

California Transportation Permits Advisory Council (CTPAC) Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 9, 2016
11:00 am to 12:45 pm
Caltrans – Southern Regional Lab
Fontana, CA

Meeting Summary

Item #1 – Welcome

CTPAC chairperson Eric Sauer, with the California Trucking Association, welcomed the number of attendees from the industry and noted how the industry representatives outnumber the State representatives. He appreciates industry participation in these meetings. Mr. Sauer would like to establish interim workgroup meetings to occur between CTPAC meetings, so workgroup members can discuss issues prior to submitting proposals. He will work with Greg Dineen before the next CTPAC meeting to hold an interim workgroup meeting. California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and California Highway Patrol (CHP) have already committed to participating in interim workgroup meetings. Mr. Sauer would like industry representatives to contact Mr. Dineen if they are interested in participating in interim workgroup meetings. Attendees did self-introductions.

Item #2 – Caltrans Updates

Kris Kuhl, Caltrans' Assistant Division Chief of Traffic Operations, stated that Caltrans continues to work with industry to improve the transportation permits program. Mr. Kuhl mentioned that the Caltrans' State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) has funding for future projects involving clearance improvements and bridge strengthening for heavier loads. In addition, Caltrans is making strong effort to reduce wrong-way driving incidents. Caltrans is currently testing a radar feedback system that will send an alert along with pictures of the wrong-way vehicle to CHP and Caltrans' Traffic Management Center. The report on wrong way driving incidents, prepared by John Holzhauser, manager for Caltrans' Transportation Permits, Policies, and Compliance Branch, is due to the legislature by July 1st.

Mr. Kuhl stated that legislature passed a bill to review transition routes into racetracks for Motorsports events. There is more money than in previous years, so staff will be able to travel more to attend meetings with industry, if necessary. There are ongoing improvements to the transportation permits program. For example, Caltrans is trying to have an online permit application process for the Annual permits and to enhance STARS2 to reduce the turnaround time. The program is also planning to add another vehicle inspector for the southern California region. In conclusion, Mr. Kuhl mentioned that he and Tom Hallenbeck, the Division Chief of Traffic Operations, had visited the Buckhorn Summit on Highway 299 and were encouraged by the construction work to widen lanes for trucks to pass through this critical east-west route.

Kien Le, Office Chief for Commercial Vehicle Operations, announced that Mr. Kuhl is retiring at the end of this month so this meeting will be Mr. Kuhl's last CTPAC meeting. Mr. Le shared that there will be a future truck restriction on the king-pin-to-rear-axle dimension and length on Highway 108

near Sonora Pass. There is also an issue with mobile homes hauled on Highway 96 to bypass the construction work happening on Highway 299. According to CHP and Caltrans' District 2, some of the wide loads are encroaching into the adjacent lanes. District 2 will be providing some restriction information for large loads traveling on this route.

According to Mr. Le, to help with succession planning, two managers, Jeff Jewett, a manager for the Transportation Permits Issuance Branch (TPIB), and Cyrus Hui, manager for the Legal Truck Access Branch, have switched assignments within the Office of Commercial Vehicle Operations. The Transportation Permits Office was reorganized into three branches instead of four. The managers are Mastri Alvandi, Cyrus Hui, and Abdel-Kader Taha. The TPIB will be backfilling the vacancies for permit writers.

Regarding debtor accounts, for customers who fail to make payments on their account balance, TPIB will suspend their accounts that are sixty-days past due. Mr. Le is asking the CTPAC to remind their membership to make timely payments of past due accounts to ensure continued service from Caltrans.

The Office of Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO) looks to enhance Caltrans' QuickMap, which currently shows travel conditions, traffic incidents, and chain controls, to include the trucking network. In addition, Mr. Le stated his staff is updating the 2009 pilot car maps, and the final draft will be ready for review soon.

Mr. Le is seeking assistance from industry to test the new online application system for Annual permits. The Division of Information Technology will inform us when the system is ready to test.

Item #3 – Public Comments

Eric Sauer expressed his appreciation to Kris Kuhl for his support of the CTPAC and his availability to address industry concerns. Mr. Sauer also acknowledged Caltrans for the quick permit turnaround times in April 2016. All permit types were close (96% or better) to meeting their turnaround time goals with the exception of faxed-in permits. Mr. Sauer also acknowledged Pete Wessel from Ventura County for attending this CTPAC meeting since it is important to keep an active contact between Caltrans and counties.

Item #4 – Action Item Review

Kelly Mar, Caltrans, reviewed the action items from the previous CTPAC meetings. See list of action items.

Item #5 – Workgroup Updates

a) Crane Group – Michael Vlaming

Michael Vlaming, Crane Owners Association, received a response from John Holzhauser, Caltrans, for his crane proposal. The crane workgroup will review Caltrans' response and provide a written response to Caltrans by next week. Bob Johnson, Western Pacific Crane & Equipment, sent a letter to Caltrans referencing the crane proposal, so he will work with the crane workgroup on future correspondence. A Manitowoc representative was also present to discuss the proposal with the workgroup.

b) Annuals – Tim McVay

Kien Le, Caltrans, reviewed the revised ‘Annual Permits for Unladen Multi-Vehicle Combinations’ proposal from Tim McVay, and a draft of the Transportation Permits Policy Memorandum (TPPM) is located in tab six of the CTPAC handout. The next step is for industry and CHP to review and provide any comments. If there are not any comments, Caltrans will need a written statement from industry stating concurrence to finalize the TPPM.

c) Tridem – Leon Franks/Doug Murray

None.

d) Variance/CHP Escort – Leon Franks

None.

e) Fixed Loads/Tow Trucks – Greg Dineen

None.

Item #6 – Transportation Permits Manual (TPM)

John Holzhauser, Caltrans’ Transportation Permits, Policies, and Compliance Branch Chief, addressed the status of the TPM in the list of action items.

Item #7 – New Business and New Proposals

Kien Le, Caltrans, will provide a work chart on the internet.

Item #8 – Next Meeting

The interim workgroup meeting is set for Thursday, September 29, 2016, and the next CTPAC meeting is set for Thursday, November 3, 2016. Both meetings will be in Sacramento, CA.

CTPAC Action Items

No.	CTPAC Meeting	Item	Due Date	Status/Notes
1	9/24/2014	Rob S. to follow up with CHP staff on a response to comments from Curt W. on the SR-299 corridor.	9/29/2016	<p>Prompt response provided by Rob S. to Eric S. who will forward to the committee.</p> <p>2/18/16: Curt W. said there is no way to get to Eureka because of the restriction on the database. Caleb Howard (CHP) to follow up with Rob S.</p> <p>6/9/16: CHP had no additional comments. This item will be a moot point at the end of the year.</p>
2	9/24/2014	Eric S. to provide background information on width restrictions at SR 241 toll booths to Yin-Ping L. for following up.	8/1/2016	<p>Joe B. followed up with District 12 on 2/10/15. Item was discussed at the 2/11/15 CTPAC meeting. Issue remains in process with Kien L.</p> <p>2/18/16: Greg D. and Eric S. to discuss with Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) and have a meeting with David Lowe.</p> <p>6/9/16: Greg D. to setup a meeting by mid-July with David L.</p>
3	9/24/2014	Leon F. to coordinate specific examples of certified drawings, reports and weight ticket and work with Hani R. on approaches that may be considered in lieu of physically inspecting the vehicle and to develop a target case by the next meeting.	9/29/2016	<p>Pending- Leon to develop a proposal with sample case.</p> <p>2/18/16: Leon F. will provide information by the interim meeting tentatively scheduled for May 2016.</p> <p>6/9/16: Since Leon F. is retiring, this proposal is now assigned to Eric S. Eric S. will have the proposal by the next meeting.</p>

4	9/24/2014	Hani R. to follow up with CHP on consideration of the certified manufacturers' drawings, report and weight ticket as part of the inspection process in lieu of physically inspecting the vehicle as a pilot project.	TBD	Pending - Timeline is dictated by Item 3.
5	2/11/2015	Greg D. – to submit proposal on multi-axle 12 foot wide by 120 foot long un-laden annual permits for discussion at next meeting and move item to annual work group.	9/29/2016	In Progress - Greg to submit proposal. 2/18/16: Greg D. will have proposal ready for interim meeting tentatively scheduled for May 2016. 6/9/16: Greg D. will have the proposal by the next meeting.
6	2/11/2015	Greg D. to follow up with local agencies regarding the need to have Caltrans permit prior to issue their permits and discuss possible process changes or other options.	9/29/2016	In Progress - Greg D. and Eric S. to schedule a meeting with League of California Cities & Counties and Caltrans to address the issue. Greg to follow up on. 2/18/16: Greg D. will discuss with Caltrans at interim meeting tentatively scheduled for May 2016. 6/9/16: Greg D. spoke to the City of Corona, and they didn't have any issues. National City may have an issue, so Greg D. will check with other cities as well.

7	2/11/2015	Greg D. will provide revised transponder proposal and revised 7, 8 & 9-axle un-laden inventory.	9/29/2016	<p>In Progress - Transponder proposal still in progress – possible smart phone solution versus transponder. Conference call pending but still need Greg D. to work with John H. on the inventory. Greg submitted request and response pending from Caltrans.</p> <p>1/13/16: Greg D. confirmed receipt.</p> <p>2/18/16: Greg D. will revise proposal for interim meeting tentatively scheduled for May 2016.</p> <p>6/9/16: Greg D. has inventory list, and he will have the proposal by the next meeting.</p>
8	6/11/2015	All members to review the membership list and send updates to Eric S.	9/29/2016	<p>On-going - Eric to finalize the list.</p> <p>2/18/16: Eric S. will update the membership list. Attendees will provide current contact information to Eric S. before leaving meeting.</p> <p>6/9/16: Eric S. is working on the list.</p>
9	10/27/2015	Allowable axle loads on boom dollies should be referred to work group to be examined.	9/29/2016	<p>2/18/16: Greg D. requested to postpone this discussion until the next meeting.</p> <p>6/9/16: Greg D. will wait to discuss at the interim meeting.</p>

10	10/27/2015	Eric S. & Greg D. will coordinate the interim work group meetings.	9/29/2016	2/18/16: Tentatively scheduled for May 2016. Eric S. would like availability dates from group leaders, and prefers no conference calls. Purpose of the meeting is to polish proposals and work on agenda items. 6/9/16: Eric S. setup an interim workgroup meeting in lieu of meeting the morning of the CTPAC meeting. The interim meeting is set for Thursday, September 29, 2016, and the next CTPAC meeting is set for Thursday, November 3, 2016. Both meetings will be in Sacramento.
11	2/18/2016	Roundabout presentation - create advisory committee of CTPAC representatives (Leon F., Tim M., Lorin S., Curt W.)	9/29/2016	6/9/16: CTPAC representatives have not been contacted.
12	2/18/2016	Transportation Permit Manual - post chapters	9/29/2016	6/9/16: John H. stated that Caltrans is working on the TPM, and two chapters are about 95% ready to post on the website. Caltrans will email the chapters to Eric S. and Greg D. to distribute.
13	6/9/2016	The interim meeting is set for Thursday, September 29, 2016, and the next CTPAC meeting is set for Thursday, November 3, 2016. Both meetings will be in Sacramento, CA.	9/29/2016	New