

# Mono County Collaborative Planning Team

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## DRAFT MEETING NOTES April 27, 2017

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Members present: Larry Johnston, Mono Supervisors; Jeremy Marshall, USFS/Humboldt-Toiyabe; Cleland Hoff & John Wentworth, Mammoth Town Council; Ryan Dermody, Ryan Spaulding & Cort Hitchens, Caltrans; Deanna Dulen, Devils Postpile National Monument; Heidi Calvert & Alisa Ellsworth, CDFW; Doug Power & Brent Husung, Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center

Members absent: Jon Regelbrugge, USFS/Inyo; Steve Nelson, BLM; Erin Nordin, USFWS/Reno; Kathleen Morse, Yosemite National Park; Rana Saulque, Benton Paiutes; Jay Hall, Bridgeport Indian Colony

Staff present: Scott Burns, Garrett Higerd, Wendy Sugimura, Jake Suppa, Michael Draper, Justin Nalder, CD Ritter

Guests present: Sandra Moberly & Haislip Hayes, Town of Mammoth Lakes; Mike Bodine, *The Sheet*; Danna Stroud, Sierra Nevada Conservancy; Wendi Grasseschi, *Mammoth Times*

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**1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ATTENDEE INTRODUCTIONS:** Acting Chair Larry Johnston called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. in the Town/County Conference Room at Minaret Village Mall in Mammoth Lakes. Attendees recited pledge of allegiance to the flag and introduced themselves.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** No items

### 3. MEETING NOTES

**MOTION:** Approve draft meeting notes from Jan. 26, 2017, as submitted: (*Dermody/Power. Ayes: Most. Abstain: Johnston, Wentworth.*)

**4. AGENCY ROUNDTABLE:** Agency planning issues & pending projects were presented.

**5. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT:** Michael Draper noted sustainable groundwater agencies completed Mono filing that's now being reviewed. DWR (Department of Water Resources) sent reminder notice to file. GSA (Groundwater Sustainable Agency) will work with Inyo County in future. Tri-Valley has been accepted and approved. Owens Valley groundwater basin will be managed by Mono. DWR identifies groundwater basins. Swall agreed to Mono coverage. Inyo County has 10 eligible entities including county. Mono has simpler layout, fewer areas to manage. Mono wants to maintain say over what happens in Mono. Inyo has proposal for JPA (Joint Powers Authority) for entire groundwater management basin. Public agencies and tribes are players in Inyo. DWR evaluated and classified medium and high-priority, needed plans. Owens Valley as medium, Mammoth Lakes groundwater not included now, but DWR could reclassify as higher-priority basin. Wentworth noted drinking water issue.

Filing deadline is June 30. Reclassify in 2018. Turmoil in other areas was noted.

Larry Johnston noted DWR said keep as medium priority. Sugimura cited rumors of state funding in fall with 50% match.

--- Break 10:30-10:40 am ---

**6. REDS MEADOW ROAD PROJECT STATUS:** Haislip Hayes presented PowerPoint. Partners include FHWA (Federal Highway Administration), USFS (US Forest Service), and TOML (Town of Mammoth Lakes). Only temporary solutions now, will become insufficient to maintain roadway.

After stakeholder meetings, field surveys, and cost estimates, PEL (Planning and Environmental Linkage) staff looked at nine alternatives. Maintaining access during construction is a concern. Widening would be by cutting or filling. Construction estimates provided for all alternatives. Total = \$9 million. Bike lanes would cost about \$2 million extra. Popular Alternative 4 would widen 2.5 mi upper, rehab lower. NEPA/CEQA processes are under way, decisions expected by winter.

Hayes defined bike classifications and statistics of collisions. Described features of California Transportation Plan 2040, especially bike and pedestrian mobility. Plan will be released May 17.

Present project at CTC (California Transportation Commission) meeting in Mammoth this fall. Get legislators involved in assets and opportunities.

Danna Stroud mentioned listening sessions on rural road conditions and biking. Take advantage of local plan after statewide plan to change how access, mobilize, get to work, recreate. Paradigm shift is big opportunity. Attention to rural challenges, highways through middle of communities.

**7. CALIFORNIA BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN:** *Continued to future meeting.*

**8. REGIONAL HOUSING STUDY & ACTION PLAN:** Ruth Traxler discussed a housing survey funded by Mammoth Lakes/Mono County that targeted employees/residents/employers. More than 600 online survey responses have been received; the survey closes at end of May. Phone survey got 80 responses. Housing needs assessment funded by MMSA (Mammoth Mountain Ski Area) is specific to town. Draft will be out mid-summer. Results feed policy decision, Housing Element update 2019. Comprehensive update to General Plan sections. Left copies to distribute to employees. Will send link to CPT.

Preliminary findings? *Not yet. Data-gathering phase.*

Inyo County as well? *No, those who live/work in Mono.*

John Wentworth commended MMSA and Mammoth Lakes Housing and wanted policy recommendations from consultant on this serious issue.

Cleland Hoff indicated the survey directs respondents according to answers.

Second-home owners? *Asked how much time they spend here. Sent to homeowner associations, chambers of commerce, and major employers. Missing commuter input.*

Larry Johnston suggested distributing surveys on ESTA buses.

Jake Suppa reported 74% of results were from Mammoth, so more outreach is needed. Increase sample group. He distributed Spanish flier.

Deanna Dulen suggested post office. Suppa will contact libraries, businesses, and churches this weekend.

Doug Power wondered about Coleville base housing.

Scott Burns asked about tribal outreach. Camp Antelope has four manufactured units approved, grading permit under way, going to Congress this fall as a recognized reservation. Planning 19 more units. Benton Paiute tribe is building 36 manufactured homes.

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** 1) US Bicycle Route; WBR update; 2) federal budget cutback; effects on agencies; 3) cannabis; 4) Doe Ridge trail; 5) Bi-State webpage; 6) Shady Rest update; 7) airport; 8) snowmobile video; and 9) command brief on base.

**10. ADJOURN** at 11:21 a.m. to Thursday, July 27, 2017, at 9 a.m.

*Prepared by CD Ritter, CPT secretary*