

# TCAG Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) Meeting Agenda

Thursday, February 25, 2021

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.



## Tulare County Association of Governments

210 N. Church St., Suite B (Sequoia  
Conference Room)  
Visalia, CA 93291

NOTE: This meeting will allow Board Members and the public to participate in the meeting via Teleconference, pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020), available at:  
<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.17.20-N-29-20-EO.pdf>

### Call-In Option

**Call-In #** (877) 853-5257  
**Meeting ID:** 7447100343  
**Code:** 82243742

### Zoom Video Option

**Direct Link:** <https://bit.ly/2Zt4BQY>  
**Meeting ID:** 7447100343  
**Code:** 82243742

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the California Ralph M. Brown Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids, translation requests, or other accommodations, or to be able to access this agenda and documents in the agenda packet, please contact the Tulare County Association of Governments ("TCAG") office at 559-623-0450 at least 3 days prior to the meeting. Any staff reports and supporting materials provided to the Board after the distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the TCAG office.

- 1) Welcome & Introductions
- 2) Public Comments

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the TCAG Active Transportation Advisory Committee on items within its purview but not on this agenda. Unscheduled comments are limited to 3 minutes. Note: Prior to the action by the Committee on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item.*

- 3) Action: Selection of Chair to replace outgoing Chair Ted Macauley
- 4) Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 29, 2021 (Attached)
- 5) Information: Project Implementation Status Update
- 6) Information: ATP Program Update
- 7) Information: Tulare County Public Health Bicycle and Pedestrian Fatality Update
- 8) Information: Caltrans District 6 Update
- 9) Information: CHP Update
- 10) Information: Active Transportation Outreach Update
- 11) Other Business
- 12) Adjourn

The next scheduled TCAG Active Transportation Advisory Committee meeting is on **Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. at the Tulare County Association of Governments, 210 N. Church Street, Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291.**

---

**Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG)  
Active Transportation Advisory Committee Members**

<i>Vacant</i>	City of Exeter
Michael Camarena (Vice-Chair)	City of Lindsay
Lisa Wallis-Dutra	City of Farmersville
Richard Tree*	City of Porterville
Frank Senteno or Rebecca Keenan*	City of Visalia
Jan Bowen	City of Tulare
Monique Mello	City of Woodlake
<i>Vacant</i>	City of Dinuba
<i>Vacant</i>	County of Tulare
Jose Ruiz-Salas or Sharon Minnick*	County of Tulare-Public Health
Michael Winton	County of Tulare-Resource Management Agency
Gracie Johnson	County of Tulare-Sheriff
Steve Beal	California Highway Patrol
<i>Vacant</i>	Interest Group #1
<i>Vacant</i>	Interest Group #2
<i>Vacant</i>	Interest Group #3
<i>Vacant</i>	Interest Group #4
<i>Vacant</i>	Interest Group #5
<i>Vacant</i>	Interest Group #6
Russ Dahler	Citizens' Oversight Committee (At Large #1)
Mark Wall	At Large #2
Pedro Ramirez	Caltrans, District 6

\* Agency rotates alternate

**TCAG STAFF**

Ted Smalley, Executive Director  
Ben Kimball, Deputy Executive Director  
Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer- LAFCO  
Leslie Davis, TCAG Fiscal Manager  
Elizabeth Forte, Principal Regional Planner  
Roberto Brady, Principal Regional Planner  
Derek Winning, Senior Regional Planner  
Gabriel Gutierrez, Senior Regional Planner  
Kasia Poleszczuk, Associate Regional Planner  
Steven Ingoldsby, Associate Regional Planner  
Barbara Pilegard, Associate Regional Planner-EH  
Maria Garza, Associate Regional Planner-EH  
Giancarlo Bruno, Regional Planner  
Sheela Bhongir, Regional Planner  
Michele Boling, TCAG Accountant III  
Brideget Moore, TCAG Staff Services Analyst III  
Amie Kane, TCAG Administrative Clerk II  
Servando Quintanilla, TCAG Administrative Clerk  
Holly Gallo, Office Assistant III

**Office Address**

Tulare County Association of Governments  
210 N. Church, Suite B  
Visalia, CA 93291  
P: (559) 623-0450  
F: (559) 733-6720  
[www.tularecog.org](http://www.tularecog.org)  
[www.tcmeasurer.com](http://www.tcmeasurer.com)

**Tulare County Association of Governments**  
**Active Transportation Advisory Committee**  
**January 28, 2021**

**ATTENDANCE LIST**

Ted Macaulay, Chair (P)	City of Exeter
Lisa Wallis-Dutra (P)	City of Farmersville
Michael Camarena, Vice-Chair (P)	City of Lindsay
Richard Tree (A)	City of Porterville
Frank Senteno (P)	City of Visalia
Jan Bowen (P)	City of Tulare
Monique Mello (A)	City of Woodlake
Jose Ruiz-Salas (A)	County of Tulare – Public Health
Sharon Minnick (A)	County of Tulare – Public Health
Michael Winton (A)	County of Tulare – Resource Management Agency
Gracie Johnson (A)	County of Tulare – Sheriff
Steve Beal (A)	California Highway Patrol
Russ Dahler (A)	Citizens' Oversight Committee (At Large #1)
Mark Wall (P)	At Large #2
Pedro Ramirez (P)	Caltrans, District 6

**TCAG Staff:** Roberto Brady, Ben Kimball, Brideget Moore, Servando Quintanilla and Holly Gallo

**SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES**

---

Chair Macaulay started the TCAG-ATAC meeting of Thursday, January 28, 2021 by welcoming everyone and informing the Committee he is the outgoing Chairmen. Chair Macaulay requested introductions which was kick-started by Vice-Chair Camarena followed by Member Ramirez, Member Wall, Member Bowen, and TCAG Staff Members Quintanilla, Gallo, Brady, Moore, and Kimball.

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

There were seven committee members and six staff members in attendance.

Meeting opened by Chair Macaulay at 8:36 a.m.

**2. Public Comments**

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the TCAG Active Transportation Advisory Committee on items within its purview but not on this agenda. Unscheduled comments are limited to 3 minutes. Note: Prior to the action by the Committee on any item on this agenda, the public may comment on that item.*

Public comments opened at 8:37 a.m. One public comment made by TCAG Staff Member Kimball announcing the hire of a new staff member, Sheela Bhongir, who will be solely focused increasing active transportation projects and funding.

Member Bowen asked who the new hire will be replacing. Mr. Kimball answered she will replace some of former staff member Philip Shabonav's roles but mainly to further active transportation projects. TCAG Staff Member Moore announced that Ms. Bhongir will start Monday, February 1 and will be present at the next meeting. Public comments closed at 8:39 a.m.

### **3. Action: Selection of Chair to replace outgoing Chair Ted Macauley.**

Chair Macauley and the other committee members discussed postponing the appointment of a new Chair until the next meeting since there was not a quorum at today's meeting. Chair Macauley asked if Vice-Chair Camarena would want to take over. Vice Chair Camarena answered due to time constraints he cannot commit to the responsibility. Chair Macauley further questioned the Committee on who can legally take over as Chair. TCAG Staff Member Brady answered he needs to reference the guidelines but clarified that anyone who has been confirmed on the Committee can be the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Chair Macauley mentioned he will be present in February and urged for more Members to be present at the next meeting so we will have a quorum large enough to select a new Chair.

Vice-Chair Camarena inquired why Chair Macauley is stepping down. Chair Macauley answered his family is moving out of the area to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Member Wall commented on the Committee's large number of vacancies. Chair Macauley said he is working on filling the City of Exeter vacancy, possibly with the City Administrator of Exeter. Chair Macauley asked a clarifying question to Mr. Brady who answered any new appointment to the Committee must be approved by the Committee. Chair Macauley further asked if an application form is available for the new applicant. Ms. Moore answered she needs to check the Committee guidelines if an application form is present.

### **4. Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 28, 2021.**

Upon motion by Member Bowen and seconded by Member Wall, the committee unanimously approved the minutes from the December 10, 2020 ATAC meeting.

### **5. Information: Project Implementation Status Update**

Mr. Kimball informed the Committee that TCAG is waiting to hear from the California Transportation Committee on several ATP projects they applied for this round. Projects include a trail from Porterville to Strathmore (along the railroad tracks), a trail in Cutler and the Goshen trail in Visalia. CTC is scheduled to release the funding recommendations on February 8. Mr. Kimball remarked that year's ATP projects include fewer but larger-scaled projects which may not favor our smaller projects in Cutler. If projects such as the Porterville to Strathmore trail are not awarded, then TCAG plans to move forward with this project and future projects using Measure R funds over the next decade. TCAG will continue to leverage Measure R funds with ATP and other grants.

Member Camarena inquired about the Santa Fe to Lovers Lane trail as it was mentioned in last meeting's minutes. Member Wall shared the Visalia City Council plans to revisit this trail after six months because of some opposition along a certain segment of the trail however we should remain optimistic. The Council plans to swap some parcels between Tiers 2 and 3 to push up the development timeline. Member Senteno added that staff's recommendation was to follow the alignment along the creek with alternative routes to follow Avenue 272 or continue South of Santa Fe. Member Bowen plans to set up a meeting with the railroad to discuss this

project and future projects. Member Wall commented there was a large turn-out in support of the trail during the previous Council meeting.

#### **6. Information: Tulare County Public Health Bicycle and Pedestrian Fatality Update**

No report was provided.

#### **7. Information: Caltrans District 6 Update**

Member Ramirez, Caltrans District 6 informed the Committee they are starting to work on the California Active Transportation Plan for District 6. Every district is required to complete the California Active Transportation Plan. This plan will be used for asset management providing maintenance to major facilities. As an example, Member Ramirez stated that if a re-stripping takes place then Caltrans is required to look at complete streets and the California Active Transportation Plan.

Secondly, Caltrans is working with the City of Tulare on State Route 137 doing complete streets studies on the west side portion to I Street. The study is looking at a potential road diet from four to three lanes with a two-way left turn in the middle, some buffered bicycle lanes and closing some sidewalk gaps along sections of the corridor. Most of the corridor already has sidewalks. Caltrans is also looking at a mini roundabout at the intersection of West Street and State Route 137. This is a gateway coming into Tulare. Minor funds will be used to quickly start the project as the re-paving projects won't start anytime soon.

Caltrans is tentatively looking to work with Three Rivers as they want some complete streets and active transportation improvements. Caltrans plans to study the corridor on SR 198 and looks like there is a demand for more active transportation improvements as the locals shared they prefer to be outdoors due to COVID-19 and want to improve their health by walking and biking.

#### **8. Information: CHP Update**

No report was provided.

#### **9. Information: Active Transportation Outreach Update**

Ms. Moore, opened her update by clarifying the Committee application process. Applicants are first considered by ATAC as a group and then TCAG staff will take those recommendations to the Board ending with a resolution. Chair Macaulay asked if a letter of interest is sufficient. Ms. Moore responded yes.

Ms. Moore further shared that the TCAG Board recently approved the purchase of a community engagement software. This is an all-inclusive platform bringing together separate engagement activities into one place. The software has moderation capabilities to control online content and can help with mapping, polling and other tools to help reach out to the community. TCAG looks forward to using this tool for active transportation projects to gather the community's input and perspectives in a safe manner particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Moore made a shout-out to TCAG Staff Member Gallo for her extensive work using social media to inform and engage the public on active transportation projects.

#### **10. Other Business**

Member Ramirez made a shout-out to Chair Macaulay for all his work serving the committee and will be missed. Chair Macaulay shared he will still be here next month and enjoyed his time as Committee chair.

Mr. Brady shared an update from TCAG Staff Member Gutierrez regarding the Regional Active Transportation Plan. Mr. Gutierrez is working on the background, priority projects, funding chapters and undergoing final revisions. Once completed, the final revisions will go under internal review and then be released for public review. This Committee will probably be the first

to review the regional plan. Mr. Gutierrez is also working on connectivity mapping, which was not included in the 2016 plan. Mr. Gutierrez expects the draft to be available in April with final approval in June or July. There may still be minor revisions to the project list.

The draft plan update includes 92 projects totaling \$201 million in comparison to the existing 2016 plan which included 86 projects totaling approximately \$110 million. This shows the overall growth in active transportation projects from the 2016 plan. Member Wallis-Dutra informed the Committee that the City of Farmersville's ATP projects on East and West Walnut have been completed. Member Mello also informed the Committee on the progress of ATP projects in the City of Woodlake.

## **11. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 25, 2021 at the TCAG office.