

# State of California

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CALIFORNIA TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting  
February 1, 2024

### ATTENDEES

#### Voting Members Present (10 Total):

- Jason Welday, League of California Cities (LOCC), City of Rancho Cucamonga (Chair)
- Virendra Patel, LOCC, City of Concord, (Vice Chair)
- Florencia Allenger, Caltrans
- Robert Bronkall, County Engineers Association of California (CEAC), Humboldt County Public Works
- Lt. Brad Hopkins, California Highway Patrol (CHP)
- Bryan Jones, Caltrans Active Transportation (CAT), Greenlaw Partners
- Marianne Kim, American Automobile Association of Southern California (AAA-S)
- Mike Sallaberry, CAT, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
- Robert Scharf, CEAC, Los Angeles County Public Works
- Mahmoud Zahriya, American Automobile Association of Northern California, Nevada & Utah (AAA-N)

#### Voting Members Absent (0 Total):

- None

#### Alternate Members Present (3 Total):

- Melainie Boyack, CHP
- Tony Powers, CAT
- Rock Miller, CAT
- Wei Zhu, CEAC

#### Alternate Members Absent (6 Total):

- Richard Moorehead, CEAC
- Andrew Maximous, LOCC
- Tim Chang, AAA-S
- Michelle Donati, AAA-N

#### Committee Staff:

- Timothy Kong, Caltrans Transportation Engineer
- Bryan Luong, Caltrans Transportation Engineer, Alternate CTCDC Secretary

Presenters:

- Abhinay Movva, Caltrans
- Robert Bronkall, CEAC
- Bryan Luong, Caltrans
- Kevin Murai, Caltrans
- Rock Miller, CAT

Public Speakers:

- Jim Baross, California Association of Bicycling Organizations (CABO)

## **ORGANIZATION ITEMS**

### **1. Introductions**

Chair Welday opened the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

The CTCDC members introduced themselves.

### **2. Membership**

Chair Welday reviewed the changes to the CTCDC membership.

### **3. Approval of Minutes of the November 2, 2023 Meeting**

**MOTION:** Mr. Bronkall moved to approve the November 2, 2023, California Traffic Control Devices Committee Meeting Minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Scharf. The Motion passed unanimously by voice vote with no Committee Members abstaining.

### **4. Public Comments**

Mr. Jim Baross, president of the California Association of Bicycling Organizations commented on the approved signs for access to freeway entrances and exits by bicyclists.

Currently the common sign used at freeway entrances prohibits bicycles, motor-driven cycles, and pedestrians, but there are over 1,000 miles of freeway sections on which bicycling is allowed. The only available sign permitting bicycle access is a white-out of bicycles on the prohibited sign.

Mr. Baross will be researching additional for bicycles allowed on certain freeway sections.

### **5. Experimentation Items**

Mr. Luong, Alternate CTCDC Secretary, covered the following:

- Status updates on active experiments.
- Experimentation Process.
- Sponsor Responsibilities.

## AGENDA ITEMS

### 6. Public Hearing

#### 6a. Consent Items (minor discussion with vote expected)

*None*

#### 6b. Action Items (Continuing discussion from prior meetings with vote expected)

##### **24-01: Touchless APS Sign for RRFB**

Abhinay Movva, Caltrans District 4, addressed the Committee. The pertinent memo was shared with attendees. Caltrans policy regarding Touchless APS signage was discussed. Proposed modifications and/or additions were noted.

Mr. Bronkall suggested looking into if an international symbol for wave technology exists.

**MOTION:** Mr. Bronkall moved to approve Item 24-01. Mr. Scharf seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

##### **24-03: Legislative Template Letter and Subcommittee**

Mr. Bronkall presented that educating the legislature about the CTCDC and its functions, could help with the bill creation and MUTCD implementation process. An ad hoc subcommittee could be formed to accomplish a timely response to legislators' engagement of the CTCDC. A slate of pertinent recommendations and processes was presented. Once the ad hoc subcommittee identifies legislation that could benefit from this, the entire CTCDC Committee could decide to send the template letter to the pertinent legislator. This would be on a bill-by-bill basis.

Mr. Scharf inquired on who should sign the template letter and how the county and city representatives would be involved in this process.

Mr. Bronkall noted that the CTCDC is not advocating policy but educating involved parties about implementation. The executive CTCDC secretary should sign the template letter.

Lt. Hopkins suggested that Committee members be allowed to add language they deem relevant before proceeding. The potential response rate to this template letter is currently not knowable until implementation is done.

Public commentor Kevin Murai from Caltrans Headquarters expounded on the legislative process and suggested sending the letter to the Transportation Committee.

Chair Welday read the following into the record: The motion is to approve the concept of monitoring the legislation and sending a template letter when appropriate and to

report back at the next meeting with further concepts on implementation of the concept.

**MOTION:** Mr. Bronkall moved to approve Item 24-03 the use of a template letter. Mr. Scharf seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

**6c. Informational Items (New items that may be voted on or brought back as an Action Item in a future meeting)**

**23-03: Legislative Information - Session Year 2023-2024**

Mr. Luong presented the Summary Table of Session Year 2023-2024. AB 645 (The Speed Safety Pilot Program) and AB 413 (prohibits the stopping and standing of a parked vehicle within 20 feet of any unmarked or marked crosswalk) were highlighted.

**23-09: Caltrans Process in Adopting NMUTCD 11th Edition**

Mr. Murai stated that Mr. Bhullar is resuming his duties as the California NMUTCD editor. The current status and development of processes for the adoption were discussed. An itemized list was shared with attendees.

Private and public organizations were mentioned. A timeline with ongoing milestones was listed as well. Differences in the editions were shown and briefly touched on. An analysis of these differences and their implications is currently being conducted. A graph depicting the proposal timeline was shared with the group. Probable processes to be utilized to completion leading to adoption were noted.

Mr. Murai asked for Committee expectations and priorities as well as concerns. Input from the Committee will contribute to a streamlining of the process. Our goal is to focus on the standards (and not the options, figures, etc.) and items that need to be included by law for now, making the process quicker.

Mr. Sallaberry stated that getting information ahead of time as part of the agenda will help the Committee review the changes and modifications. Seeing the current MUTCD alongside the proposed MUTCD will be very helpful. Noting the degree of deviation that will be acceptable is also useful.

Mr. Bronkall appreciated the aggressive schedule presented. Ensure that the Committee is not overwhelmed with too much information at any given time. Consider more frequent smaller meetings to move the process forward. Regarding CA MUTCD components that are not regulated by legislation, the hope is that this working group is analyzing if we still need the items that deviate from the NMUTCD.

Mr. McNew from Caltrans emphasized that the working groups are not going to rewrite the CA MUTCD with this particular effort, and changes should go through the proper CTCDC process. The purpose is to bring the CA MUTCD in compliance with the NMUTCD.

Mr. Jim Baross with CABO stated that he would submit why and where the CA MUTCD should continue to differ from the NMUTCD, specifically in the area of bicycles.

#### **23-10: CTCDC Agenda Items Status**

Mr. Luong stated that CTCDC process is being reviewed and experiments status is also being tracked. Agenda Items Status is being updated on an ongoing basis.

#### **24-02: Bike Signal Warrant Draft Proposal to NCUTCD**

Mr. Miller had the proposal displayed on the screen for attendees. Mr. Miller is a member of the National Committee and represents the League of American Bicyclists. The proposal does not have any level of approval by any level of the National Committee at this time. This warrant proposal came about because of marked crosswalks being satisfied by the creation of the pedestrian hybrid beacon warrant. The operation of these beacons during the flashing interval and whether bicyclists need to stop before entering should be highlighted. This has created a desire for a control that provides a green indication to cars and alternately a green indication to bikes and that would be facilitated by this warrant. Mr. Miller is open to any comments or thoughts on this.

Mr. Sallaberry felt that CA MUTCD could provide more opportunities to construct signals where there is a need.

Chair Welday stressed the need for a balance when there are competing interests with respect to active transportation infrastructure pertaining to a signal that might draw funding away from other active transportation bikeway infrastructure.

Mr. Miller mentioned that discussions have mainly centered around what the numerical thresholds should be. This will be a key factor in the consensus building process.

#### **6d. Request for Word Message Signs Approval**

*None.*

#### **6e. Request for Experimentation**

*None.*

#### **7. Next Meeting**

Chair Welday stated that the next meeting was scheduled for May 2. It will be a virtual meeting with no in-person location.

#### **8. Adjourn**

Chair Welday adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.