



## Westport Municipal Advisory Council

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### MINUTES

Thursday March 7, 2024—7:00 PM

#### Westport Community Center, 24900 Abalone Street, Westport

1) **Begin Meeting/Roll Call:** The Meeting was called to order at 7:15. Directors Robert Scott, Bill Knapp, and Thad Van Bueren were present. Directors Gary Quinton and Alternate Sally Grigg were absent while pending appointee Beck Regalia was also present but. Members of the public also included Robert Finnell, Melinda McLaughlin, John Allison, Dan Maxey, Bert Roberts, Jim Generoux, Carla Thomas, and 8 Caltrans employees most of whom presented Item 4a.

2) **Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:** The November 2, 2023 draft minutes were unanimously approved.

3) **Public Expression: (Discussion Only)** None.

4) **NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)**

a) **Caltrans Presentation on Route 1 Slide Repair:** The geological scope of the slide was first characterized by Senior Engineering Geologist Charlie Narwold based on photogrammetric mapping and borings. The massive slide is 1400 feet wide and over 100 feet thick in some places. Slippage is most pronounced in winter months when the slide is lubricated by underground water flows. Project Manager Trevor Goff and Area Construction Engineer Geoffrey Wright then discussed recent maintenance and the new emergency project that is now underway. Two soldier pile ground anchor (SPGA) walls were completed in 2021 in the south and central portions of the slide to stabilize the road prism and protect it from shallow landslides below the roadway. The walls and roadway essentially “float” on the slide rather than holding the hillside stationary. Above average precipitation the past two years and ongoing removal of material by wave action at the base of the slide both contributed to the roadway settling.

The emergency project has cut the roadway grade down at the north end of the slide seven vertical feet, paved one lane, and installed signals to control one-way traffic. The one-way signalized traffic will be in place until the emergency repair is completed in 2025. Borings are now in progress to inform the design of a new 500 feet wide SPGA wall that will be installed to stabilize the roadway at the north end of the slide. The emergency project will also include evaluation of the feasibility of a dewatering system and revetment wall at the base of the slide along the beach. The revetment wall would be similar to the one at Juan Creek that is made of rip rap boulders. The emergency project is being designed on an expedited basis and coordinated with regulatory agencies and tribes to protect environmental and cultural resources according to Supervising Environmental Planner Tim Keefe.

Lianna Winkler-Prins, the Project Manager for the longer-term Caltrans Restoration Project, then covered future planning efforts with the goal of issuing a Draft Environmental Document by 2028. That restoration project will analyze alternatives for a longer-term solution. The alternatives under consideration include a subsurface drainage system; a tunnel; or an inland

bypass. The inland bypass has been ruled out as too expensive, difficult to construct, and impactful on the environment. The tunnel is also costly, but has not yet been ruled out. This restoration project would be constructed sometime after 2032. Other Caltrans staff attending via Zoom provided additional information and helped answer public questions.

Comments and questions from the community mentioned speeding dump trucks, the impacts of hauling materials on County roads (Branscomb and the streets in the village), the long wait time during controlled one-way traffic in recent weeks, and its impact on the passage of emergency vehicles, and degradation of Route 1 south of Chadbourne Gulch and north of the village near Wages Creek. Caltrans staff indicated they will do their best to address community concerns and plan to develop a website for this project to keep the public informed about scheduling of the work and to provide a channel for further input.

**5) OLD BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)**

- a) **Homeowners Insurance Cost Escalation:** Carla Thomas mentioned that a MCFSC Firewise Program may help reduce insurance costs if it is implemented. This topic will be reviewed at the next meeting when the topic is reviewed again.
- a) **Improving Community Participation in WMAC:** Discussion of this topic was deferred until a future date.
- b) **Website migration to MCN?** Director Knapp says the mcn hosting is in place and he will coordinate with Director Van Bueren to move the content and change future invoicing to the County.

**6) ANNOUNCEMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE**

Robert Finnell suggested future WMAC minutes be posted in the community newsletter (the Wave). Director Scott shared a personal letter he wrote to the County's Transportation Director concerning the need for repairs to streets in the Westport Village. It was suggested the letter could be rewritten to reflect the views of the WMAC and considered at the next meeting.

**7) Preliminary agenda for next Meeting:** April 4, 2024. Item 5a and a letter about road repairs in the village were placed on the next agenda.

**8) Adjourn: 9:05 PM**

These minutes were prepared by Director Thad Van Bueren in the absence of the Secretary.