

# CALIFORNIA RURAL COUNTIES TASK FORCE

*CELIA McADAM, CHAIR  
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(530) 233-6422*

## **AGENDA** **JULY 19, 2002** **12:30 pm**

**Caltrans Headquarters  
Director's Conference Room  
1120 N Street, Room 2116  
Sacramento, CA**

12:30 pm	A.	Self Introductions	
12:35 pm	B.	Approval of Minutes from May 17, 2002	P. Couch
12:40 pm	C.	2002 STIP Amendments - Outlook for October	D. Brewer
1:00 pm	D.	RCTF/CalACT Conference	P. Spaulding/ Conf. Cmte.
1:30 pm	E.	511 Deployment Efforts in Rural Areas	D. Lively
1:45 pm	F.	<a href="#">RTIP Project Delivery Issues</a>	P. Couch
2:15 pm	G.	Legislation <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Transportation Congestion Relief and Safe School Bus Initiative (Proposition 51)</li><li>- State Budget/SB 1847</li><li>- TEA 21 Reauthorization (TEA 3)</li></ul>	C. Oldham All
2:30 pm	H.	Caltrans Transportation Planning Academies and Training Classes	C. Hatfield
2:45 pm	I.	Status Report on RCTF Issues	See attached list
3:00 pm		Announcements	
3:15 pm		Adjourn	

**DRAFT**  
**California Rural Counties Task Force**  
**May 17, 2002**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Self-Introductions** – Chairman Celia McAdam called meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. in SACOG Board Room at 3000 S Street, Sacramento. She invited those present to introduce themselves. Representing rural counties, Commissioner Kirk Lindsay encouraged RCTF members to keep him informed about projects and issues. Marty Tuttle, Executive Director of SACOG welcomed everyone.

**Approval of Minutes** – Motion by Marty Byrne and second by Spencer Clifton to approve minutes for March 15, 2002 RCTF meeting; approved by consensus.

**Linking Land Use and Transportation: Survey of Current Practices** – As chair of newly created CTC committee on Land Use and Transportation, Commissioner Lindsay asked what regions are doing and how the CTC can help. Samson Okhade spoke briefly about SACOG's community design (land use) model in use for past two years, costing \$2M. General discussions identified these issues:

- Land use decisions are extremely political. Even when policies in place, commissions are pressured to vote contrary to them.
- Need for extensive public outreach; education is key.
- Mitigation fees to address impact on State and regional system.
- Critical need for economic development in some rural areas precludes such fees, rather businesses are being enticed by generous terms and conditions.

Commissioner Lindsay asked RCTF members to send him information about current policies and practices addressing land use-transportation linkages.

**2002 STIP Amendments** – David Brewer gave overview of CTC Workshop, held on previous day. He pointed out that the CTC would decide on STIP amendments during October 2002 meeting. Brewer said emphatically, “No 2002 STIP amendments after October (unless with trade).” He briefly reviewed the general principles. About \$123 M funding is available in later years of cycle (06 & 07). Projects requested for early years (03, 04 & 05) may be traded for project already programmed that will be moved back (to 06 or 07). Lapsed projects may not be reprogrammed; amount is added to \$123M for CTC action, but unspent dollars are credited to county share. Brewer noted May 28<sup>th</sup> deadline for information – technical amendments – noticed in June, act in July. CTC will not meet in September.

Darin Grossi distributed editorial citing GAO statistics showing that rural roads had highest rate of fatalities compared with all roadways – more than six times that of urban interstates.

Brief discussion of financing alternatives ensued. Advances of county shares are limited. GARVEE bonds are potential for eligible capital projects, but cannot support project development. Caltrans will schedule GARVEE workshops next month. Commissioner Lindsay invited rural regions to “pitch” their projects to him, so he can be fully informed (though he does not guarantee his support without merit).

**Legislative Issues –**

- AB 2275 (Aanestad) road rehab eligibility for funds generated by Prop 42 – failed passage, then amended, then hearing cancelled, start 2008
- AB 2427 (Dickerson) ROW contract out – died in Assembly Transportation
- SB 1213 (Alpert) Prof Eng in CA Govt sponsored, regulating Caltrans' ability to contract out – suspended in Assembly; press release that unconstitutional per Leg Counsel
- SB 1262 (Torlakson) requires 5% Regional Choice funds to go to “smart growth” projects for 200,000+ populated regions
- SB1768 (Murray) allows Caltrans to nominate projects for Regional Choice funding – passed Senate, in Assembly Transportation

**Federal Aid Project Streamlining Survey Results** – Celia McAdam distributed twelve 1-page summaries of project streamlining techniques, developed by Local Assistance from survey data submitted by 15 regions. Summaries include brief description, issues, examples and contacts. Techniques identified included 1) strict project initiation policy adopted by RTPA; 2) on call consultant list – Master Agreement with consultants for specific services to be accessed as needed; 3) in-house project manager provided by RTPA (either staff or contractor); 4) single point of contact designated for each project; 5) in-house project monitoring by RTPA (either staff or contractor); 6) assigned project team at outset; 7) standard interagency agreement (larger agency helping smaller); 8) pooling federal dollars into fewer projects; 9) program project in phases, priority for federal aid to construction ready projects; 10) Local Assistance liaison document review during meeting when documents submitted; 11) “shadow day” – walk a day in the shoes; and 12) city manager involvement if projects begin to slip in small jurisdiction.

**California Consensus Principles for TEA 21 Reauthorization** – Principles developed in attempt to unite all CA congressional representatives: more \$; less regulations/greater flexibility; environmental streamlining. Also handout from CSAC and CEAC, identifying policy objectives for reauthorization: protect and enhance transportation expenditures; retain TEA-21 program structure; protect public’s investment; and streamline regulatory and project development process.

**CTIPS Demonstration** – The California Transportation Improvement Program System is a statewide programming database that manages, monitors and reports on projects in the STIP, SHOPP, FTIP, FSTIP, RTIP and ITIP, tracking *official* programming actions. Kurt Scherzinger provided handout and overview of the system. To arrange an account, contact David Fairchild at (916) 657-5066.

**RCTF Conference Proposal in Conjunction with CalACT Fall Conference** – Pete Spaulding gave overview of CalACT organization and handed out working agenda for October 15-18 conference at Konocti Resort. Pete proposed special 1-day fee for RCTF members. After brief discussion, all concurred with idea. RCTF conference committee (Walt Allen, Spencer Clifton and Celia McAdam) will work with Pete, and bring ideas to next meeting (July 19, 2002).

**Status Reports on RCTF Issues** – List was quickly reviewed. Handout giving RPA funds invoiced to date (5/16/02) show about 53% still outstanding.

**Announcements** – Next meeting scheduled for July 19, 2002 at Caltrans HQ, Room 2116. Agenda items will include: State budget; AQ designations; and 511 deployment (traveler information); RCTF symposium at CalACT conference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Couch  
RCTF Secretary  
Modoc County Transportation Commission

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To: Rural Counties Task Force Participants  
From: Celia McAdam, Chair  
SUBJECT: 2002 STIP Amendments - Outlook for October

## Issue

Many counties left unprogrammed balances in their 2002 RTIPs, expecting to program those dollars via a STIP amendment at a later date. As we have all learned, this may not be possible. There is very limited capacity in the 2002 STIP to allow for these amendments. Specifically, there is approximately \$123 million in available capacity, versus nearly \$649 million in unprogrammed balances.

Approximately \$84 million of the unprogrammed balances are in 19 rural counties, with totals ranging from \$18.6 million to a mere \$4,000. In contrast, 18 urban areas account for over \$550 million of unprogrammed dollars. In other words, rural counties comprise over half the counties with unprogrammed balances, but account for only about 13% of the dollars.

## Discussion

The CTC held a well-attended workshop in May to discuss this issue with the regional agencies. At that time, the Commissioners indicated they would consider STIP amendments on a case by case basis in the interim, but planned to program the available capacity at the October meeting.

The Commission has held firm on that commitment. While they listened to presentations and requests at their June meeting in San Bernadino, the Commission deferred all STIP amendments that would require additional programming capacity to the October meeting.

Many rural counties may be proposing STIP amendments to be considered in October. Based on the difference between the programming capacity and the unprogrammed balances, it is expected that the programming those dollars will be highly competitive.

We have invited CTC staff to attend our July 19 meeting to provide advice on strategies that rural agencies might employ to make their STIP amendments as competitive as possible.

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To: Rural Counties Task Force Participants  
From: Celia McAdam, Chair  
SUBJECT: RCTF/CalACT Conference

## Issue

The RCTF agreed by consensus at our last meeting to join with CalACT to organize an annual conference, to be held October 15-18 at the Konocti Harbor Resort in Lake County. The RCTF's conference committee was reformed, and has been working with Pete Spaulding of CalACT to develop conference sessions and other details.

## Discussion

RCTF sessions will be held on Thursday, October 17 and Friday, October 18. Members are encouraged to attend the entire conference, which kicks off Wednesday, October 16, and note the number of sessions regarding tribal transportation issues. Check the attached tentative agenda attached.

## **Sessions**

*Environmental Compliance for NEPA and CEQA*  
Session Organizer: Walt Allen

*Legislative Update (in addition/conjunction to CalACT presentation)*  
Session Organizer: George Dondero

*Local Assistance Program*  
Session Organizer: Darin Grossi

*Developing Overall Work Programs*  
Session Organizer: Celia McAdam

*Best Practices in Project Management/Delivery*  
Session Organizer: Charles Field

*TDA Revisions/State Proposals*  
Ric Morales, Caltrans

**NOTE:**

**This is a working agenda. Times are approximate. Sessions, speakers, coordinators are based on June 13/14 meetings.**

<b>Monday, 10/14</b>					
all day					
Pilgrim's Progress Bicycle Tour de CalACT of Napa Valley Coordinators = Mark Wall, Deborah Brunner					
<b>Tuesday, 10/15</b>					
9-Noon					
Board meeting adjust time to permit arrival/or playing golf					
Noon-5 PM					
Golf Coord=Dan Williams					
6:30 to 7:30PM					
Opening reception					
8:00 to ?	Basketball McGuire, Garza	Pampering Vargas, Austin			
	<b>Route 1</b>	<b>Route 2</b>	<b>Route 3</b>	<b>Route 4</b>	Notes:
	<b>Tribal Govt &amp; New Operators</b>	<b>Mobility, Aging &amp; Special Populations</b>	<b>Basic Operations</b>	<b>Rural Planning Agencies</b>	
<b>Wednesday, 10/16</b>					
8:30 to 9					
Opening-Convening of the Nations (Mark has a rep from Pomo Band)					
9 to 10:30	Introduction, problem statement. What are tribal transportation interests and needs? Possible speakers=V-Suzanne Malson, Ford Mojave Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Program, AZ (PVargas contact.) Joe Meyer, National Indian Justice Center, Santa Rosa (MWall) Call Cynthia Gomez. Invite her as well as to ask how FTA/FHWA/BIADOT rep.	Strategies for Elder Friendly Communities Maureen Decindis, Maricopa County, AZ. Building elder friendly communities and/or transit and what the Maricopa Assoc. of Govts has done to incorporate aging issues into its planning process. Coord=Linda Deavens	Interviewing, evaluating personnel Coords=JudyLynn Gries, Dave Smith	None	Involved with vocational programs for Native Americans Fort Mojave Inian Tribe. Tribes have rules about employment that are in conflict with state
10:30 to Noon	Case Study 1 Successful Tribal Transportation Programs Larry Balber, Tribal Planner Bad River Tribe Chief Blackbird Center Odanah, WI & Blue Lake Rancheria, CA	Best practices in aging/mobility/ Beverly Foundation, Helen Kirschner Coord=Linda Deavens	NTI session: practical transit topic to be determined. Coord=Pete Spaulding	None	
Lunch					
National Agenda for Mobility & Aging: Don T unavailable, Doug Birney?, FTA Coord=Linda Deavens					
1:30 to 3:30					
EXPO					
3:30to 5	Case Study 2 Successful Operator - Tribal Partnerships: Lake Transit Authority SunLine Transit Yolo Transit	SB 335 Update What next? Coord=Priscilla Vargas Speakers-Rick Vargas, Mike Collins	Vehicle, equipment inspections Coord=Kelli Valle, Dave Smith Champions? Dan Mundy, Robert Jackson, Caltrans	None	
5 to 6:30					
Reception in EXPO area					

**NOTE:**

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Thursday	Route 1	Route 2	Route 3	Route 4	
9-10:30	How the process works, how do tribes apply for grants, service. Available technical assistance (Rutkowski-CTAA, TTAP, Steinert-Caltrans, Peplow-BCAG)	Connie Soper, MTC volunteered speaker on Bay area study on mobility & aging, impact on paratransit demand, demographics	Project ACTION practical session related to persons with disabilities Coord = Pete Spaulding	Developing overall work programs Coord=Celia McAdam	
10:30-12	Working with Cultural Differences Key differences in cultures. Examples of how operators can bring ownership to tribes and community groups. (Crossover with Alternative Service Design session.)	Accessible Formats - The session will focus on the ADA and the importance of access for people with disabilities Coord=Priscilla Vargas Speakers = Mike Collins-SILC, Richard Devylder (Chair of SILC), and Marilyn Golden	NPU - Frame, Train, Maintain: Integrating driver training and transportation into a nonprofit agency's mission. Coord = Baker/Brady	Environmental Compliance for NEPA & CEQA Coord=Walt Allen	There is a BIA DOT. Also a San Diego Tribal Transportation Authority.
Lunch	Leg Update & TEA 21 Update, Recognize new members				
1:30-3	The Transportation Planning & Funding Process: How it works; how do you get local funds, who qualifies? STA, LTF process? Qualifications? Odyssey or Caltrans session?	Alternative Service Design: Involving community groups and non profits in designing local services with local ownership/buy-in. Speakers-Bill Durant, Cynthia Clipper Coord=Pete Spaulding crossover with cultural issues	Non Profits United Creative ways to finance transportation: Maintenance, selling energy DUI training, MAAC (San Diego)	Add'l Leg Update SB 45 Coord=George Dondero	
3:30-5	TBD	Understanding residential care facilities. What are their transportation needs? What are their obligations? Can you get involved in the planning/approval process? How can we coordinate? Speakers-Clay Kempf, Lydia M. Coord=Mark Wall	12 Steps to Reduce Work Addiction: Paratransit & transit managers bring passion to their jobs. But there is more to life than work. Learn valuable lessons for dealing with the stress of being addicted to your job. Coord=Kelli Valle	TDA Legislative Revision Possibilities. Discussion of state proposals. Ric Morales, Caltrans	
Dinner	Coordinators = Jim Crouch, Mark Wall Red Hills Wine tasting and dinner at Riviera Golf Course background DJ or light jazz				
Band	MoJo Deluxe (invited) at Full Moon Saloon				

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<b>Friday</b>	<b>Route 1</b>	<b>Route 2</b>	<b>Route 3</b>	<b>Route 4</b>	
9-10:30	Odyssey 20/20 leg Mobilization training	How the body changes as we age. Keith Harrison (FHWA) (to be invited) How the aging process affects our ability to use transit and drive. Coord=Linda D	Sexual Harassment Coord=JudyLynn Gries, Dave Smith, Patrick Ireland a resource	Local Assistance Program Coord= Darin Grossi	Non Profits United Board Meeting
10:45-12:15	continues	Safe at Home (repeat of Sp 2002 session) Speakers: Irwin et al	Beyond Drug & Alcohol: Speaker-Bill England, CCC Coord=PeteS	Best Practices in project mgmt/Delivery Coord=Charles Field	continues
Closing Lunch	<b>Annual Meeting</b> Closing speaker - Wavy Gravy Q'STRAIT Attendance Award Recognition of NPU 15 years of service Anne Daniel recognition?				
<b>Items not yet included:</b>					
	Need list of tribes. Contact IDRS,	5310 & 5311 Resources Coord=Bambi Jake NO Separtae	Negotiating with groups in hard core areas to increase ridership and reduce vandalism.		
			HOLD DELETE IF NECESSARY Pizzazz in public speak Coord=Kelli Valle - Rather not Walt D maybe		
			Sched & dispatch		
			Loose lips sink ships- Coord Deborah Brunner		

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To: Rural Counties Task Force Participants  
From: Celia McAdam, Chair  
SUBJECT: 511 Deployment Efforts in Rural Areas

## Issue

The National 511 Deployment effort aims to design a sustainable, multimodal traveler information system accessible by telephoning "511".

## Discussion

David Lively, Chief of Traveler Information Systems for Caltrans, will be making a presentation regarding efforts to deployment effort in California's rural areas.

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To: Rural Counties Task Force Participants  
From: Celia McAdam, Chair  
SUBJECT: RTIP Project Delivery Issues

## Issue

The Modoc County Transportation Commission has run into some significant difficulties that have sprung from issues affecting project responsibility and accounting practices. These issues may also affect other agencies.

## Discussion

Under "Use it or Lose it" requirements, the local agency/project sponsor is responsible for keeping a project on schedule and within the budget. When a project is on a state highway, Caltrans performs the work as well as the project oversight and accounting. Modoc's difficulties have arisen in trying to obtain detailed expenditure accounting and documentation, and understand what and how the agency is charged by Caltrans for those various efforts.

Pam Couch from MCTC will be providing greater detail on their experiences.

Terry Abbott (or other representative) from Caltrans Local Assistance will be available to help explain the accounting process and discuss ways local agencies can work with Caltrans to better manage the financial aspect of projects.

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To: Rural Counties Task Force Participants  
From: Celia McAdam, Chair  
SUBJECT: Legislative Issues

## Issue

There are a number of efforts ongoing at the state and federal levels that have bearing on the rural county transportation issues.

## Discussion

**Proposition 51 (Transportation Congestion Relief and Safe School Bus Initiative)** - Qualified for the November 2002 ballot, this Planning and Conservation League initiative would divert 30% of the state portion of the sales tax on purchase and lease of new or used vehicles towards transportation purposes. This is expected to generate approximately \$870 million per year.

Approximately 98% of the funds in this initiative would be available via competitive grants under 17 different programs. Some of the programs are competitive, while others include "priority projects". It is unclear if those programs with priority projects are also competitive. Virtually all the projects listed are in urban areas, with the majority in Southern California.

Programs of particular interest to rural counties include the Safe and Clean School Bus Account, the Rural Transportation Account (to transit operators in counties with less than 250,000) and competitive grants for regional transportation agencies under the Congestion Bottleneck Account.

**State Budget Issues (SB 1847)** - Negotiations in the legislature to resolve the \$23 billion budget shortfall are ongoing; Chuck Oldham will provide the latest information about how the efforts may affect transportation.

**TEA 3 Reauthorization** - A summary of the July 10 meeting of the Reauthorization Task Force will be provided.

The current status of each of these issues will be provided at the meeting. While the RCTF does not generally take positions on legislation, individual members may consider this information for action by their own Boards.

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To: Rural Counties Task Force Participants  
From: Celia McAdam, Chair  
SUBJECT: Caltrans Transportation Planning Academies and Training Classes

Issue

Chris Hatfield of Caltrans will be making a presentation regarding training opportunities available to rural agencies through Caltrans.

**RCTF ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES**  
**Report for July 19, 2002**

**Issue/Objective**

SB 45 Implementation Changes Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) Rural Transit (FTA 5310, Welfare to Work, CalACT)	Darin Grossi, Tuolumne
SB 45 Project Monitoring/Reporting Database	Walt Allen, Monterey
RSTP/CMAQ/TEA Project Delivery Committee	Dan Landon, Nevada
Local Road Rehab Funding & STIP Protection TEA Advisory Committee	Phil Dow, Lake & Mendocino
California Transportation Investment Strategy (CTIS)	George Dondero, Calaveras
City/County/Caltrans/FHWA Coordinating Group and Local Assistance "Enhanced Training Committee"	Spencer Clifton, Humboldt
Interregional Strategic Transportation Plan (ITSP)	Charles Field, Amador
Local Road Rehab Funding & STIP Protection Federal Aid Project Streamlining TEA-3 Federal Reauthorization	Celia McAdam, Placer