



**ECOS Transportation, Air Quality & Climate Change Committee
Thursday, September 3, 2020, 5:45 p.m.
Videoconference, hosted by Zoom**

Link to join the TAQCC Zoom Meeting: <<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85805612058>>
To phone in: 669 900 6833, Meeting ID: 858 0561 2058

Meeting Notes

5:45 p.m. – Social time -- meet and greet

6:00 p.m. – Welcome, Introductions, Check-Ins, and Changes to Agenda

Attendance: Susan Herre (ECOS), Jeffery Tardaguila (SacTRU), April Wick (Resources For Independent Living), Asha Krelling, Dan Allison (STAR), Dyane Osorio (Sierra Club), Hyunsoo Gloria Kim, Julia Mes, May Lin Chang (350 Sac), Robert Meagher (ECOS), Sue Teranishi (SABA, Breathe CA), Michael Garabedian (Placer Co. Tomorrow), Chris Brown (Sac. Climate Coalition), Alex Reagan (ECOS staff), Ralph Propper (ECOS Pres.), Lynne Goldsmith (co-chair), John Deeter (co-chair).

Guests: Luke McNeel-Caird (PCTPA), Jofil Borja (SacRT), Clark Peri (Caltrans Dist. 3), Sutha Suthahar (Caltrans Dist. 3).

6:05 p.m. – Placer-Sacramento Gateway Corridor Plan

- Luke McNeel-Caird, P.E., Deputy Executive Director, Placer County Transportation Planning Agency

Placer-Sacramento Gateway Corridor (PSGC) Phase 1 is a package of multimodal improvements linking Placer and Sacramento Counties along Interstate 80 (I-80). The residents of Placer and Sacramento Counties rely on the Gateway Corridor for connections between regional housing, jobs, and activity centers. Additionally, it is the primary east-west link between the Northern California mega-region, Sierra Nevada mountains and the rest of the country,

McNeel-Caird: The Gateway Corridor Plan pulls the regional transportation network together, in a 40 mile corridor from Auburn to Capital City (CapCity) Freeway centered on I-80 with a 2 mile buffer on either side. The full plan encompasses 150 multimodal projects, with eight included in the initial Phase 1. The 14 agencies involved conducted outreach community meetings and received 5,000 user responses. (Some concerns were expressed about empty seats on commuter bus and light rail.) The Plan includes a regional bicycle and pedestrian trail from Natomas to Roseville, and eventually to Auburn and Lincoln. In July 2020, the Gateway Plan applied for a grant from the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP) administered by the California Transportation Commission. The application included these projects: Auburn Blvd. Complete Streets, Dry Creek Greenway East, Eastbound I-80 Ramp Meter at Auburn Blvd., I-80 Transit Reliability Improvements, South Placer

County Project on SR 65 and I-80, Watt Avenue Complete Streets, Watt/I-80 Light Rail Station Improvements, and Light Rail Transit (LRT) Modernization. SCCP awards will be announced in October 2020.

Future phases will include expansion of the CapCity Freeway (see below). For more information about the Gateway Plan: <www.more80choices.com>.

6:35 p.m. – Sacramento Regional Transit projects included in Gateway Plan Phase 1

- Jofil Borja, Senior Community Relations Officer, SacRT

***Borja:** Presented SacRT accomplishments and planning for potential enhancements and movement of people from farther away. SacRT will be purchasing new low floor light rail vehicles and improving access from platforms. Two years ago SacRT began planning for Watt/I-80 station improvements (easier transfers, sidewalk access improvements, or better access to/from underserved communities}, but funding is not available at this time.*

Pre-COVID there was a 7% increase in transit and 120% increase in student ridership, as of Feb. 2020. Post-COVID, new protocols have been implemented to make facilities safer for riders and staff, such as nightly disinfecting and fogging; slowly installing higher air exchangers and filtration; requiring facial covers; installing plexiglass for drivers, face shields, and hand sanitizers; and an educational campaign, especially with younger people.

SacRT recently assumed responsibility for Paratransit services. It is also working on additional microtransit service and planning outreach in North Highlands\as far south as Auburn Blvd.

***Deeter:** Requested information on final design for the Watt/I-80 station. What amenities such as barriers, security, fencing and art are planned?*

***Comment:** Siemens is offering tours of its South Sacramento assembly facility.*

7:05 p.m. – Planned improvements to CapCity (SR-51) freeway (future Gateway project)

- Clark Peri, Project Manager, Caltrans District 3

***Peri:** Travel demand for all users of the existing CapCity freeway exceeds initial design. Congestion is responsible for 50% of accidents in the Sacramento Region freeway system. Hours of delay have increased 34% compared to 2012, and increased 139% for bottlenecks and queues. Fixing the problems will include: HOV (high occupancy vehicles) lanes, auxiliary lanes, HOT lanes (high occupancy toll lanes depending upon time of day and number of people in the car), express lanes, shoulder lanes, diamond lanes, and congestion pricing. These options give flexibility. A bicycle and pedestrian lane will be added on the American River Bridge. Included in the Gateway Plan is the section from E Street in Sacramento to Arden Way and El Camino. Many alternatives for lane designs for CapCity freeway are being considered. as well as improvements to Arden Way and access to Swanson Station.*

Project partners included Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates, Walk Sacramento, Capitol Corridor, Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Sacramento Transportation Authority, and SacRT. Some of the challenges are: (1) the existing landfill, (2) bridge clearance, (3) constructability for the American River bridge, and (4) funding.

Q: *Who will get toll revenues?* **A:** *There are many options for using collected funds. For example, LA Metro spends one-quarter of tolls to repay bonds and the rest is reinvested in the corridor for congestion relief measures. A Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) is being considered to manage tolls.*

7:35 p.m. – Updates, reports and discussion of other current topics

- Implementation of Recommendations by the Mayors' Climate Commission
- Climate Emergency Declarations
- Sacramento Slow Streets initiative
- Mow Better

7:50 p.m. – Other business and announcements / Topics for future meetings

7:55 p.m. (approx.) – Adjourn

Next TAQCC meeting: Thurs., Oct. 1, 5:45 p.m., probably video conference

Other upcoming events of interest:

Sep. 12, 1 pm -- [Sac Transit Riders Union](#) (videoconference)

Sep. 29, 6 pm -- ECOS Board meeting (videoconference)

Printable TAQCC agendas and minutes are available on the ECOS [Web site](#).