

# Metropolitan Transportation Commission Programming and Allocations Committee

July 10, 2019

Agenda Item 4b

## California Transportation Commission Update

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**Subject:** Updates on the June 26-27, 2019 California Transportation Commission meeting and Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) Programs.

**Background:** The California Transportation Commission (CTC) is responsible for programming and allocating certain state funds for the construction of highway, passenger rail, non-motorized facilities, and transit improvements throughout California. The CTC consists of eleven voting members and two non-voting ex-officio members. The San Francisco Bay Area has three (3) CTC members residing in its geographic area: Bob Alvarado (Executive Officer, Northern California Carpenters Regional Council), Jim Ghielmetti (Chief Executive Officer, Signature Homes, Inc.), and Carl Guardino (President and CEO, Silicon Valley Leadership Group). There are currently two CTC Commissioner vacancies from Jim Earp's retirement and Jim Madaffer's resignation.

### **June CTC Meeting (June 26-27, Sacramento, CA)**

The CTC discussed the following issues of significance to the region.

**Proposed Federal "SAFE" Vehicle Rule.** The federal government has proposed a new Safer Affordable Fuel Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles rule replacing the existing Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFÉ) standards. The new rule reduces long-term vehicle fuel economy standards, and eliminates a waiver allowing California and other states to set more aggressive fuel economy standards. If the new rule is approved, California faces multiple challenges, including an air quality conformity lapse affecting most transportation projects, and a halt to any Plan or TIP amendments requiring an air quality determination, until CalEPA updates the statewide air quality model, which could take up to a year or more. CTC received an update on the proposed rule and will continue to work with state and regional agencies to oppose or modify the rule.

**Draft 2020 State Transportation Improvement Program Fund Estimate and Guidelines.** The CTC reviewed the draft 2020 STIP fund estimate (FE), which lays out the new programming capacity for the 2020 STIP. The draft estimate includes almost \$50 million in new funding for the nine-county Bay Area. This amount is substantially less than the 2018 STIP, due to significant STIP advances to match competitive SB1 projects as well as the Board of Equalization's inaction to raise the price-based excise tax in 2018. CTC will consider approving the final 2020 STIP FE and the 2020 STIP Guidelines at its August meeting. MTC's 2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP), which is part of the 2020 STIP, is due to CTC in December 2019.

**Senate Bill 1 Program Updates and Actions.** The CTC approved the following items related to SB 1 implementation:

- **SB 1 Cycle 2 Update.** CTC has held three workshops to discuss the Local Partnership Program (\$200 million per year), and will hold the next workshop for the Solutions for Congested Corridors (\$250 million per year) on July 9 in Los Angeles. CTC will hold more workshops for other SB 1 programs, and will adopt

Guidelines in the Fall (Winter for Trade Corridor Enhancement Program), with applications due in Winter 2020. CTC plans to adopt the competitive programs in June 2020.

- SB 1 Project Allocations. The CTC approved \$3 million in Local Partnership Formula Program funds to three projects in Contra Costa (2) and Sonoma Counties.

**Active Transportation Program Update.** In May, Senate Bill 152 (Beall) did not move out of the Senate Appropriations Committee. SB 152 proposed changing the Active Transportation Program to expand project administration flexibility and to increase funding suballocated to large regions such as MTC. While legislation is not moving forward, MTC staff will closely follow the cycle 5 guidelines process and work with CTC staff on administrative changes such as re-examining definitions and scoring of disadvantaged communities, and simplifying the application process. Staff will also examine resources for technical assistance during the application process, and will increase focus on delivery of ATP projects to ensure selected projects meet deadlines and deliver project benefits.

**Extension and Allocations.** The CTC approved the following:

- Allocation extensions for 56 Active Transportation Program (ATP) projects, of which one was from the Bay Area;
- One Local Partnership Competitive Program allocation extension for an AC Transit project;
- One Trade Corridor Enhancement Program allocation extension for Emeryville's Quiet Zone project;
- Funding allocations for two State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) projects in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties;
- One Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) allocation of \$27 million for Caltrain Electrification;
- A \$10 million allocation of State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) funds for SR-37 to address recurring flooding; and
- Two ATP allocations in Alameda and Marin Counties.

MTC staff will continue to work with project sponsors of ATP and other CTC-managed programs to meet CTC delivery deadlines and requirements.

The next CTC meeting is scheduled for August 14-15, 2019 in San José, CA.

**Issues:** None.

**Recommendation:** Information. No action required.

**Attachments:** None.

  
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