

## Super Region Meeting Notes

February 16, 2011

McConnell Foundation, Redding, California

Those present include: Jan Bulinski, Dan Little, Jon Clark, Tamera Leighton, Rob Burnett, Sean Tiedgen, Phil Dow, Gary Antone, Dave Muerer (Congressman Herger's office), Dan Wayne, Marcella Clem, Jim Bell, Erin Ryan (Senator LaMalfa's office), Ashley Adishian (Assemblyman Nielsen's office), Randy Murphy (Glenn Co) .

Attending by phone: Jesse Robertson (Caltrans D1), Marty Tuttle (Caltrans HQ), Dan Landon, John Jelecich, Pam Couch, Rick Tippett.

### **Introduction**

Dan Little introduced himself and a round of introductions followed. Dan briefly recapped the last Super Region meeting.

### **Delegate teams**

Volunteers are needed to form delegate teams to meet with state, federal, and legislative offices to introduce them to the Super Region partnership and its goals. These meetings should only take about 30 minutes each. CTC member appointments by the governor should occur soon. These appointees have to be ratified by the legislature as well. We want to have the delegate meetings in the spring. Gary Antone, Barbara O'Keeffe, Tamera Leighton, Marcella Clem, Phil Dow and Dan Landon volunteered, in addition to Jon Clark and Dan Little.

**Action Item:** Go through the legislative representatives to set up the meetings. Also, a team needs to assemble to meet with Marty Tuttle, Caltrans Director Cindy McKim and other agencies on the same day.

### **Comments from Marty Tuttle**

Caltrans is putting together a GIS platform that contains parcel information and other data for 54 of the 58 counties. The state highway network is represented, as well as DFG wildlife corridors. The aerial imagery is to a three-inch level. He would like to demonstrate 'Caltrans Earth' at our next meeting. It is available on the Caltrans intranet, but hasn't been pushed outside the firewall yet.

### **NSSR website introduction (Sean Tiedgen)**

The purpose of the website is to inform individuals about who and what the Super Region is. It is important that people are able to find our website. Please provide a link on your agency websites so that the Super Region website will be easier to find. Sean went through the

different pages of in the website, each dropdown, and then the intranet. He also introduced the grant matrix, which will be updated with new grants monthly.

Dan Landon noted that he posted a Gas Tax Swap comment and wants others to be notified when someone posts to the site.

**Action Item:** Sean will post instructions on how members can be informed of updates to the intranet.

Randy asked that since we just got a call for projects from USFS, that they should be listed as a partner. Phil says this reminds him of the need to explore the recreational travel issue. There is a lot of unanticipated traffic for recreational activities in the counties. We need statistics on counties with recreational travel to justify additional funding.

Data to add to the website includes railroads, people/sq mile, maintained mileage in each county for the state and county roads. The local street and roads report was recently released.

**Action Item:** We should be able to show the amount of money we get from maintained miles. We also want to show state and federal land percentage per county. Sean will make a statistics page on the web and make a short report with data. A link to the USFS website will be added on the Partners web page.

A discussion followed regarding getting the data needed through a survey.

### **North State GIS Platform (Dan Wayne)**

The SCRTPA is undertaking a GIS platform for the Shasta County region. It could also serve as a platform for multiple counties or the entire NSSR. North State regions will be invited to piggyback on the regional server.

It is anticipated that the GIS Platform will help attract grant funds to the North State for GIS data development and maintenance. The consolidation of GIS data in the North State would also aid interregional planning/modeling and help solidify the NSSR as a political entity.

Super Region Directors were uniformly supportive of the concept. Discussion was had regarding local staff time requirements, cross border issues with Oregon, and varying degrees of GIS capabilities across the NSSR.

**Action item:** NSSR will monitor potential overlap with the 'Caltrans Earth' project and update NSSR members on development of the Regional GIS Platform as appropriate.

This is a platform for data from multiple counties. Anyone can piggyback and use this platform.

There are grants available to fund data gathering. Consolidation of county data will solidify the NSSR by bringing together regions. It was noted that Butte, Lake and Mendocino counties have advanced GIS systems already in place.

Gary Antone mentioned that he is in the process of coordinating with cities in Tehama regarding GIS data. We agreed to get the information if readily available.

Tamera has basic GIS data and is amenable to share it. She has been involved in cross border issues with Oregon.

Glenn County is also doing GIS work. Tuolumne dedicated a fee to keep GIS up to date. A survey would be helpful to see what GIS data is available in the region.

### **Planning partnership**

Phil is concerned about recreational impacts. Dan Little says that we may need a small grant in the next couple of years to run the super region. Phil would be ok with a dues structure similar to that of the rural counties task force.

### **Support Letters**

A northern CTC representative is necessary. Jon is exploring a prospect. In the past, rural counties had a designated liaison i.e. Ed Sylvester from Nevada County.

Meeting with the legislators and state and federal representatives should become an annual action.

**Action item:** The CTC used to designate a rural representative. Mention this in our meeting with her and how valuable it was to have that representation.

### **Secure Schools**

Renewal of these funds made it into the President's draft budget. It would be beneficial to know how much we will get. Individual counties should also weigh in on this.

**Action item:** Rick will finish the letter by Feb 28<sup>th</sup> and get it to Dan.

### **Reauthorization**

It will be six months before the information is out, but it is looking like maintenance and goods movement focus. There is talk of a melding CMAQ with TE funding. There are limits on fund usage with CMAQ however.

### **Gas tax swap**

Is this a violation of the no taxes stand? It may be on the ballot in June unless it gains a two-thirds vote of the legislature. Erin is checking with Senator LaMalfa on this topic.

**Action item:** Dan Landon will put the letter from his Board of Supervisors on the NSSR website “intranet”. Shasta County will also post theirs.

We need to send delegates forward to show the importance of this effort. Include the dollars lost per county and equate it to jobs lost.

Dave Meurer was asked what in general an effective letter looks like in his opinion. He made the following points:

- Show that multiple counties are affected
- Quantify the impacts
- Make your case
- Don't use lots of acronyms and keep it simple
- Give an example project

Erin Ryan said that we really need to layout the issue well. She will get some information on this from Senator LaMalfa. Also, the Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment (Bob Leiter) has been released.

It was mentioned that the state is releasing their rail plan. Dan L noted that we need to ask again for our daytime rail service.

**Action item:** Phil volunteered to speak before the CTC after meeting with Bimla Rhineholtz. We need to ask for a place on the CTC agenda.

### **Roundtable**

Jon Clark mentioned that Keith Dunn is the lobbyist for self help counties. He may be able to assist our group at some point.

Phil Dow said project specific things will pull us apart, so let's focus on common problems. We want money for more projects that fit this area. Phil asked his Board for an appointee for the NSSR meeting. He says we should start inviting board members.

Local agencies are losing funding due to failure to deliver local assistance projects. MCOG is hiring someone who can assist their local agencies through the process. The county is using RSTP funding and taking those dollars off the top for it. RSTP is one of the most flexible forms of funding we get.

Gary Antone thinks the collaborative platform was a good document, very useful, others should adopt it.

Randy Murphy said Glenn County has done a road tour with its legislators. It was very helpful, and local politicians find it educational.

Marcella Clem mentioned that the Rural Transportation Policy Group has a white paper that may be of interest to the group, she would like to present it at the next NSSR meeting.

**Next Meeting – Red Bluff Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>.**