

**California Local HSIP Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, July 29, 2021**  
**1:00 pm – 3:30 pm**  
**Via Zoom**

**Attendees:**

Robert Peterson, Richard Ke, Dennis Acuna, Tom Mattson, Patricia Chen, Ross McKeown, Chiu Liu, Rick Somers, Darlene Wulff, Jim Perrault, Charles Garabedian Maria Bhatti, Cindy Utter, Nicole Donahue, Tracy Coan

Amber Kelley and Shelby Nadin, City of Redding  
William Miller, Shasta County  
Karla Arteaga, Tulare County  
Daniel Kim, City of Moorpark  
Robert Delgadillo and Christina Curiel, City of Azusa  
Nick Lowe and Ryan Kim, City of Carson  
Matt Baumgardner, City of San Fernando  
Denise Zitnik and Blossom Scott-Heim, Tuolumne County  
William Washburn, Kingsburg  
Winnie Lam, City of LA  
Michael Tahan and Dave Hammer, City of Rialto  
Steve Hosford, CNS Engineers  
Alfredo Martinez and Mark Lancaster, Riverside County  
David Langstaff, Derek Weis, and Dave Roseman, City of Fullerton

**Note: Decisions and Action items in boldface**

**Item 1. Welcome and Updates**

**Item 2a. Project Update from Redding on HSIP6-02-002**

Amber Kelly and Shelby Nadin presented the update.

- Project involves adding 6-ft shoulders and minor curve correction on Old Oregon Trail. Archeological items were discovered at the site.
- All testing was completed last year, including subsurface testing
- Obtained concurrency of eligibility from SHPO in April 2021. Concurrency on finding of effect under review by tribe, and will subsequently be sent to CSO after tribe provides input. Anticipate this process to be complete by September 2021.
- On track for NEPA clearance by March of 2022.

### **Item 2b. Project Update from Shasta County on HSIP6-02-004 & HSIP7-02-003**

William Miller presented updates on the Riverland Drive widening project.

- CSO submitted comments on the agency's Finding of Effects document, requesting an additional section to describe the plan for what happens if artifacts are discovered during construction.
- The agency documented what the procedure will be and expects input from tribe next week, after which documents will go to CSO and SHPO for concurrence. Expected by October 2021, provided no further updates are needed from the agency.
- Other environmental reports are complete. New environmental coordinator is coming on board this fall.
- ROW also expected to be complete by October 2021
- CON RFA new target is end of year 2021, assuming no updates needed for archeological docs.
- Rick Somers affirmed that the project is making good progress and county is acting in good faith to move the project forward.
- **The committee opted to pre-approve a time extension through December 31 for the CON RFA date.**

### **Item 2c. Project Update from Tulare County on HSIP7-06-013**

Karla Arteaga provided the update on Ave 328 and Road 156 project

- Agency had earlier requested an extension for E76 for construction in Dec 2021; still on track for that deadline
- Utility conflicts: PUD accepted liability for fire hydrant relocation at the intersection of Ave 328 and Road 156
- Currently negotiating with one property owner at location who owns three of the corners. Owner requested independent appraisal; agency is reviewing appraisal now and expects to resolve it shortly. Amount came in higher than expected.
- ROW certification expected in October 2021.
- Expect to have CON RFA in October 2021, E76 in December.

### **Item 2d. Project Update from Moorpark on HSIP3-07-033**

Daniel Kim provided the update on Princeton Avenue Improvement Project

- The committee previously approved (in July 2020) an extension of the CON RFA until June 30, 2022. Agency is on track to meet this deadline.
- Earlier this month, the city was able to get executed construction easements or temporary construction easements and utility agreements. Currently in ROW certification review with Local Assistance in District 7.
- Goal is to submit CON RFA well before June 30, 2022—hopefully by end of 2021

### **Item 2e. Project Update from Azusa on HSIP6-07-002**

Robert Delgado and Christina Curiel provided the update on the Arrow Highway project to install raised medians

- Delays occurred during the design phase, coordinating between Los Angeles County Public Works and the City of Covina
- Completed design in June 2021
- Submitted CON RFA June 30 2021, looking to start project by end of 2021
- Project to be complete by summer 2023
- In March the opportunity to receive funds from the Invest in America Act was brought to the agency's attention. Rep Grace Napolitano secured \$3M for the project, which would offset special funds set aside for the non-safety elements to this and other roadway projects.
- The entire project includes HSIP \$613,000 for raised medians. In addition, they are adding rubberized asphalt to resurface the roadway, restriping it to current standards, adding drought tolerant landscaping to help promote economic development in that part of the in that part of the city. It's a \$5M project overall.
- Robert advised double-checking the process for utilizing the new federal dollars, since FHWA generally needs to see all funds that are programmed in the FTIP.

### **Item 2f. Project Update from City of Carson on HSIP6-07-004 & HSIP6-07-005**

Nick Lowe and Ryan Kim presented the update on the bike lane projects

- Agency had previously received an extension to June 30, 2021 to submit CON RFA; it was submitted on time. Hamid Sadafi
- City council then directed public works to revisit the design plans due to safety concerns. These involve 4.6 lane miles of bike lane along major arterial; agency requested advice on another time extension and/or a scope change.
- **Separate meeting with DLAE and HSIP coordinator will be needed; Chiu will coordinate this.**

### **Item 2g. Project Update from San Fernando on H8-07-046**

Matt Baumgardner presented the update on a traffic signal improvement project on nine intersections along the Metro Rail link

- Biggest challenge with project has been turnover of public works directors and engineers over past four years
- Working now with Metrolink and CPUC on temporary encroachment permit for overhead wiring. This is estimated to take 10-11 months.
- Based on Willdan (consulting engineer) timeline, the CON RFA date may need to be pushed back until December 2022, with project completed by summer of 2023.

- However, assuming successful acquisition of encroachment permit, agency would like to keep the June 30 2022 CON RFA date in place as a target.

### **Item 2h. Project Update from Tuolumne County on HSIP6-10-012**

Denise Zitnik and Blossom Scott-Heim presented an update on the Tuolumne Road improvement project to add a left turn lane.

- Con RFA extension until March of 2021 was previously approved (last July)
- Agency currently working on ROW certification
- April 2021 received a preliminary relocation plan from PG & E; however, due to staffing changes at PG & E, still no final relocation plan—this has put ROW cert behind schedule
- Geologic engineering consultant reviewed the location and determined project must include retaining walls for the widening of the road for the left turn lane. Due to unknown fill differential settlement, agency will move forward with a different type of wall than originally scoped for. Cost is increased again, to ~\$2.15M for construction.
- Two tracks going now: one to complete ROW and move ahead; one preparing for County board to possibly not approve the \$1.67M difference between construction cost and programmed HSIP funds for the project.
- Denise asked about ramifications of deprogramming—how it would affect other HSIP projects or future ones.
- Under HSIP program guidance, other projects and future funding cycles will be unaffected. The only case in which FHWA does not require a payback is if NEPA issues a no-build.
- **Project cost increase due to retaining wall will go on September Board agenda; engineers will work with D10 staff and provide update after meeting.**

### **Item 3a. Project RFA Extension H8-06-011 City of Kingsburg**

William Washburn presented the extension request for the Bethel & Sierra Roundabout project.

- Roundabout will replace a 2-way stop. Three corners of it are in Fresno County.
- Received funding in 2016. E76 for PE in April 2019. In between this time many exchanges with community over acceptability of roundabout as a design solution—truckers had concerns.
- E76 for ROW was approved November 2020; County agreed to let Kingsburg annex the property the roundabout would cover, so all maintenance would be assumed by city. Annexation process through LAFCo caused delays, approved July 2021.
- PG & E has almost completed final design for relocating power pole; company

had to verify that the move was a franchise move.

- Further delays due to COVID.
- Current status: Offers made to three property owners, ROW to be acquired August 2021.
- Expected PE phase completion was 7/1/2020→proposed 9/15/2021
- CON Authorization was 10/30/2020→proposed 10/31/2021
- CON completion was 4/30/22→proposed 11/30/22
- Project close-out was 9/29/22→proposed 3/22/23
- **Patricia moved, Dennis Acuna seconded. The committee approved the extension request.**

### **Item 3b. Project RFA Extension HSIP7-07-015 LA City**

Winnie Lam presented the request for scope change and time extension for the Crenshaw Blvd project.

- By October 2020 cost estimate for project as designed was determined to be too high. Agency had to reconsider most essential elements of project.
- Some originally scoped items to be removed and new ones added
- New ADA requirement triggered unidirectional curb ramps, adding \$30K. Connecting curb ramp upgrades added \$50K
- Deleted new signal equipment at intersection with 76<sup>th</sup> Street for savings of \$965K; Deleted civil work and new signal equipment at Florence Avenue for savings of \$495K. Reshuffling of median islands.
- Upgrade to pedestrian hybrid beacons and 74<sup>th</sup>, 78<sup>th</sup>, 79<sup>th</sup> Streets. These will still improve safety.
- Domino effect due to ADA requirements. They will now lengthen the bump-out for bus stop, move utilities, and do a roadway redesign to lower the flow line.
- Original benefit-cost ratio (BCR) was 6.91, new BCR is 1.33. Cutoff from Cycle 7 was 5. Original project cost was \$1.61M to \$2.7M, benefit for the countermeasures went from \$16M to \$3M.
- Cycle 7 did not have a set-aside category for pedestrian improvements—no BCR requirement.
- **The committee did not approve the scope change because of the change in benefit-cost ratio. It does not meet the minimum cutoff for Cycle 7.**
- **Winnie offered to revisit with LA DOT and meet offline with HSIP managers and DLAE.**

### **Item 3c. Project RFA Extension HSIP7-08-017 Rialto**

Michael Tahan, Dave Hammer, and Steve Hosford presented the request for a 9-month extension on the construction of median from Lilac to Meridian Avenue on Baseline Rd.

- Baseline goes through center of Rialto's largest commercial area.

- City council proposed fence on raised median near high school to improve safety, by encouraging pedestrians to use crosswalk.
- The proposed improvements caused concerns about traffic flow for local businesses
- New left turn added to design to resolve traffic concerns; additional design revision to accommodate residential access
- Staffing issues during COVID also impacted timeline
- No ROW issues, no utilities impacted
- Requesting CON RFA extension from end of 2021 to September 30, 2022
- Tom Mattson suggested to the advisory committee that HSIP guidance be updated to encourage public meetings before applying for program funding, to save cities and counties long delays.
- Darlene Wulff also noted that agencies need to use Buy America fencing on federally-funded projects
- **Ross moved, Patricia seconded. The committee approved the extension request. City rep to return in 6 months for update.**

### **Item 3d. Project RFA Extension H8-08-021 Riverside County**

Alfredo Martinez presented about the Gilman Springs Road widening improvement project.

- Gilman Springs is major 2-lane collector, commuter route between Hemet, San Jacinto to Riverside area. As of 2019 ADT was in the 20,000s. It is increasing. Badlands construction project on main highway with climbing lanes has helped; Gilman route remains preferred for commuters.
- Previous safety work included rumble strips, center line delineators. These are not as effective several years on.
- Widening originally for 8 ft shoulders. Nearby land owned by California Fish & Wildlife. Challenge to find lots that would be suitable. CDFW identified some; these were all large parcels where project only required parcels of 2-5 acres.
- Scope change to 4ft painted median with 5ft shoulders. Shoulder width reduced to prevent their being used as impromptu passing lanes.
- Animal crossing will be needed—design involves upgrade to existing box culvert to accommodate this. Wildlife fencing and jump-outs added. This has caused delay in environmental document. These are fairly new requirements in Riverside County.
- Mystic Lake was not present when agency originally applied for the project; this body of water presented new complications.
- Plan is to have environmental approved in May 2022.
- Identified 114 different ROW acquisitions or easements for the project; anticipate completing acquisition (and eminent domain if necessary) by August 2023.

- Working towards bringing appraisers on now so ROW offer packages can be ready as soon as environmental documents are done—this is risky because property values change.
- BCR has gone up since original application, from 4.24 to 5.13.
- CON RFA could happen as early as Sep-Oct 2023 but county would prefer a cushion so is requesting extension of CON RFA date to December 31 2023.
- All milestones are laid out in July 13 letter to District.
- **Ross moved, Chiu seconded. Committee voted to approve the extension request.**

### **Item 3e. Project RFA Extension H8-12-004 & H8-12-005 Fullerton**

David Langstaff, Derek Weis, and Dave Roseman presented the extension requests.

- Fullerton went through economic downturn and hiring freeze in 2018, resulting in loss of staff in the city engineering and traffic divisions. Two DLAEs also left.
- Agency underestimated amount of engineering and documentation needed for HSIP projects.
- H8-12-004, installation of pedestrian warning flashing beacons at 17 intersections.
- Change within Caltrans about whether RRFBs were allowable countermeasure; once it was determined they were, design standards changed such that they would need to be installed on new poles
- H8-12-005, installation of pedestrian countdown signal heads at 84 intersections throughout the city.
- Several different types of signal heads—some required switching out a simple module, others have hazardous materials that must be disposed of. All 584 locations needed to be inspected to determine which type was needed, this concluded in late 2019.
- COVID disruptions and 2020 retirements
- ROW approval is pending; project is in home stretch
- Requesting CON RFA extension until June 2022
- **Ross moved, Dennis seconded. The committee approved the extension request.**

### **Item 4. Committee Membership Update**

- Stephanie Holloway is co-chair
- TCC member spot vacant, Robert extended the invite this morning. This advisory committee grew from the TCC and regularly reports back. Tom suggested making this an at-large position and he would fill it.
- Patricia reached out to Dawn Pettis at RTPA group to nominate an additional representative to the HSIP committee

#### **Item 5. HSIP Project Guideline Revision**

- Office Bulletin change—not waiting for annual update
- Richard reported on main changes reflected in HSIP guideline update: Exchange of Federal for State funds, new requirement for Local Roadway Safety Plan for Cycle 11
- Added a section describing the advisory committee—its purpose, meeting schedule
- New section clarifying project scope change and cost change procedures
- Richard emailed the draft guidelines to all on the committee and requested comments

#### **Item 6. OA Update and Safety Project Delivery Status**

- Chiu reported for the State fiscal year HSIP has authorized \$102.5M to deliver the CON phase of safety projects up to June 30 2021
- For the Federal fiscal year HSIP has authorized \$96M, plus \$56K to support delivery of the safety projects may authorize another \$10M or more in the rest of the fiscal year.
- LRSP balance as of June 30, \$500K. Received seven more applications. These projects will come online August 1. May have capacity for 1-2 more beyond this.
- The delay list is currently at 0. The agencies that had delays are the ones that presented.
- Next meeting will focus on Cycle 11—how to prioritize equity, other changes committee would like to see.

#### **Item 7. Roundtable**

- None