



**STATE ROUTE (SR) 37 POLICY COMMITTEE**

**9:30 a.m., Friday, July 20, 2018  
Foley Cultural Center, Lakeside Conference Room  
1499 N. Camino Alto  
Vallejo, CA California 94590**

**MEETING AGENDA**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS** Chair David Rabbitt  
County of Sonoma
- 2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 3. CONSENT CALENDAR**
  - A. Minutes of the March 1, 2018 SR 37 Policy Committee Meeting** Anthony Adams, STA  
Recommendation:  
 Approve SR 37 Policy Committee March 1, 2018 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes  
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- 4. INFORMATION ITEMS**
  - A. Summary of Public Outreach – Corridor Plan** Becky Frank, Caltrans
  - B. Corridor Segments Update:**
    - Segment B:
      - SR 37 PSR/PDS Progress, Alternatives and Schedule Kevin Chen, MTC
    - Segment C:
      - SR 37 Fairgrounds Interchange & Transit Stops Update Janet Adams, STA
    - Segment A:
      - Segment A Ultimate Design Study Update Nick Nguyen, TAM
- 5. PRESENTATIONS**
  - A. Resilience by Design: San Pablo Bay Corridor** Tom Leader, Common Ground  
Erik Prince, Common Ground  
Thor Andersen, Common Ground  
Kushal Lachhwani, Common Ground

**SR 37 Policy Committee Members:**

Solano Elected Officials  
Bob Sampayan, Mayor City of Vallejo  
Jim Spering, MTC Commissioner  
Erin Hannigan, Solano County Board of Supervisor

Sonoma Elected Officials  
David Rabbitt, Sonoma County Board of Supervisor  
Jake Mackenzie, MTC Commissioner  
Susan Gorin, Sonoma County Board of Supervisor

Marin Elected Officials  
Damon Connolly, MTC Commissioner  
Judy Arnold, Marin County Board of Supervisor  
Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Councilmember, City of Mill Valley

Napa Elected Officials  
Alfredo Pedroza, MTC Commissioner  
Belia Ramos, Napa County Board of Supervisor  
Leon Garcia, Mayor City of American Canyon

**6. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Future Meeting Schedule**

**9:30 a.m., Thursday, November 8, 2018**

**9:30 a.m., Thursday, March 7, 2019**

Daryl Halls, STA

**7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Committee

**8. FUTURE TOPICS**

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November 8, 2018

- SR 37 PSR/PDS Update Report
- RM 3 Funding Priorities
- Update on Transit Corridor Studies

March 7, 2019

- SR 37 PSR/PDS Progress Final Report
- Environmental Phase Discussion – Segment B Public Scoping Meeting

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Next **SR 37 Policy Committee Meeting: November 8, 2018 at Foley Cultural Center in Vallejo.**

**Future Meeting Schedule (Pending Approval)**

**9:30 a.m., Thursday, November 8, 2018 in Vallejo**

**9:30 a.m., Thursday, March 7, 2019 in Vallejo**

**9:30 a.m., Thursday, June 6, 2019, TBD**

**9:30 a.m., September 5, 2019, TBD**



**State Route (SR) 37 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes  
 9:30 a.m., Thursday, March 1, 2018  
 Foley Cultural Center  
 Vallejo, CA 94592**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS**

Committee Chairperson, Supervisor David Rabbit, called the SR 37 Policy Committee Meeting to Order at approximately 9:32 a.m.

**POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Judy Arnold	Marin County Supervisor
Damon Connolly	MTC Commissioner, Marin County Supervisor
Leon Gia	Mayor, City of American Canyon
Susan Gorin	Sonoma County Supervisor
Erin Hannigan, Vice Chair	Solano County Board of Supervisors
Jake Mackenzie	MTC Commissioner, City Council, Rohnert Park
Stephanie Moulton-Peters	Councilmember, City of Mill Valley
Alfredo Pedroza	MTC Commissioner, Napa County Supervisor
David Rabbitt, Chair	MTC Commissioner, Sonoma County Supervisor
Belia Ramos	Napa County Supervisor
Bob Sampayan	Mayor, City of Vallejo
Jim Spering	MTC Commissioner, Solano County Supervisor

**POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:**

None.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

Daryl Halls	STA
Kate Miller	NVTA
Suzanne Smith	SCTA
Dianne Steinhauser	TAM

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

None.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Anthony Adams	STA
Melissa Apuya	Assembly Member Marc Levine's Office
Tom Barte	Senator Bill Dodd's Office
James Bezek	Solano County
Steve Birdlebough	SCTLC
Adam Brand	SCTA
Patricia Brown	Resident
John By	ECA
Davis Carlson	ESA
Joan Chaplick	MIGCOM
Rick Coates	EcoRing
Jessica Davenport	State Coastal Conservatory
Mike Davis	ICF
Elizabeth Dippel	Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART)
Bill Emlen	Solano County
Dick Fahey	Caltrans
Rick Fraites	Marin Audubon Society

Maureen Gaffney	ABAG/SF Bay Trail
Joseph Green-Heffern	Solano County Resident
Tim Grose	WSP
Robert Guerrero	STA
Sissel B. Herber	HNTB
John Kenyon	Ty Lin
Jim Laughlin	Solano County
David McCrossan	KKCS
Ashley Nguyen	MTC
Nick Nguyen	TAM
David Oster	Sonoma Resident
Elizabeth Patterson	Mayor, City of Benicia
Cory Peterson	STA
Erik Prince	TLS/RBD
Barbara Salzman	MAS
Danielle Schmitz	NVTA
Jeff Shewmaker	Linsay Transportation
Jack Swearugen	Friends of SMART
Brian Swedberg	Berg Holdings
Craig Tackabery	Marin County Public Works
Justin Vandever	AECOM
Francesca Vantaggato	UC Davis
Joy Villafranca	AECOM
Kendall Webster	Sonoma Land Trust

**2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were made.

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Minutes of the January 4, 2018 SR 37 Policy Committee Meeting**

Recommendation:

Approve SR 37 Policy Committee January 4, 2018 meeting minutes.

By consensus, the January 4, 2018 SR 37 Policy Committee meeting minutes were approved.

**4. PRESENTATION**

**A. Resiliency by Design: San Pablo Bay Region**

Erik Prince and Thor Andersen, both with Common Ground, presented.

Fraser Schilling, UC Davis, asked how the decision to move the roadway back rather than armoring the roadway was made. Erik Prince replied with a discussion on resiliency, emphasizing the need to retreat when keeping existing resources is not an option, to minimize intensive engineering, and to embrace the natural environment.

An unidentified speaker asked what the five most significant changes to be made to SR 37 were. The Common Ground representatives replied by emphasizing the great need to fix SR 37 due to its negative impact on local communities and the need to plan for the next 100 years, considering transportation needs beyond those of cars and drivers.

## 5. INFORMATION ITEMS:

### A. Caltrans SR 37 SHOPP Update

Dan McElhinney, Caltrans, provided an update on the State Highway Operations Protection and Programming (SHOPP) near term improvement plans. He also supplied the SHOPP PID list and noted that Roundabout at SR37 and SR121, which is scheduled to be constructed in FY 2025/26 would cost an estimated \$40M.

Fraser Schilling, UC Davis, asked if there was a timeline for raising SR 37, and how the aforementioned projects work together. Dan McElhinney replied that bridge widening and profile adjustment will be necessary but assured Mr. Schilling that when the long term project occurs it will be integrated. He emphasized that this is a safety project.

Supervisor Susan Gorin commented that SR121 can turn into a one lane road due to heavy rains. She wants to talk about SR121 going north. Mr. McElhinney mentioned that SB1 will provide funding for projects like SR121

### B. Transit Update: Origin and Destination Ridership Study

Kate Miller, NVTa reported that 19% of subjects carpool and asserted that there is a propensity for carpool/vanpool/transit feasibility. She noted that a cost estimate would be available at the next meeting.

Dave Oster asked whether or not the NVTa was coordinating with census data, looking at status quo scores, and examining HOV data. Ms. Miller replied affirmatively.

An unidentified speaker inquired about train integration in the ridership study. Ms. Gorin answered that the NVTa was not prepared to answer train questions at this time, but assured the speaker that they were coordinating with SMART to conduct a feasibility study.

### C. Corridor Segments Update:

1. Daryl Halls, STA, provided an update on Segment C and the SR 37/Fairgrounds Drive Interchange and SolanoExpress bus stop.
2. Jean Finney, Caltrans, provided an update on Segment B and discussed the SR 37 Project Initiative Document. Finney explained that a PID document is required for all projects on state highways over \$3M. Caltrans will use a streamlined PID (PID CPDR-PDS) and STA will reimburse Caltrans.

Daryl Halls thanked Caltrans staff and noted that the PID needs to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

John McKenzie asked when Caltrans would sign off on the PID. Jean Finney replied that Caltrans expects to sign off on schedule, at the end of the year.

Dave Oster critiqued the retreat plan, calling it half-baked and noted that the PID is one alternative, door closed. Jean Finney addressed these concerns and commented that the PID will address numerous alternatives and will be a group effort to address the purpose and needs of the project. Dave Oster asked how alternatives would be identified. Finney responded that alternatives would be identified by counties. Dave Oster expressed his continued reservations and total lack of confidence that comprehensive alternatives will be addressed during the PID.

Steve Bindlebough asked if bedrock was identified during the PID. Jean Finney replied that it had not been identified during this phase. Ashley Nguyen, MTC, added that MTC will perform a limited geo-technical analysis.

An unidentified speaker asked about the scoping process for alternatives. Ms. Finney replied that Caltrans was looking at which alternatives are most feasible.

Patricia Tuttle-Brown asked if rail is an option. Ashley Nguyen responded that MTC is working with SMART to make SR37 Segment B a multimodal corridor.

Suzanne Smith noted that a similar study was complete for Hwy 101 and asked if the studies could build off one another. David Rabbit replied that the fact that it was not explicitly included in PID did not preclude it from being studied in parallel.

Susan Gorin said that she understood by these comments that rail is needed on this segment and asked if it would be possible to do another PID for rail. Jean Finney responded that this was not possible because rail is not on the Caltrans ROW.

Jake McKenzie asked whether SMART rail is looking at SR37 Segment B as part of the state rail plan. Daryl Halls replied that they are looking at three studies: STA is leading the water ferry, NVTa is leading the bus OD study, and SMART, if they have the funding, is interested in the rail study.

An unidentified speaker questioned the project's focus on moving more vehicles, noting that climate change is worsening and additional vehicles will exacerbate its effects. Dave Schonberg responded, emphasizing the need for a master document that does not result in each mode fighting each other.

Fraser Schilling commented that previous studies had looked at different alignments, noted that this corridor plan proposed parallel alignment, and asked if the PID could examine other alignment options. Jean Finney replied affirmatively, emphasizing that the PID will look at a variety of alternatives.

Mayor Elizabeth Patterson requested that the guiding principles be provided on the next agenda for adoption. She also commented that the PID focused only on the road, calling this practice archaic, and noted that is a state problem, so looking for a regional solution was taking on too much of a burden to address the issue.

3. Justin Vandever, AECOM, provided an update on the Segment A Levee and Shoreline analysis.

An unidentified speaker asked that the study over the entire corridor, not just Segment A. Diane Steinhauer responded that due to limited funding for this study, expanding it would be overstepping. She noted that TAM plans to resume the study with a recent grant from CTC to attempt to fine-tune this study. TAM will talk about what improvements are needed and when; the next presentation will include a discussion of what to do with the road versus levee management.

John Vasquez asked whether or not AECOM had already identified the owners of the levees. Justin Vandever affirmed that the Levee Ownership Inventory was complete for all levee types.

Jim Spering asked if AECOM was looking into a comprehensive study of all levees, including new or improved ones. Diane Steinhauser responded that TAM is not sure that re-engineering 11 miles of levees is the right path. TAM will look at costs but don't have an exact budget at this time. Spering questioned why the project requires 11 miles of levees for three miles of road, rather than three miles of levees.

Dianne Steinhauser commented that the new study will look into that and other design alternatives.

Susan Gorin requested that TAM include SR 121 levee in these studies.

David Oster noted the large number of levees and owners and asked whether or not there was a legal right to force the owners to maintain or improve these levees. Justin Vandever responded that this question remained open and unresolved.

Dave Schoenberger emphasized that 100-year storms need to be considered.

An unidentified speaker added that the plan must account for SLR, tides, and storm surge, not just bayside. Vandever cautioned that AECOM did not have the funding to study all factors.

David Babbitt remarked that many levee owners already maintain their levees.

4. Nick Nguyen, TAM discussed the SR Shore Lane Improvement Strategy and provided a Segment A Conceptual Design update.

An unidentified speaker complemented Mr. Nguyen on his "compelling" presentation.

Steve Harcord asked whether or not TAM had located bedrock for Segment A. Nguyen responded that they had not.

Jim Spering asked why a long-term solution is needed now? He asked whether or not the project would be done in parallel, and asked about the timing for the project. Nick Nguyen replied that TAM needed to start something soon and suggested that the group consider the levees or parts of the roadway for improvements. Spering cautioned that the timing was important due to the dearth of resources, asserting that work on Segment A could commence only when improvements to Segment B were completed.

David Rabbitt agreed, noting that phasing is important with limited resources.

Fraser Schilling observed that Segment B is more prone to congestion and less SLR flooding where Segment A is more in danger of immediate flooding due to the proximity of the levees.

#### **D. SR 37 Survey and Focus Group Results**

Joan Chaplick, MIG, discussed the survey and focus group results.

Susan Gorin asked if the SR37 improvements would change commute patterns. Ms. Chaplick cautioned that some people cannot take transit due to their job location.

Mayor Elizabeth Patterson noted that RM3 funding helps this project and requested that PowerPoint of these results be provided. Ms. Chaplick responded that PowerPoints were already publically available on the MIG website.

## **6. ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. SR 37 Corridor Plan**

Recommendation: Forward SR 37 Corridor Plan to the Transportation Authorities of Marin, Napa, Solano and Sonoma for review and comment.

### **B. Response to Comments**

Kevin Chen noted that the four workshops had generated a lot of comments. He remarked that TransDef's comments were included, even though they had received them late.

Daryl Halls proposed that each County Transportation Authority (CTA) bring these comments and responses to each of the four CTA boards.

Jessica Davenport from the Baylands commented that a lot of good work was not included in the document. She argued against barriers and walls and cautioned against short-term improvements that might preclude long-term improvements. She also asserted the need to develop a comprehensive design and to delegate authority to staff to address factual deficiencies.

An unidentified speaker agreed with d Ms. Davenport's remarks and suggestions.

On a motion by Supervisor Spring and a second by Council Member Mackenzie, Policy Committee approved staff recommendation.

## **7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

No comments were offered.

## **8. FUTURE TOPICS**

- SR 37 Project Initiation Document
- STA Water Transit Study
- Origin and Destination Ridership Study

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

Next **SR 37 Policy Committee Meeting: May 3, 2018 at Foley Cultural Center in Vallejo.**