

# TCAG Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) Meeting Agenda

Thursday October 28, 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 Assembly Bill 361, available at

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=20210220AB361](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=20210220AB361)

### Call-In Option

**Call-In #** (877) 853-5257

**Meeting ID:** 7447100343

**Code:** 82243742

### Zoom Video Option

**Direct Link:** <https://bit.ly/2Zt4BQY>

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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: Approval of Meeting Minutes for September 23, 2021 (Attached)

4) Action: Selection of New Committee Chair

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) Action: Discussion on Next ATAC Meeting

12) Other Business

13) Adjourn

The next scheduled TCAG Active Transportation Advisory Committee meeting is up for discussion given the close of the year and upcoming holidays that may conflict with the regularly scheduled meetings which occur

on the fourth Thursday of every month at 8:30AM at the Tulare County Association of Governments, 210 N. Church Street, Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291.

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

<i>Vacant</i>	City of Exeter
Michael Camarena (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 (Vice-Chair)	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

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**Tulare County Association of Governments**  
**Active Transportation Advisory Committee**  
**September 23, 2021**

**ATTENDANCE LIST**

Michael Camarena, Chair (P) Neyba Amezcua (P)	City of Lindsay
Lisa Wallis-Dutra (P)	City of Farmersville
Michael Young (P)	City of Exeter
Jason Ridenour (-)	City of Porterville
Diego Corvera (P)	City of Visalia
Jan Bowen (P) Mario Anaya (P)	City of Tulare
Monique Mello (-)	City of Woodlake
Ismael Hernandez (-)	City of Dinuba
Jose Ruiz-Salas (-)	County of Tulare – Public Health
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
Russ Dahler (P)	Citizens' Oversight Committee (At Large #1)
Mark Wall, Vice-Chair (-)	At Large #2
Pedro Ramirez (P)	Caltrans, District 6
Richard Tree (P)	Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA)

**TCAG Staff:** Benjamin A Kimball, Brideget Moore, Sheela Bhongir, Holly Gallo and Ted Smalley

**SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES**

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**1. Welcome & Introductions**

Committee Chair Michael Camarena opened the meeting at 8:31. Committee members present were Members Russ Dahler, Lisa Wallis-Dutra, Jan Bowen, Neyba Amezcua, Pedro Ramirez, Jan Bowen, Michael Young and Richard Tree. TCAG Staff Members Bhongir, Moore, Smalley, Gallo and Kimball were also in attendance. Chair Camarena acknowledged a new member, Diego Coreva, Engineer for City of Visalia working on active transportation projects.

**2. Public Comments**

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Public comments open and closed at 8:35. No public comments were received.

### **3. Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes for August 26, 2021**

Upon motion by Member Russ Dahler and seconded by Lisa Wallis-Dutra, the committee unanimously approved the meetings for August 26, 2021.

### **4. Information: ATP Update**

TCAG Staff Kimball opened the item discussing the efforts of Staff Bhongir who is taking a deep dive into previous year's ATP applications to figure out how our agencies can raise their scores to receive funding for the next round. Last year CTC staff walked through some of the projects submitted in the previous cycle, however many of those projects were not awarded. TCAG wants the momentum to continue and Staff Bhongir has been setting up meetings with various agencies to discuss their ATP projects. Advice given by the CTC urged applicants to think big, and flashy. Secondly, Staff Kimball said how you write the applicants can make or break an application. Staff Bhongir shared she has been reviewing the Cutler Orosi ATP application and trying to find ways to strengthen the narrative.

Member Dahler inquired about the ATP surplus funds and whether previous projects that scored highly, but were not selected, received funding through the surplus. Staff Smalley answered that while the funds were not used this time, there is a strong likelihood they will be revisited during the mid-year adjustment. Staff Smalley explained the funds were stalled due to High Speed Rail. However, Staff Smalley still encourages the three projects which anticipated ATP surplus funds to move full speed ahead with their environmental and design phases.

### **5. Information: RATP Update**

Staff Bhongir said this item will be skipped as Staff Gutierrez is not present at today's meeting.

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

Staff Bhongir passed along a message from Sharon saying there is nothing new to report.

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

Member Ramirez reported on some of the GIS progress for the California Active Transportation (CAT) plan. Caltrans will be working with consultants on this plan till July 2022. This will be a long process, but Member Ramirez will share updates along the way. Ramirez also shared that this week is National Roundabout Week and Caltrans had made some educational materials on the benefits of roundabouts for all modes of transportation.

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

Member Ramirez informed the committee of initial Caltrans Active Transportation (CAT) planning efforts. Caltrans is currently collecting data of all existing and proposed facilities. Each Caltrans districts is working on their CAT plan. Member Ramirez highlighted the Ivanhoe Safe Routes to School project ATP grant that will help improve the safety and walkability of the community's five-legged intersection and railroad crossing. He also shared that on Wednesday September 29 Caltrans is hosting a groundbreaking ceremony for the Tagus Rehab project.

Member Ramirez continued the discussion saying roundabouts provide traffic calming, can beautify places and provide a gateway for cities, as seen in the City of Woodlake. He added that

roundabouts have a very low long-term maintenance cost as opposed to traffic lights and signals and he foresees an increase in roundabout development for those various reasons.

Member Ramirez also shared that Caltrans is working on setting up a District 6 active transportation committee that can meet quarterly. The newest member, Corvera, asked Member Ramirez about their implementation of Class II buffered bike lanes and Class IV lanes. Caltrans has not yet implemented those types of treatments on the main streets, but they are more closely looking into implementing those treatments on state routes. The City of Fresno is currently pursuing that effort.

Member Corvera shared that the City of Visalia is working on a Class IV bike trail on Tulare Avenue from Roben to Santa Fe, about a five mile stretch. They are currently in design and plan to head into construction early next year.

## **9. Information: CHP Update**

Staff Bhongir reported on behalf of Member Beal. CHP will be conducting a pedestrian safety enforcement operation in the Cutler Orosi areas on September 29<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the operation is to enforce traffic laws for pedestrians and drivers who violate the rules of the road and right-of-way violations in/near crosswalks. Funding for this operation was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

CHP will continue to work with Caltrans District 6 to enforce freeway pedestrian laws. The ongoing efforts have reduced foot/bike traffic on freeways, which has led to safer traffic conditions for all. Member Beal will share results of the enforcement operation at the next meeting.

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

Staff Moore shared good news that the grant the admin team applied for was successful. TCAG will be receiving \$150,000 for bike and ped safety and illness prevention over a twenty-five month period. This will allow for the purchase of bike helmets and hosting workshops on car-seat installations. Staff Moore shared that last month, TCAG a car-seat safety installation event with Officer Beal and would like to continue doing similar trainings. A future safety event is being planned for the Cutler Orosi area.

Staff Kimball added an update about the Regional Transportation Plan outreach. TCAG is currently going around the region talking Sustainable Community Strategy, future growth scenarios and distributing surveys for the community to vote on which future growth scenario they prefer. TCAG recently did outreach at the County Fair. The survey consists of three development scenarios - Trend, Blueprint and CVC Blueprint. Two of the three development scenarios meet state green house gas emission goals and targets.

Chair Camarena shared that the City of Lindsay also conducted car-seat installation trainings and they were well received by the community.

## **11. Information: Possible next steps for Bike to Wherever Day 2022**

Staff Bhongir revisited the slideshow presentation on various outreach events and ideas for 2022 Bike to Wherever Day. Event ideas include bike rides with mayors, commute challenges, printouts of bike trails and other bike rides led by community leaders. Other ideas include designating a bike champion who has contributed countless hours towards promoting bicycle riding and safety in Tulare County.

Staff Bhongir also shared details about the Clean California grant program which can fund beautification and place-making efforts, such as art installation. Grant applications are due on February 2022. Staff Bhongir said she is happy to work with any of our agencies to complete this application.

Member Corvera shared that the City of Visalia is supportive of these events and is currently thinking about planning a “CicLavia” event, where certain streets are closed off to traffic to allow for city bike riding.

Chair Camarena requested more information about the Clean California Grant program.

## **12. Information: Other Business**

Member Tree shared current efforts of the Tulare County Regional Transit Agency (TCRTA). Funds set aside for bike and ped projects are available from the FTA, such as bike racks on the front of transit buses and bike routes to transit stations.

Staff Kimball shared information from the state-level saying the REAP 2.0 Housing Funds might be setting aside a portion of their funds towards active transportation and transit. This opens up the opportunity for more channels of funding towards active transportation and transit.

Chair Camarena made an announcement sharing that today will be his last ATAC meeting as he will be retiring in the next few weeks. Neyba, City Administrator for the City of Lindsay will be taking Camarena’s place as the city representation. However, the committee will have to select a new chair. The vice chair is currently Mark Wall.

Camarena said he the ATAC committee has been evolving and he is proud to see new initiatives, such as the new Class IV Tulare Avenue bike lanes in Visalia.

Staff Smalley shared a few words about Mike Camarena commitment and dedication towards bikes when no one else in Tulare County was supportive of bike initiatives. He is very appreciative of Camarena’s civic involvement and contribution.

## **13. Adjourn**

Chair Camarena moved to adjourn the meeting and reminded the committee the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 28, at the TCAG office. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50am.