

## Yolo County Transportation Advisory Committee

### 2016 Activities

#### Final

The Transportation Advisory Committee currently has six members, one from each of the supervisorial districts and one at-large member, representing the bicycling community. Hans Strandgaard served as the TAC chair and Olin Woods as vice-chair from February 2016 to February 2017. Both Hans Strandgaard and Olin Woods were reelected for the February 2017 – February 2018 term.

The TAC held nine meetings in 2016, during the months of January, February, March, April, May, July, September, October, and December. Significant activities included the following:

- Regular updates by staff about Public Works projects and activities.
- Ongoing discussions about regular rainy-season Chiles Road flooding near the Yolo Fruit Stand/I-80. It is a Caltrans issue that requires remediation. Caltrans has been slow to respond to inquiries.
- Had several discussions about timely posting of TAC agendas, minutes, prior year activities and current year work plan on the County's website.
- Reviewed and discussed the County's proposed transportation budget. The budget was very similar to the prior year's budget. No significant new projects were expected, due to flat gas tax revenues and the absence of alternative funding sources.
- Discussed a proposal by Union Pacific Railroad to close the crossing at County Roads 105 and 32A. There have been issues with vehicles taking the significant curve at the at-grade crossing too quickly, running through the guardrail and ending up on the railroad tracks. The Public Utilities Commission will make the final decision on the application to close the crossing.
- Discussed the relative merits of installing roundabouts at certain intersections. Roundabouts improve traffic flow, eliminating lengthy wait times and reducing pollution that results from vehicles idling at traffic lights. Some intersections may benefit from the use of roundabouts instead of traffic signals or stop signs.
- Discussed the Yolo railroad track relocation proposal. The County, Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland and the Port of West Sacramento received a grant to study the proposal. Track relocations would result in the elimination of multiple at-grade crossing in the County, Davis, West Sacramento and Woodland. Economic benefits should result from the redevelopment of freed up land. The ability to expand the capacity of the Yolo Bypass by removing the railroad trestle would take pressure off the levees.
- Held a meeting at the UC Davis airport. Airport Director, Cliff Contreras outlined the small airport's activities. The airport generates a small amount of revenue from fuel sales, hangar rental and tie-down rental. 70 aircraft are housed at the airport, and there are approximately one hundred take offs and landings each day. Because of flight paths, the airport's operations affect development on the west side of Davis. The FAA must approve any development in the flight paths. The airport needs a great deal of maintenance.
- Nathan Newell, Senior Civil Engineer for Solano County, provided an overview of the Stevenson Bridge retrofit project. The bridge is on the border between Yolo and Solano Counties, with each county contributing 50% of the cost. Preliminary environmental work is finishing up, and Solano County will hold additional public meetings as the project moves forward. There are several governmental bodies that must approve the final plan. The plan is to retrofit the historic bridge, rather than replace the concrete tied-arch structure. Original cost estimates in 2007 were \$6.0 million, but those have increased in subsequent years to more than \$10.0 million. Some Solano County road realignments are being considered in conjunction with the project. Solano County planned to close the bridge for one construction season, but will explore phasing construction to reduce closure periods.
- Mike Luken, Deputy Director, Operation, Planning, Special Projects with the Yolo County Transportation District (YCTD), provided a status update on the West Sacramento/Sacramento Streetcar project and Yolobus plans for

the Golden 1 Center. YCTD will truncate routes in West Sacramento. Coordinating with the City of Sacramento, YCTD will transfer passengers in West Sacramento onto “nimble” shuttles to the arena. Initial efforts have worked well, but adjustments to schedules and stops are expected. Shuttles serving Davis and Woodland are impacted. Complete information may be found at the YCTD website. The streetcar project is a multi-jurisdictional effort to service West Sacramento and downtown Sacramento. The original proposal was for a 3.3 mile alignment to extend from the West Sacramento civic center to Sacramento’s midtown entertainment and retail district. There are long-term plans to extend the routes to service riverfront development in West Sacramento and into redeveloping areas of downtown Sacramento.

The streetcar project between West Sacramento and Sacramento is moving ahead, with an effort to include best practices from cities like Seattle and Portland. Vehicle procurement is underway. A \$30 million construction grant has been awarded from California’s cap and trade funds. Sacramento is exploring the creation of an assessment district. Construction is scheduled to begin in mid-2018 with operation beginning in 2021.

- 2016 meeting minutes are attached.