

Metropolitan Transportation Commission Programming and Allocations Committee

February 10, 2021

Agenda Item 5a - 21-0147

California Transportation Commission (CTC) and State Funding Programs and Initiatives Update

Subject: Update on the January 27-28, 2021 California Transportation Commission (CTC) meeting and state funding programs and initiatives under the CTC's purview.

Background: The California Transportation Commission (CTC) is responsible for programming and allocating certain state and federal transportation funds for the planning and implementation of highway, passenger rail, non-motorized facilities, and transit improvements throughout California. Among other transportation funding programs, the CTC approves programming and allocations for the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP); State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP); State Active Transportation Program (ATP) and various Senate Bill 1 (SB1) programs including Solutions for Congested Corridors (SCC); Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) and the competitive element of the Local Partnership Program (LPP). The CTC allocates funds for projects in the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP), following project selection by the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA).

The CTC consists of eleven voting members and two non-voting ex-officio members. The San Francisco Bay Area has two (2) CTC members residing in its geographic area: Bob Alvarado (Executive Officer, Northern California Carpenters Regional Council) and Carl Guardino (Executive Vice President of Global Government Affairs and Policy for Bloom Energy).

January CTC Meeting (January 27-28, Held Online)

The CTC is scheduled to discuss the following issues of regional significance.

Short-Line Railroad Improvement Program Adoption. The CTC adopted the Program of Projects for the Short-Line Railroad Improvement Program (SLRIP). The SLRIP was created by SB 87 (2019), which directs \$7.2 million in savings from the Proposition 1B Trade Corridors Improvement Fund (TCIF) to create the SLRIP. Applications were due in late 2020. CTC staff recommended funding seven projects, with one project in the Bay Area: the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) District's Rail Freight Improvements Project for about \$1.5 million. The SMART project includes bridge repair and freight spur installation along tracks owned by SMART. MTC staff submitted a letter of support for the SMART project in November.

CTC Racial Equity Statement Adoption. CTC adopted a Racial Equity Statement that recognizes that California's transportation investments "have disproportionately benefitted some population groups and burdened others." To that end, the CTC will (quoted from the draft Statement):

- "Work to build and strengthen relationships with community-based organizations, non-profits, advocacy organizations, and other equity experts and practitioners through the Commission's forthcoming Equity Advisory Roundtable and other efforts;
- Strengthen understanding of community transportation needs and challenges through the forthcoming Community Listening Sessions;

- Ensure equity, public health, and robust public engagement via our planning and programming guidelines;
- Provide expanded opportunities for staff training related to diversity, equity, and inclusion; and
- Feature equity topics and elevate diverse perspectives in public meetings of the Commission.”

MTC staff will continue to engagement on statewide equity efforts, provide input as appropriate, and report on these efforts through future CTC update memos to the Programming and Allocations Committee.

The CTC’s adopted equity statement is located [here](#)

Commissioner Questions on Active Transportation from December PAC. At the December 2020 Programming and Allocations Committee, Commissioners Josefowitz and Worth posed staff questions related to active transportation efforts. Below are brief updates related to MTC’s work to support quick-delivery active transportation projects, equity e-bike program, and other active transportation funding opportunities.

- MTC’s Design and Project Delivery (DPD) section has been assisting Bay Area jurisdictions with a Slow Streets and Quick Build Technical Assistance program since April 2020. Work includes design technical assistance to accelerate complete streets improvements. Staff plans to create a consultant bench to further support quick-build design in early 2021.
- On December 14, 2020, MTC held a webinar on Slow Streets Hardening Strategies to illustrate benefits of durable pilot complete streets projects.
- MTC is developing an equity-focused e-bike rebate program for the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge corridor. Staff continues to coordinate with other Bay Area agencies that are working on e-bike rebate programs.
- In addition to the Active Transportation Program (ATP) funding bicycle and pedestrian improvements in the region, which provides the Bay Area with an average of \$14 million annually, MTC also administers the Transportation Development Act Article 3 program (TDA3). TDA3 provided about \$8 million last year for bicycle and pedestrian projects, including quick-builds. MTC allows each county to determine how to use funds in their county. Some counties competitively select projects while other counties distribute the funds to jurisdictions based on population.

Allocations, Extensions, and Amendments. The CTC approved the following: Allocations. For the following allocations, CTC provides a 12-month deadline to award a contract (from the standard 6 months) due to project delivery uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Funding allocations for Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) projects related to the Peninsula Corridor Electrification Expansion project, sponsored by Caltrain;
- Funding allocations for three Active Transportation Program (ATP) projects in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties;
- Funding allocations for two Local Partnership Program (LPP) projects in Contra Costa and San Mateo Counties; and

- Funding allocation for one jointly-funded Proposition 1B Traffic Light Synchronization Program (TLSP) and State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) project in San Mateo County.

Extensions.

- Contract award extensions for two Active Transportation Program (ATP) projects for Oakland (Alameda Co.) and San Francisco; and
- Project completion extension for one ATP project in San Francisco.

Amendments.

- STIP Amendment Notice for project changes in Contra Costa County.


MTC staff 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 March 24-25, 2021, to be held online.

Issues: None.

Recommendation: Information. No action required.

Attachments: None.


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