but not legal weight.

Mr. Le mentioned Red Routes contain Legal weight structures only, and some segments of Red Routes allow trucks that are not heavier than 9,000 lbs. Ai Tran will review further the Red Routes requested within Los Angeles downtown and provide responses to requestor within 2-3 weeks.

Item #8 – Updates on Construction restrictions at Port of Los Angeles and Long Beach

Eric mentioned alternative routes demonstrated at Port Los Angeles and Long Beach.

Item #9 – New Business and New Proposals

None

Item #10 – Next Meeting

The next CTPAC meeting will be held at Bragg Crane’s location in Long Beach. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled in August 2019.

Item #11 – Adjourn Meeting

CTPAC Action Items

No.	CTPAC Meeting	Item	Due Date	Status/Notes
1	6/11/2015	All members to review the membership list and send updates to Eric S.	9/20/18	On-going - Eric to finalize the list. 2/18/16: Eric S. will update the membership list. Attendees will provide current contact information to Eric S. before leaving meeting. 6/9/16: Eric S. is working on the list. 11/3/16: Members to send updates to Eric S. 3/2/17: Eric S. will take business cards, so he can update list. 6/15/17: Eric S. will work on the list.

No.	CTPAC Meeting	Item	Due Date	Status/Notes
				<p>10/18/17: Eric S. will cleanup list and send to Caltrans. 2/15/18: Ongoing item. Remove Darren and add Summer. 9/20/18: send to Eric and he will update.</p>
2	10/27/2015	Allowable axle loads on boom dollies should be referred to work group to be examined.	9/20/18	<p>2/18/16: Greg D. requested to postpone this discussion until the next meeting. 6/9/16: Greg D. will wait to discuss at the interim meeting. 11/3/16: Greg D. was not present at the meeting. 3/2/17: Table this item until the next meeting. 6/15/17: Michael Vlaming will examine. 10/18/17: Michael Vlaming was not present at meeting. 2/15/18: Michael Vlaming defers to next meeting. 9/20/18: Proposal not given. Mike and John Bray to work on proposal.</p>
3	2/18/2016	Roundabout presentation - create advisory committee of CTPAC representatives (Leon F., Tim M., Lorin S., Curt W.)	9/20/18	<p>6/9/16: CTPAC representatives have not been contacted. 11/3/16: Lorin S. will lead the group. 3/2/17: Establish workgroup for roundabouts and Lorin S. will lead this group. 6/15/17: Lorin S. is waiting for someone to contact him. Kien Le will share map. 10/5/17: Caltrans shared a map and list of roundabout locations via email. 2/15/18: Contact Eric S. of planning. 9/20/18: coordinate with Caltrans. Locations given.</p>

No.	CTPAC Meeting	Item	Due Date	Status/Notes
4	6/15/2017	Caltrans will send an email to Eric Sauer, so he can remind members of their past due debtor accounts.	9/20/18	10/18/17: Kien Le will send to Eric S. in a couple of weeks. 2/15/18: Kien L. will provide by next meeting. 9/20/18: did not work about paying accounts. Too many outstanding balances. Please pay. Past 45 days then consequences.
5	12/14/2018	Southern California Contractors Association (SCCA) requested information for the proposal asking for relief for the concrete pump truck from the single-trip permit requirement on Red Routes within downtown Los Angeles. The concrete pump trucks are legal width, height, but weight.	4/22/2019	4/22/2019: Caltrans will review further and provide response to requestor.
6	4/22/2019	Annual electronic copy of truck permit to replace hardcopy permit		Being considered