

**BIG SUR MULTI-AGENCY ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2017
PFIEMER BIG SUR LODGE CONFERENCE CENTER
47225 HIGHWAY 1, BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA 93920**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Mary Adams called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

II. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Roll call and introductions were made. Agency attendees: Kathleen Lee (District Director for Congressman Jimmy Panetta), Nicole Hollingsworth (District Director for Senator Bill Monning), Aline Reyna (District Director for Assemblymember Anna Caballero), Supervisor Mary Adams, Teresa Benson (USFS), Karen Grimmer (Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary), Sara von Schwind (Caltrans), Brent Marshall (State Parks), Mike Watson (California Coastal Commission), Caine Camarillo (Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District), Joe Sidor (Monterey County Resource Management Agency), Butch Kronlund (Coast Property Owners Association), Kirk Gafill (Big Sur Chamber of Commerce), Dick Ravich (Resident of Big Sur – North Coast), and Betty Withrow (Resident of Big Sur – South Coast). After Public Comment, Supervisor Adams also introduced Sheriff Bernal and Commander Wingo (Monterey County Sheriff's Office), and Teresa Meister (Monterey County Office of Emergency Services).

PROCEEDINGS

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of August 11, 2017, were approved with no changes.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

- **Mike Caplin** – Thanked RMA staff for preparing the BSMAAC meeting minutes. Commented on the proposed Adler Ranch sale and submitted related information.
- **Bill Nye** – Commented on Hwy 1 traffic control measures. Requested Caltrans remove the pavement installed on several turnouts on Hwy 1, and stated the installed pavement is not consistent with the Big Sur Coast Highway Management Plan. He also commented that reflectors are missing in various areas along Hwy 1. Sara von Schwind (Caltrans) responded to his comments.
- **Marcus Foster** – Commented on the use of Hwy 1 by inexperienced bicyclists and bicycle tours along the Big Sur coast, and how these users and use are a safety concern. Sara von Schwind (Caltrans) responded to his comments.
- **Peggy Goodale** – Suggested signage to encourage bicyclists to ride safely.
- **Pam Silkwood** – Commented on the law limiting land acquisition by the USFS.
- **Coy Ware** – Commented on the proposed Adler Ranch acquisition by the USFS. Commented that better bicycle planning is needed along Hwy 1, such as moving the lane markings to better accommodate cyclists. Sara von Schwind (Caltrans) responded to his comments.
- **Public Member**- Commented on bicyclists use of Hwy 1.
- **Joel DePola** – Asked about the status of the restroom issue.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

AT&T Service Update

Jason Amoss and Tedi Vriheas provided a presentation regarding AT&T projects completed in 2017 and projects anticipated in 2018. Projects completed in 2017 included the Big Sur radio upgrade, which increased network capacity, redundancy, and reliability; the reflector replacement at Manuel Peak; and installation of a solar powered microwave network for the Gorda area, which also increased capacity for

the Caltrans site in that area. Projects planned for 2018 is changing the radios out to XPIC capable radios. This will allow more bandwidth into the area and increase reliability.

Mike Caplin asked about the process for new microwave service. Rick Aldinger thanked AT&T for the equipment and service upgrades, but commented that issues remain regarding reliability. Rick Aldinger and Honey Williams also commented about billing issues.

The AT&T representative also made general comments about cable replacement and the Connect America Fund (CAF). AT&T received approximately \$2.7M of federal funds to use at 14 CAF sites in Monterey County. One of the CAF sites will be at Post Ranch, which hosts the cell site for the Big Sur community. The funds will be used to increase wireless and broadband capability. Cell coverage for the surrounding area or RAN Coverage will increase in capacity. Other areas of Big Sur will have to be addressed later.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

Preserving Big Sur/Sustainable Moments Campaign

Rob O'Keefe and Jennifer Kocher, Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau (MCCVB), provided a presentation about the MCCVB's mission to drive overnight tourism with a managed growth strategy. The MCCVB goal is to ensure responsible tourism and discourage irresponsible behavior. The MCCVB provides training for tour operators and education for tourists via its website and social media. Mike Caplin commented that the message needs more clarity. Peggy Goodale asked about foreign language messaging.

Culvert Replacements on Route 1

Ken Dostalek, Caltrans, provided a project update. This project involves the replacement of culverts and installation of drainage upgrades at 7 locations along the Big Sur coast. Several of the locations are on federal land, so the California Coastal Commission is processing the coastal development permit for the project.

Big Sur Highway 1 Sustainable Transportation Demand Management

John Olejnik and Jill Morales, Caltrans, provided a presentation on sustainable Transportation Demand Management (TDM). Caltrans will begin preparation of a TDM plan to address the increased demand on Hwy 1 along the Big Sur coast. The process to development the plan will involve public and stakeholder engagement, and will kick-off in Spring 2018. Mike Caplin asked about Hyperloop technology in Big Sur. Rick Aldinger commented on the continuing need for law enforcement to manage traffic. Mary Trotter commented on the need for community involvement in development of the plan. Coy Ware suggested bus service as a solution. Peggy Goodale suggested a dynamic travel advisory sign that would inform travelers the time it will take to travel the corridor. Sara von Schwind responded that CalTrans does not have in ground communications infrastructure to support that.

VII. REPORTS FROM MEMBER AGENCIES:

Betty Withrow (Resident of Big Sur – South Coast)

- Read a prepared statement about recent community challenges on the South Coast of Big Sur.
- Commented on the access challenges along Hwy 1.

Dick Ravich (Resident of Big Sur – North Coast)

- Thanked Supervisor Adams for supporting the traffic issue.

- See attached written report for remaining comments and notes.
- At the end of comments by Dick Ravich, Supervisor Adams presented a resolution to Martha Karstens, Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade Chief.

Butch Kronlund (CPOA)

- Commented on Sycamore Canyon Road use and recommended continuing the closure of Pfeiffer Beach.
- Commented on the Adler Ranch issue and apparent support for acquisition of the ranch by the USFS. He also informed the BSMAAC that community letters of opposition to the proposed sale were not included in an acquisition report package sent to the USFS. Mike Caplin commented on what he believed to be false information included in the report. Teresa Benson (USFS) responded to these comments.

Kirk Gafill (Big Sur Chamber of Commerce)

- Commented on the opening of the Pfeiffer Canyon Bridge and that traffic levels are back to normal for this time of year. He also acknowledged the influence and value of the BSMAAC in accelerating the timeline for bridge construction.
- Asked State Parks for an update regarding the CHP housing to be built in the Multi-Agency Facility. Brent Marshall, State Parks, responded to this question.
- Commented on the MCCVB presentation.

Joe Sidor (Monterey County Resource Management Agency)

- Informed attendees of the availability of the Big Sur current project report.

Mary Adams (District 5, Monterey County Board of Supervisors)

- No further comments.

Caine Camarillo (Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District)

- Announced that the district will host public workshops to discuss future park use of the former Rancho Canada golf course property.

Mike Watson (California Coastal Commission)

- Commented on the development occurring at Ventana Inn.
- Commented on the USFS issues regarding use of Sycamore Canyon Road and site fees. Commission staff has provided comments to the USFS about signage and messaging, and traffic control.
- Announced that the follow up permit for Pfeiffer Canyon Bridge is in process.
- Commented on Hwy 1 overuse, and mentioned a list on the Commission's website and an information application that users may download.
- Mary Trotter asked about local review of projects under the Commission's jurisdiction.
- Butch Kronlund commented on the need for a Forest Order to not allow camp fires.
- Barbara Woyt expressed concern about the process for development at Ventana Inn, and commented that the permit project descriptions do not match the work actually occurring on site.

Sara von Schwind (Caltrans)

- Informed attendees of the availability of the Big Sur Project Update report.
- Thanked the Big Sur community for their support during the rebuild of the Pfeiffer Canyon Bridge.
- Announced the beginning of winter preparation activities along the Big Sur coast, and specifically mentioned completion of work at Elephant Trunk on the south coast.

- Mike Caplin asked about Mud Creek. Sara von Schwind responded that Caltrans plans for Hwy 1 to be re-opened at Mud Creek by the end of summer 2018.
- Barbara Woyt asked about the Pfeiffer Canyon trail and the need for non-native, invasive plant removal.

Brent Marshall (State Parks)

- Announced that Rob McManaman, State Parks maintenance manager, remains in intensive care following an accident on Hwy 1 near Palo Colorado Road, and thanked the Big Sur community for their support.
- Announced that State Parks is hiring to fill vacant positions.
- Announced that Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park will be full for Thanksgiving.
- Commented on CHP housing and lodge upgrades at Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park.
- Reminded the community about the upcoming Christmas in the Adobes in Monterey.

Karen Grimmer (Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary)

- Commented that review of the Presidents Executive Order regarding oil and gas exploration in national marine sanctuaries is still in process.
- Commented that Sanctuary staff coordinated with Caltrans regarding the impact of the Mud Creek landslide on black abalone, a federally-listed species, and that relocation of black abalone is ongoing.
- Announced that the next event during the 25th anniversary year of the MBNMS will occur November 16th.

Teresa Benson (USFS)

- Introduced Yolanda Saldana, new Los Padres National Forest District Manager.
- Announced the receipt of \$500K for safety improvements, some of which will be used for repairs on Sycamore Canyon Road. Also announced the commissioning of a safety study.
- Commented that the USFS has a 10-year contract with Parks Management, and that any solutions selected to address traffic on Sycamore Canyon Road would need to be consistent with the contract.
- Commented on the hiring process for a new Forest Supervisor.
- Dick Ravich asked about the formation of a working group to address traffic issues at Pfeiffer Beach.
- Frank Pinney commented on a Pacific Valley partnership for a new fire station.
- Mary Trotter renewed her request for a list of permittees at Anderson Peak.
- Kerry Frangioso asked about Ventana Wilderness and trail closures.

Aline Reyna (representing Anna Caballero, 30th District, State Assembly)

- Presented restroom and traffic information (attached). Barbara Woyt commented on the need for the public to be better informed about access to restrooms in State Parks. Dick Ravish commented on the percentage of traffic travelling to Pfeiffer Beach after the opening of Pfeiffer Canyon Bridge. Rick Aldinger asked how the restroom information is being provided to the public. Butch Kronlund suggested adjusting the contract with Parks Management regarding restroom use at sites managed by their company.
- Joel DePola thanked State Parks and commented about informational errors on signage regarding operating hours.
- Brooke Russell commented on the connectivity between the restroom and fee issue.

Nicole Hollingsworth (representing Bill Monning, 17th District, State Senate)

- Introduced Alex Pittaro, Field Representative at the Monterey office.

- Announced the revival of the Restroom Task Force.
- Thanked everyone for their efforts during the re-build of the Pfeiffer Canyon Bridge.
- Mike Caplin made a comment regarding wildfires.

Kathleen Lee (representing Jimmy Panetta, 20th District, United States Congress)

- Commented on the Adler Ranch issue.
- Commented on increased traffic enforcement through Fort Hunter-Liggett.
- Commented on the restroom issue.

VIII. REPORTS FROM OTHER AGENCIES ON ISSUES PERTINENT TO BIG SUR: None

IX. NEXT MEETING: Supervisor Adams announced the BSMAAC dates for 2018. They are March 23rd, May 11th, August 10th, and October 19th, 2018.

X. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 1:17 pm.