

#### TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

DATE:Thursday, March 23, 2023TIME:10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.LOCATION:In person at the ICTC Offices or Via Zoom for Non -Voting Members & the Public

Chairperson: City of Calipatria

Vice-Chair: City of El Centro

In compliance with the Brown Act and Government Code Section 54957.5, agenda materials distributed 72 hours prior to the meeting, which are public records relating to open session agenda items, will be available for inspection by members of the public prior to the meeting on the Commission's website: <a href="https://www.imperialctc.org">www.imperialctc.org</a>.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Government Code Section 54954.2, Executive Order N-29-20, and the Federal Transit Administration Title VI, please contact the Secretary to the Commission at (760) 592-4494 if special assistance is needed to participate in a Commission meeting, including accessibility and translation services. Assistance is provided free of charge. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting time will assist staff in assuring reasonable arrangements can be made to provide assistance at the meeting.

To join the Zoom Meeting by computer using video and audio, please click on the following link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86131109573?pwd=VFBudXlkV2dNamE2VTM3ckFiWFJCUT09

The meeting ID and Password are below in the event you may need them.

To join by phone please dial (720)707-2699. Meeting ID: 861 3110 9573# Password: 638912#

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Committee on any subject matter within the Committee jurisdiction, but not an item on the agenda. Any action taken because of a public comment shall be limited to direction to staff. In compliance with the Assembly Bill 361, the meeting will be held remotely and in person. Each speaker should contact the Secretary to the Commission at (760) 592-4494 or by email to <u>cristilerma@imperialctc.org</u>. When addressing the Committee, state your name for the record prior to providing your comments. Please address the Committee as a whole, through the Chairperson. Individuals will be given three (3) minutes to address the Committee; groups or topics will be given a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes. Public comments will be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes. If additional time is required for public comments, they will be heard at the end of the meeting. Please remember to follow the Public Comment Code of Conduct: No profanity or obscenity, yelling or screaming, no slander or defamatory statements, no personal threats, or attacks, no hateful or demeaning language based on hate of a person's race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or disability, respect all people that are present or watching, obey the direction of the Chair, Secretary to the Commission and ICTC Staff.

CITIES OF BRAWLEY, CALEXICO, CALIPATRIA, EL CENTRO, HOLTVILLE, IMPERIAL, WESTMORLAND, IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND COUNTY OF IMPERIAL

(2)

#### DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1.	Introductions	
2.	Adoption of Minutes for February 23, 2023 Requesting a motion to adopt	ACTION
3.	<b>Local Transportation Authority (LTA) Overview</b> <i>Presented by ICTC Staff</i>	25 minutes
4.	ICTC Updates / Announcements Presented by ICTC Staff 1. Transit Planning Updates 2. Transportation Planning Updates • CRRSAA Funds Update • Local Partnership Program (LPP) Update • Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update • Federal & State Project Listing for FFY 2022-23	10 minutes
5.	<b>Caltrans Updates/ Announcements</b> <i>Presented by Caltrans Staff</i>	10 minutes
6.	SCAG Updates/ Announcements Presented by SCAG Staff	10 minutes
7.	<b>Cities and County Planning / Public Works Updates</b> All	10 minutes
8.	General Discussion / New Business	10 minutes

#### 9. Adjournment

The next meeting of the ICTC TAC meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 27, 2023. For questions you may call Marlene Flores at (760) 592-4494 or contact by email at <u>marleneflores@Imperialctc.org</u>

## 2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 23, 2023

Requesting a motion to adopt



#### 1503 N. IMPERIAL AVE., SUITE 104 EL CENTRO, CA 92243-2875 PHONE: (760) 592-4494 FAX: (760) 592-4410 **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

#### February 23, 2023

City of Brawley

City of Calexico

City of Calipatria City of El Centro

City of Holtville City of Imperial

City of Westmorland

County of Imperial

#### Present:

Guillermo Sillas Lily Falomir Jeorge Galvan Abraham Campos Adriana Anguis Jesus Villegas Ramiro Barajas Veronica Atondo

#### **Others:**

Others.	
David Aguirre	ICTC
Marlene Flores	ICTC
Angela Delgadillo	ICTC
Esperanza Avila	ICTC
Andrea Montaño	City of Brawley
Angel Hernandez	City of El Centro
Andres Miramontes	City of El Centro
Felix De Leon	City of El Centro
Marco Coronel	City of Imperial
Adolfo Garcia	County of Imperial
Monica Soucier	County of Imperial
Ismael Garcia	County of Imperial
Nick Ventrilla	Caltrans
Rafael Reyes	Caltrans
Robin Owen	Caltrans
Kevin Hovey	Caltrans
David Salgado	SCAG
Jessica Reyes Juarez	SCAG

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. A quorum was present, and introductions were made. There were no public comments made.
- 2. Adopted resolution authorizing remote teleconference meeting in accordance with Assembly Bill 361. ICTC requested a motion to adopt. (Galvan/Anguis). Motion Carried.

- 3. A motion was made to adopt the minutes for January 23, 2023 (Atondo/Anguis) Motion Carried.
- 4. REAP 2.0 PATH Program (Programs to Accelerate Transformative Housing), Draft Application

(Presented by: Jessica Reyes Juarez, SCAG)

- Ms. Reyes Juarez provided a brief presentation on the REAP 2.0 PATH Program Draft Application.
- For more information, please visit <u>https://scag.ca.gov/reap2021</u>
- Jacob Noonan, Housing Program Manager: noonan@scag.ca.gov
- Jessica Reyes Juarez, Associate Regional Planner: juarez@scag.ca.gov
- Hannah Brunelle: <u>brunelle@scag.ca.gov</u>
- 5. ICTC Updates / Announcements

(Presented by ICTC Staff)

- a. Transit Planning Updates
- b. Transportation Planning Updates
  - CRRSAA Funds Update:
    - The following documents should be in submitted:
    - Attachments B CRRSAA Allocation Form
    - CRRSAA Finance Letter
    - CRRSAA ePPR
    - Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update:
      - Visit the team at four upcoming events for giveaways and to share feedback:
      - March 11: El Centro Air Show
      - March 15: Children's and Family Health Fair in Niland
      - March 30: Cesar Chavez Celebration Festival in Calexico
      - April 1: Annual Children's Fair in El Centro
      - Join us: Ictc-lrtp2023.org
    - Federal & State Project Listing for FFY 2022-23:
      - Each jurisdiction gave their update.
- 6. Caltrans Updates / Announcements:

(Presented by: Robin Owen)

- February 3, 2023 was the deadline to submit Inactive invoices or justification.
- January 31, 2023 Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 22/23 Requests for Authorization Obligations Due! Please submit RFA packages as soon as possible.
- March 7, 2023 Reconnecting Communities: Highways to Boulevards Pilot Program Workshop: <u>https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/fed-and-state-programs/rc-h2b</u>
- April 28, 2023Clean California Local Grant Program Cycle 2 Call for Projects Applications Due: <u>https://cleancalifornia.dot.ca.gov/local-grants/local-grant-program</u>
- The next CTC meeting is on March 22, 2023. The following will be on May 17, 2023. To submit for the May 17<sup>th</sup> CTC Meeting the deadline will be March 17, 2023.
- Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Feb. 28, 2023: Deadline is February 28, 2023
- Local Assistance Day save the date: March 8, 2023, <u>https://ca-ctap.org/?pid=1611</u>
- June 1, 2023 Annual Deadline for Local Assistance Procedures Manual Exhibits 9-B & 9-C!
- Cooperative Training Assistance Program (CTAP) New Learning Opportunities! ("live" & virtual)
- Federal Aid Series and the Resident Engineers Academy, both of which fill quickly. "Live" on-site classroom delivery will be returning soon. Please enroll early!
- Schedule is available here <u>https://ca-ctap.org/?pid=1609</u> Recordings of several trainings are online.

#### 7. SCAG Updates / Announcements:

(Presented by: David Salgado)

- SCAG's scholarship program is currently open. SCAG has worked closely with the County office of Education and has distributed this information to all high school counselors. This opportunity is for \$4,000 for any graduating high school student or current community college student. The scholarship is focused on public policy and urban planning majors.
- For more information, please contact David Salgado at salgado@scag.ca.gov

#### 8. Cities and County Planning / Public Works Updates:

• Each jurisdiction gave their update.

#### 9. General Discussion / New Business

• Next meeting there will be an overview of the LTA. It is encouraged that everyone attends this meeting in person and other city/county staff that work with LTA.

Next TAC meeting will be March 23, 2023, via Zoom for the public and in person at the ICTC offices.

Meeting adjourned at 11:54 p.m.

## 3. LQCAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (LTA) QVERVIEW

Presented by: ICTC Staff

# 4. ICTC UPDATES/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Presented by ICTC Staff

## How would you like to get around the Valley?

## Come tell us what matters most to you!

#### OUR IMPERIAL VALLEY, OUR FUTURE, OUR GROWTH.



The Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC) is preparing an update to the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP will identify transportation priorities, funding, and policies necessary to move Imperial County forward for the next 30 years.



Stay informed by visiting the project page!

#### ALL EVENTS ARE FREE TO ATTEND!

- El Centro Annual Air Show
  Saturday, March 11, 2023
  Gates open at 8:30 a.m. Events until 4:00 p.m.
  2024 Bennett Road, El Centro, CA
- Children's and Family Health Fair
  Wednesday, March 15, 2023
  1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
  Grace Smith School Gym
  9 East 4th Street, Niland, CA
- Cesar Chavez Celebration Festival Thursday, March 30, 2023
   2:00 to 7:00 p.m.
   Rockwood Avenue Promenade
   Downtown Calexico
- 42nd Annual Children's Fair Saturday, April 1, 2023
   10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
   Bucklin Park
   8th Street and Ross Avenue
   El Centro, CA

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For more information, contact: Virginia Mendoza, Program Manager Tel. (760) 592-4494 virginiamendoza@imperialctc.org

## ¿Como le gustaría movilizarse por el Valle?

### iVenga y díganos qué es lo más importante para usted!

#### NUESTRO VALLE IMPERIAL, NUESTRO FUTURO, NUESTRO CRECIMIENTO.



La Comisión de Transporte del Condado Imperial (ICTC, por sus siglas en inglés) está preparando una actualización del Plan de Transporte a Largo Plazo (LRTP, por sus siglas en inglés). El LRTP identificará las prioridades de transporte, la financiación y las políticas necesarias para hacer avanzar al Condado Imperial durante los próximos 30 años.



iManténgase informado visitando la página web del proyecto!

#### **iLA ENTRADA A TODOS LOS EVENTOS ES GRATIS!**

- Exhibición Aérea Anual de El Centro Sábado, 11 de marzo de 2023
   Las puertas se abrirán a las 8:30 a.m. Eventos hasta las 4:00 p.m.
   2024 Bennett Road, El Centro, CA
- Feria de Salud Infantil y Familiar Miércoles, 15 de Marzo, 2023

1:30 a 3:00 p. m. Gimnasio de la Escuela Grace Smith 9 East 4th Street, Niland, CA

- Festival de Celebración de César Chávez
   Jueves, 30 de Marzo, 2023
   2:00 a 7:00 p. m.
   Paseo de la Avenida Rockwood Centro de Calexico
- 42a Feria Anual de los Niños Sábado, 1 de Abril, 2023
   10:00 a. m. a 2:00 p. m.
   Bucklin Park
   8th Street y Ross Avenue
   El Centro, CA



**Para más información, contacte:** Virginia Mendoza, Gerente de Programas Tel. (760) 592-4494 virginiamendoza@imperialctc.org

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https://ictc-lrtp2023.org/

#### FFY22/23 Federal Funded Project Obligation List

Federal funding Obligations: The following is a list of projects that must submit a Request for Authorization to Caltrans Local Assistance. Projects must obligate (E-76) federal funds in FFY 2022/23. (Starting October 1, 2022 thru September 30, 2023) Federal Project ID **Federal Amount in FY Project ID Obligation Status/ Notes Project Name** Funding Type **Programming Phase** Agency (FPN) 2022/23 (in 000's) Traffic Signal Synchronization & Agency is working on Intelligent Transportation Systems Environamental comments for the Brawley IMP220601 CML 5167(046) on Main St. from Western Ave. to CMAQ CON \$700 PES form. Needs ROW Best Ave., and on 8th St. from certification Main St. to B St. Sidewalk Improvement Project on Grant Street between Pierce Avenue and Emilia Drive, Calexico IMP220602 CON Calexico Street between Adler Avenue to CMAQ \$230 No information Kloke Avenue, Van de Graaf between Cole Boulevard and Calexico 10 Theaters Cole Boulevard between M.L. King IMP220609 CON Calexico and Boweker Road Rehabilitation STBG \$1,416 No information Project East 9th Street Pedestrian Holtville IMP220605 CML 5174(035) Improvements Project from Ash CMAQ CON \$400 FPN was requested on 11/28/22 Avenue to Oak Avenue West 9th Street Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Project IMP2206012 STPL 5174(034) STBG ENG \$53 FPN was requested on 11/15/22 Holtville Between Melon Road and Olive Avenue Aten Boulevard Class II Bike Lane IMP220606 CML 5134(026) CMAQ CON \$404 FPN was requested on 2/8/23 Imperial from Vilore Way to Austin Road Aten Boulevard Rehabilitation Project IMP2206013 STBG CON Imperial \$1,136 Between Vilore Way and Old SR-86 \$4,339

Updated on 2/22/23

CON- Construction
PE- Design
R/W- Right of Way
RFA- Request for Authorization
CMAQ- Congestion Mitigation Air Quality
STBG- Surface Transportation Block Grant



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### Memorandum

Date:March 22, 2023To:ICTC Commission MembersFrom:David Aguirre, Executive DirectorRe:Executive Director's Report

The following is a summary of the Executive Director's Report for the ICTC Commission meeting on March 22, 2023.

- 1) **FY 2023-24 Unmet Transit Needs Survey:** The Imperial County Transportation Commission is collecting public feedback on public transportation needs. This involves funding for various public transit services. You are invited to provide your feedback by completing our survey before 5:00 PM on March 03, 2023. ICTC had previously posted an online survey and physical surveys available on our vehicles for passengers to complete. The public hearing is scheduled for April 6, 2023, at 3 p.m.at the ICTC offices and via zoom meeting. ICTC respectfully request members of the commission to attend the public hearing and one member of the commission to facilitate the public hearing. The public hearing is typically facilitated by the Chair of the commission but the role can delegated.
- 2) **2022** Long Range Transportation Plan: The ICTC in its capacity as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency is responsible to lead the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) in Imperial County. The last update to the LRTP was conducted in 2013. ICTC staff completed a Request for Proposal (RFP) to prepare a full update of the Imperial County LRTP. Michael Baker International was the selected consultant. The goal of the LRTP is to provide the following:
  - Identify and promote the relationship between the transportation system to existing and future land use and community comprehensive plans and programs.
  - Provide guidance to promote the improvement of multi-modal transportation circulation of people and goods, using both motorized and non-motorized transportation modes, new technologies and infrastructure facilities.
  - Recommendations and guidance to provide a safe, efficient, accessible, socially equitable and cost-effective transportation system.
  - Ensure compliance with state and federal transportation planning regulations.
  - Develop recommendations that ensure environmentally sustainable planning practices.

The consultant team continues to work on the existing conditions technical memorandum. The first TAC meeting was held on March 30, 2022, and was attended by a diverse stakeholder group comprised of local, regional, environmental justice groups and economic development organizations. In addition, an all-day event with six (6) subgroup meetings was held on April 6, 2022, that encompassed subgroups for:

- Highways and Local Roadways
- Border and Goods Movement
- Pedestrian, Bicycles and Microbility
- Transit and Paratransit / Senior and Disabled Service

- Environmental and Environmental Justice
- Developers / Economic Development / Small Business Liaison

The Consultant has completed drafts of the Existing Conditions technical memorandum and Transportation Issues and Strategies technical memorandum. To access the documents, please visit the project website located at <a href="https://ictc-lrtp2023.org/new-page-2">https://ictc-lrtp2023.org/new-page-2</a>. The Consultant team has draft listing of Projects and Program listing and has conducted one-on-one meetings with local agencies for input. The draft list Projects and Programs were reviewed by the Steering Committee on Tuesday, December 13, 2022. Project list evaluation has been initiated by the Consultant and additional project follow-up is being conducted by the lead agency.

Spring outreach activities for the Long Range Transportation Program have been scheduled in conjunction with community events for the following days:

- El Centro Annual Air Show: March 11, at 8:30 a.m. 2024 Bennet Road, El Centro
- Children's and Family Health Fair: Wednesday, March 15, at 1:30 p.m. Grace Smith School Gym, 9 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Niland
- Calexico Wellness Center Health Fair: March 22, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. 420 Heffernan Avenue, Calexico
- Cesar Chavez Celebration Festival: Thursday, March 30, at 2 p.m. Rockwood Avenue Promenade in Downtown Calexico
- 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Children's Fair: Saturday, April 1, at 10 a.m. Bucklin Park, 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Ross Avenue, El Centro

A steering committee meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2023 with Caltrans, County of Imperial, SCAG and ICTC staff. A technical advisory committee meeting with all City, County, IID and Caltrans staff in mid-late April 2023.

- 3) Calexico Microtransit Service Calexico On Demand: ICTC submitted a grant application for the Clean Mobility Options (CMO) program in October of 2020. The grant application was submitted to provide a clean energy microtransit service in the city of Calexico. In early 2021, ICTC was notified of its grant award of \$1 Million to fund the pilot microtransit service. The microtransit service will operate as an on-demand service available to provide trips to the general public within the boundaries of the city of Calexico. The award required that ICTC fund and operate the service for a minimum of 4 years. ICTC partnered with Via Transportation, an experienced transportation operator to operate the service. ICTC and Via began the development of the project including service criteria, marketing information, and operational criteria. ICTC obtained approval from the CMO program to commence the service. *ICTC kicked off the service on January 9th, 2023 and intends to have a formal event to celebrate the kickoff of the service as soon as approval is received by the CMO. The service was free for all passengers until February 9th, 2023. Further information about the service can be viewed on the website: <u>https://city.ridewithvia.com/calexico-ondemand.</u> The service has averaged 150 passengers per day since the removal of the free fares and has been well received.*
- 4) Forrester Road Project Study Report (PSR): Caltrans District 11 has been working on a project report on behalf of ICTC. The PSR will analyze safety and operation improvements along Forrester Road between I-8 and SR86/SR78. Other improvements include the Westmorland bypass. A meeting to discuss the draft PSR will be held at the ICTC offices on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 9 a.m.
- 5) **Imperial Mexicali Binational Alliance (IMBA):** The February 9, 2023, IMBA meeting was held in the City of El Centro at the ICTC offices. The meeting included updates on Calexico East Port of Entry Bridge Widening project, Calexico West Port of Entry Phase 2A and 2B, education updates by IVC, SDSU Imperial Valley Campus and Mexicali partners. Presentations on the Gateway of the America's were provided by developers. *The next IMBA meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2023, in the City of Mexicali. The meeting will be available via Zoom and in-person.*
- 6) Calexico East Port of Entry Bridge Widening Project: The Project proposes to widen the bridge over the All-American Canal at the U.S./Mexico border approximately 0.7 miles south of State Route (SR) 7. The project proposes to widen the existing structure by adding four lanes: Two New Northbound Auto Lanes and Two New Northbound Commercial Vehicle Lanes. In May 2018, Caltrans and ICTC received \$3,000,000 from the California Transportation Commission and the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) to complete the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA/ED) for the project. In June 2018, Caltrans completed a

Project Initiation Document (PID). In Fall of 2018, the PA/ED phase was initiated by Caltrans, technical studies for the National Environment Policy Act (NEPA) document under Caltrans as the NEPA lead are in progress and is scheduled for completion in May 2020. In December 2018, ICTC was awarded \$20 million under the U.S. Department of Transportation's BUILD discretionary grant program to complete the Design-Build construction phase. ICTC subsequently received TCEP in the amount of \$7.4 Million for construction efforts. *The design portion of the project is complete. The project construction is underway, and construction is anticipated to be completed in mid-2023. Approximately 80% of construction efforts have been completed. A ribbon cutting ceremony is anticipated to take place in the May/June timeframe. The project is temporarily on hold due to the issuance of the presidential permit to relocate the border fence.* 

7) State Route 86 (Northbound) Border Patrol Checkpoint: State Route 86 (Northbound) Border Patrol Checkpoint: In August 2017 following a year of coordination, Caltrans, the County of Imperial and ICTC met with CBP management and operations staff achieved consensus for a new conceptual alternative prepared by Caltrans. The LTA Board met on September 27, 2017; staff presented the Board with a fund request for \$1.3 million from the 5% Regional Highway Set-Aside from the Measure D allocations. A Consultant Agreement with AECOM for design and construction engineering was approved by the LTA on February 28, 2018. Following our ICTC Board meeting in late September 2020, ICTC has initiated a traffic study as required by Caltrans. Design work has been delayed due to Border Patrol's concern related to their ability to provide additional funding necessary to meet their operational requirements. On Wednesday, March 17, 2021, ICTC received confirmation from Border Patrol Headquarters in Washington D.C. that they wish to proceed with the original Canopy Design that is similar to Interstate 8 Pine Valley Checkpoint.

As discussed, and confirmed with Border Patrol, ICTC will only provide the remaining funds we had available (February 2021) of approximately \$1.3 million to complete the traffic study, 100% design plans, and construction of the canopy, lighting related to the canopy, and traffic related improvements required by Caltrans. Border Patrol has committed to paying for all other construction related costs and Border Patrol will lead the construction contract. Border Patrol, Caltrans and ICTC are having weekly meetings toward completing design plans and obtaining Caltrans Permits and Environmental Clearance.

- 8) Bus Stop along Cole Road west of Highway 111 in the City of Calexico: *ICTC received a request through its* Unmet Transit Needs Public Hearing Process asking for the installation of bus stop improvements along Cole Road west of Highway 111 in the City of Calexico. *ICTC and the City of Calexico were able to work together to* have the bus shelter and associated infrastructure improvements installed. The bus stop is now open for public use.
- 9) Clean California Bus Stop Improvement Project Through Clean California Round 1 Funding, Caltrans was able to secure funding to complete bus stop and shelter improvements in the communities of Niland, Calipatria, Brawley and Holtville along various state routes. Caltrans, ICTC and the communities worked together to identify locations, in addition to reviewing possible secondary amenities such as trash enclosures. Construction activities for the new bus stop improvements began on March 13, 2023.
- 10) Funding for Phase II of the Calexico West Port of Entry: As previously noted, Congress authorized \$98 million for Phase 1. The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) began construction for Phase 1 in December 2015 with completion now scheduled for July 2018. Phase 2A was awarded in the amount of \$191million and will include six additional northbound privately-owned vehicle (POV) inspection lanes, permanent southbound POV inspection, expanded secondary inspection and adding a pre-primary canopy, new administration building, and employee parking structure. *Funding for phase 2B was awarded in the amount of \$103.4 million. Work for phase 2B will include demolition of the old port building and construction of the new pedestrian building. The total estimated investment for the Calexico West POE improvements are \$416.2 million. Construction efforts for the West Port of Entry are anticipated to begin on September 26, 2022. Noticing information pertaining to lane closures and closure times, adjustments to the East Port of Entry passenger vehicle operating hours and other items have been distributed and shared via multiple media outlets including ICTC's website at Canopy construction at the Calexico West Port of Entry to impact vehicle traffic | Imperial County Transportation Commission (imperialctc.org)*

11) Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) 2022 Call for Projects – FFY 2022/2023 to FFY 2024/2025: The STBG and CMAQ Call for Projects began on November 18, 2021. The approved 2022 CMAQ & STBG Guidelines are posted on the ICTC website at <a href="http://www.imperialctc.org/call-for-projects/">http://www.imperialctc.org/call-for-projects/</a>. Applications were submitted on Friday, February 25, 2022 to ICTC office. All agencies submitted with the exception of the City of Westmorland and IID. A total of 10 STBG and 11 CMAQ applications were received by ICTC. Funding requests exceed the CMAQ and STBG amounts available for the three (3) fiscal years.

Program	Total Amount Available	Amount Requested by All Applicants
CMAQ	\$5,222,306	\$9,136,697
STBG	\$7,706,117	\$16,640,508

Technical staff representing all the cities and county participated in a scoring and ranking meeting on March 17, 2022, at the ICTC offices. This item was approved by the Commission on April 27, 2022. ICTC staff worked with local agency staff and programmed all approved projects in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). Additionally, in response to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) corrective action of future CMAQ and STBG funds, ICTC staff has worked with member agency staff and completed a mini call for projects for FFY 2025/26 CMAQ and STBG funds. On Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> all member agencies reviewed and ranked projects submitted for FFY2025/26 funding. *Project list recommendation was reviewed and approved by Management Committee and Commission on November 9, 2022.* 

- 12) Orchard Road & SR115 Traffic Concept Report: During the Commission meeting of September 2022, the Commission asked ICTC staff to follow up on the SR 115 Transportation Concept Report (TCR). ICTC staff has conducted meetings with Caltrans and County Public Works staff during the week of October 17<sup>th</sup>. ICTC staff in partnership with County and Caltrans staff are continuing discussions for short term options to deter trucks from using Orchard Road. The parties are also expected to discuss long term options as well. More information will be shared as discussions continue.
- 13) **Regional Active Transportation Program**: ICTC staff has been working with staff from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) in the development of the Active Transportation Program (ATP) guidelines. The ATP is funded from various federal and state funds including the federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), State Highway Account, and Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S). The approved California Transportation Commission 2023 ATP (Cycle 6) program guidelines divide the funds into state and regional shares. State funds are available through a competitive application process. Applicants that are unsuccessful at the state level are considered for regional funds. Regional ATP funds are administered by the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO). SCAG is Imperial County's MPO. Per SCAG's 2023 ATP Regional Guidelines, county transportation commissions may assign up to 20 points to each statewide project application deemed consistent and meeting eligibility requirements. ICTC staff has completed the adoption process of the scoring methodology. ICTC staff received state scoring of ATP applications from Imperial County and presented staff recommendations to TAC members on December 15, 2022. Staff recommendations were approved at the January Commission meeting. See the table below for further information. *Next steps include approval of the projects by SCAG and ultimately the California Transportation Commission during their June 2023 meeting*.

TABLE 2			
Agency	Project Name	Total ATP Funds Requested	
City of Calipatria	Bonita Place Pedestrian Safety Project	\$997,000	
City of El Centro	Pedestrian Improvement Project – various locations on Main Street	\$1,200,000	
ICTC	Pedestrian Improvements for the Calexico Intermodal Transportation Center	\$1,073,000	
	\$3,270,000		

- 14) Calexico Intermodal Transportation Center (ITC): A new Intermodal Transportation Center in the City of Calexico has been part of ICTC's long range transit planning. The new Calexico ITC will serve as a regional mobility hub that will accommodate bus bays for Imperial Valley Transit in addition to the City of Calexico's private transit operators, taxis and farm labor buses. ICTC received a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality federal program fund to complete the environmental and design plans of the new Calexico ITC. ICTC staff is in the process of completing the contract award for a consultant firm that will complete the environmental and design phase. Currently, ICTC staff is completing the Caltrans award review process with multiple Caltrans' departments. The ICTC Board adopted the agreement with Psomas on September 26, 2018. The environmental phase has been completed. *Design was completed in the month of April 2022 and Right of Way Acquisition is underway. The city of Calexico Council approved the commencement of the eminent domain process for two of the required properties. ICTC is exploring funding opportunities to complete the required construction efforts and to assist with Right of Way acquisition.*
- 15) San Diego & Imperial Counties Sustainable Freight Strategy: San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and ICTC received a Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant for a Sustainable Freight Implementation Strategy for both counties. The goal with the strategy is to help transition the freight sector in San Diego and Imperial Counties to sustainable technologies, operations, infrastructure over the next 30 years. The strategy will systematically implement multimodal freight projects and policies, seek to pilot innovation technologies, create a workforce development toolkit, and identify potential funding sources for implementation. The area of study includes communities adjacent to major freight infrastructure in San Diego and Imperial Counties. Environmental justice areas, as defined by AB617, will be a particular focus and include the Portside Environmental Justice Communities, the International Border Community, and Calexico-El Centro-Heber corridor. This plan kicked off in February 2022 and is expected to be completed March 2024. Public engagement has been instrumental in the creation of this strategy, participants of Imperial County have included County Public Works department, Work Force Development, Comité Civico del Valle, Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation, among others. *A survey will be shared to San Diego and Imperial County stakeholders on March 20, 2023*.
- 16) **Potential Bus Stop in Calipatria:** ICTC has evaluated all of its fixed route service routes to attempt to provide service to the east side of Calipatria. Staff conducted time trials as well utilized several types of buses to verify buses would not have issues with other existing stops within proposed routes. Potential stops for the area include a stop along Commercial Avenue and potentially another stop near Alexandria Street. Staff is proposing to utilize its IVC Express route to potentially service the area. ICTC and City staff have begun coordination to implement infrastructure associated with the bus stop(s). *ICTC has begun utilizing the IVC Express route to service both bus stops along the east side (intersection of Bonita Place and Commercial Avenue) and (intersection of Alexandria Street and Brown Avenue) of Calipatria. The City of Calipatria has engaged its engineering team to review applicable infrastructure needs. ICTC has received a proposed cost to complete the infrastructure improvements. <i>ICTC has forwarded proposed concepts for bus stop improvements at the two locations to the city staff. Further coordination is required.*
- 17) **Imperial Valley Transit (IVT) FREE FARES PROGRAM:** On August 7, 2020, the Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC) announced the implementation of a **Free Fares Program** for various Imperial Valley Transit (IVT) services. Eligible services include IVT Fixed Route, IVT Circulators (Blue, Green and Gold Lines), IVT ACCESS and IVT RIDE (EL Centro, Imperial, Heber, Brawley, Calexico, Westshores). All passengers are eligible to benefit from the Free Fares Program. The fares are subsidized by a State of California grant and fare contributions to IVT RIDE passengers by the County of Imperial's Area Agency for the Aging (AAA). *ICTC was able to secure a new grant to provide free fares for all of its transit programs. ICTC is currently working on program rollout and is currently developing a new grant application to expand the program.*
- 18) State Route 98 Widening from Ollie to Rockwood: As part of the Calexico West POE Expansion project, SR-98 and Cesar Chavez Boulevard were widened and improved to serve the expansion to the west. Caltrans' SR-98 work between VV Williams and Ollie Avenue was completed in March 2018, and the Cesar Chavez Blvd. Widening was completed in October 2019. Caltrans has completed the design and right of way phase for SR-98 Widening between Rockwood Avenue and Ollie Avenue. On June 24, 2020, CTC authorized construction

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funding. The total project cost is estimated at \$7 million using a combination of 2016 Earmark Repurposing, Demonstration, Traffic Congestion Relief, ICTC and local funds. *The construction start date was delayed to due to environmental impacts and other utility projects in progress within the project area.* Construction of the project began on August 6, 2021. The existing contractor of the project has been removed. Caltrans has secured a new temporary contractor to complete the project improvements from Ollie Avenue to Highway 111. Caltrans completed Phase 1 in late November. Phase 2 of the project commenced on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Phase 2 of the project is anticipated to be completed in the April/May 2023 timeframe.

- 19) State and Federal Local funding Obligations: Projects programmed in programmed in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019/2020 were fully obligated according to Caltrans Local Assistance. Beginning October 1, 2020, agencies can move forward with request for authorization (RFA) for Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ), Surface Transportation Block Grant program (STBG) programmed in FFY 2020/2021. Other state funding also included in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) include the Active Transportation Program (ATP).
- 20) State Legislation for Transportation Funding SB 1 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA): According to the California League of Cities, overall local streets and roads allocations to cities and counties from the Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) and the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA) are projected to climb 14.8% in the current fiscal year, 2021-22, above last year, reflecting a rebound from peak impacts of the pandemic in 2020. For the budget year 2022-23, allocations are projected to grow 10.8% over the current year. This presumes that if the scheduled July 1 cost-of-living fuel tax increase is suspended, the Legislature will backfill any revenue impacts to local governments as leaders have pledged. The estimates are based on new statewide tax revenue estimates released by the California Department of Finance with the Governor's 2022-23 Proposed Budget. The county estimates were prepared in collaboration with the California State Association of Counties.

For RMRA remittance advice by cities visit: <u>https://www.sco.ca.gov/ard\_payments\_rmra\_cities.html</u> For RMRA remittance advice by counties visit: <u>https://www.sco.ca.gov/ard\_payments\_rmra\_counties.html</u>

21) State Legislation for Transportation Funding – SB 1 Local Partnership Program (LPP): Local Partnership Program is comprised of formulaic program and competitive programs. The Local Partnership Formulaic Program (LPFP) funds share distributions for Cycle 3 are in the amount of \$1,549,000. Cycle 3 LPFP funds must be programmed and allocated in FY 2022-2023 and before June 30, 2023. The Program guidelines require a 50% match, project nomination forms must be collected by ICTC and submitted to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for programming approval. Subsequently, the cities/county must submit allocation request to the CTC for use of funds. A one-time extension is allowed for allocation approval by the CTC for up to 12 months. If both programming, allocation, and/or time extension is approved by June 30, 2023, funds will lapse.

ICTC staff is preparing to initiate the funding distribution discussion with member agency staff at the TAC meeting on August 25, 2022. Upon review and recommendations received by TAC members, project nomination forms will be gathered and presented to the ICTC Management and Commission in the September or October meetings.

*The following is the link to the 2019 Local Partnership Program guidelines:* <u>http://catc.ca.gov/programs/sb1/lpp/docs/062719+Amended LPP%20Guidelines.pdf</u>

#### 22) Partnerships with IVEDC:

• <u>Southern Border Broadband Consortium (SBBC)</u>: SBBC continues to work with local stakeholders to identify, prioritize and advance broadband infrastructure and improvement projects; facilitate and promote broadband education community wide using survey data; work with the Boys and Girls Club of IV and the Workforce Development Board to create Digital Literacy Centers throughout Imperial County; *The grant Cycle 1 has one (1) pending invoice waiting for approval. Budget Recap:* 

#### Cycle 1: 2017-2020

Original Grant Amount: \$450,000.00 Total Reimbursements Received to Date: \$233,070

• <u>The Brawley Transit Corridor Brownfield Assessment:</u> ICTC in partnership with IVEDC received a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Communitywide Assessment Grant award of \$300,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Assessment Program. This assessment is focused along the transit circulator route within the 13-mile Imperial Valley Transit's (IVTs) Brawley Gold Line Transit Route and the Brawley Transit Center that serves as the IVTs North Imperial County transfer terminal. The commercial corridors in the target assessment area include over 100 known commercial properties and suspected historical gas station sites with known or suspected underground tanks in the target area. ICTC is the fiscal agent and has developed an MOU which will define roles and responsibilities (Audits, Administration and Project Management) of ICTC and IVEDC. SCS Engineers Tasks include the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and project management plan as required by EPA. *As of February 3, 2023, there is a remaining grant balance of \$44,639. Of the \$49,398, \$38,908 is the remaining contract balance for SCS Engineers. IVEDC Staff provided an update at the Commission meeting on September 28, 2022.* 

#### 23) Meetings attended on behalf of ICTC:

- Various Weekly Reoccurring Calexico East POE Bridge Widening Project Meetings
- Various Weekly Project Specific Meetings
- February 22, 2023 ICTC Commission and LTA meetings at the ICTC offices and via zoom meeting
- February 23, 2023 ICTC TAC Meeting at the ICTC offices and via zoom meeting
- February 23, 2023 IVRMA TAC Meeting at the ICTC offices and via zoom meeting
- February 24, 2023 SANDAG Borders Committee via zoom meeting
- March 1, 2023 ICTC Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) Meeting at the ICTC offices and via zoom meeting
- March 2, 2023 SCAG Regional Council Meeting via zoom meeting

# 5. CALTBANS UPDATES/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Presented by Caltrans Staff

#### California Department of Transportation



To: ICTC Commission

Date: March 2023

From: GUSTAVO DALLARDA Caltrans District 11 Director

#### Subject: DISTRICT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### **CONSTRUCTION**

- 1. **SR-98 Widening Project:** As part of the Calexico West POE Expansion project, SR-98 and Cesar Chavez Blvd were widened and improved to serve the expansion to the west. SR-98 work between VV Williams and Ollie Avenue was completed in March 2018, and the Cesar Chavez Blvd widening was completed in October 2019 by the City of Calexico. Construction for stage 1 of the SR-98 eastbound widening between Rockwood Avenue and Ollie Avenue was completed in mid-November. The construction of Stage 2 (westbound SR-98 from SR-111 to Ollie Ave) is underway and estimated to be completed by late-April. The total project cost is estimated at \$8.2 million.
- 2. SR-111 Niland Geyser/Mud Pot: The SR-111 Niland Geyser/Mud Pot continues to be active. Another smaller active caldera appeared a few feet to the north-east of the original and is expanding in size. Water from the original caldera, continues to erode the edge of the existing SR-111. Water from the Mud Pot continues free-flowing through the remaining subsurface drainage installed in 2019. The original temporary detour road was opened to traffic in August of 2020. Due to the Mud Pot's unpredictable change in direction, a revised detour was required. The revised detour was completed on April 30, 2021. The detour will remain in place as the mud pot moves beyond the original freeway. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ek1buV2HA68
- 3. I-8 Colorado River Bridge Rehab: This project is located near the Arizona border on I-8. The scope includes replacement of bearing pads, portions of the concrete pavement on the bridge deck and approach slabs. Part of workfootprint straddles the California/Arizona border. Detours are expected and will be announced prior to commencement of work. Construction started in February 2023 and estimated completion is early 2024. The total project cost is estimated at \$11.1 million.

- 4. I-8, SR-78 Bridge Rehab at Various Locations: The project scope includes 4 bridge locations on I-8 at Brock Research Center Rd, All American Canal (left/right) Bridges and at Winterhaven Dr/4<sup>th</sup> Ave. The 2 locations on SR-78 are at Palo Verde Drain and Palo Verde Outfall bridges near Palo Verde. The project has been awarded with construction estimated to start in March 2023. Total estimated cost is \$13.2 million.
- 5. I-8 Roadside Safety Improvements: This project will be implementing various safety improvements at various locations on I-8 between Silsbee Rd and Anderholt Rd. The scope includes slope paving, gore paving and rumble strip installations. Construction is expected to start in June 2023 and estimated completion is spring 2024. The total project cost is estimated at \$4.6 million.

#### PROJECT DELIVERY

- 1. Middle Mile Broadband Initiative: In July 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law Senate Bill 156 to create an open-access middle-mile network to bring equitable high-speed broadband service to all Californians. Caltrans D11 is working with the California Department of Technology (CDT) to deliver middle mile broadband projects in Imperial County along state routes. Currently, CDT has approved segments on SR78, SR86, SR111 and SR115 totaling in 178 miles of middle mile broadband deployment. Caltrans has begun design work for these segments. The total capital cost for construction is estimated at \$62.3 million and target completion date is December 2026.
- 2. Clean California Projects: District 11 will be delivering projects funded by the Clean California Grant Program. They include bus shelter improvements in Niland(SR111), and bus shelter installations in Calipatria(SR111), Brawley(SR86) and Holtville(SR115). Additionally, median island improvements in El Centro(SR86) and a gateway beautification project at SR-7/Nina Lee Rd just north of the Calexico Port of Entry are also included as part of this effort. The projects are expected to be completed by July 2023. Below is a conceptual rendering of the gateway sign.



3. **SR-186 All-American Canal Bridge:** This project proposes to construct a new bridge over the All-American Canal (AAC). The new bridge will improve safety and better facilitate international and interregional movement of people, goods and services. A 2019 feasibility study proposed 8 alternatives including a no-build option. The following stakeholders have been identified, Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe, US BIA, US BOR, IID, International Boundary and Water Commission, County of Imperial, Union Pacific Railroad and US

GSA. Project Milestones: Project Approval/Environmental Clearance 12/2024. The Anticipated funding fiscal year for construction is 2027/28.

#### MAINTENANCE AND TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

1. El Centro Traveled Way Crew – Sweeping I-8/SR111, joint sealing SR111, storm damage repair I-8, crack sealing SR98



2. El Centro Functional/Marking Crew – Sign/landscape maintenance, striping and sign maintenance on I-8



3. Midway Traveled Way Crew – Crack sealing SR98, storm response/repairs, fence repair I-8, asphalt patching at agricultural in<u>spection station</u>



4. Brawley Traveled Way Crew – Sweeping/brush control, SR78 clearing washes, crack sealing on SR78, AC patching SR86



5. El Centro Clean CA Crew – Litter control/landscaping activities SR111



6. **SR-86/Customs & Border Protection Checkpoint Expansion:** AECOM has submitted a revised concept plan with a standard acceleration lane from the secondary inspection facility and it has been approved. AECOM is expected to submit revised design plans with the approved concept soon. The environmental studies are being prepared by ICTC and will soon be sent for review. Caltrans will assist ICTC in coordinating upcoming meetings.

An environmental document as well all other appropriate studies will be needed to finalize the project. A series of permits will be required for existing traffic control at the checkpoint, for the inspection operations and equipment within the facility, and for a temporary checkpoint while the project is in construction. A new Freeway Maintenance Agreement will be required for the portion of the existing canopy that is within Caltrans ROW.

#### PLANNING AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE

1. **Project Study Report: Forrester Road Improvements -** This study will propose improvements to Forrester Road from I-8 to the SR 78 intersection in the City of Westmorland. This is a critical goods movement corridor that handles a high volume of interregional and local agricultural trucks and anticipated volumes will continue to increase. Caltrans and ICTC are preparing a PSR spearheaded by a Technical Working Group (TWG) that includes the County of Imperial, the Imperial Irrigation District (IID), and the cities of El Centro, Westmorland, Imperial, and Brawley. To address the needs of this corridor,

likely improvements will include shoulder widening, passing lanes, intersection improvements, multimodal elements, and a bypass to the city of Westmorland.

#### 2. Local Assistance:

#### Clean California Local Grant Program Cycle 2 – Applications due April 28

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) developed the Clean California Local Grant Program through which funds will go to local communities to beautify and improve local streets and roads, tribal lands, parks, pathways, and transit centers to clean and enhance public spaces. A Cycle 2 call for projects was announced on February 14, 2023 – **Application deadline is April 28, 2023** 

https://cleancalifornia.dot.ca.gov/local-grants/local-grant-program

#### Reconnecting Communities: Highways to Boulevards Pilot Program

Projects will fund the conversion of key underutilized highways in the State into multi-modal corridors to reconnect communities divided by transportation infrastructure. These legacy impacts will be addressed through community-based transportation planning, design, demolition, and/or reconstruction of city streets, parks, or other infrastructure. A call for projects and further details will be posted soon via this link –

https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/fed-and-state-programs/rc-h2b

California Transportation Commission (CTC) Allocation and Approval Requests

Please review the attached schedule of meetings and prepare requests for California Transportation Commission (CTC) approval accordingly. Caltrans District 11 needs all documents at least two months before the CTC meets. Friday, April 28, 2023 – deadline for the next CTC meeting (June 28-29, 2023)

Local agencies must comply with all Title VI requirements (LAPM Section 9.2). Title VI compliance is subject to review at any time.

www.dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/guidance-and-oversight/title-vi

#### **RELINQUISHMENTS**

- 1. **SR-86** from *SR-111* to Countryside Dr, West Ralph Rd to Calle Estrella, and just east of Brandt Rd to SR-78. Relinquishment to County of Imperial, estimated completion 2026. (#11 on Status Map)
- 2. **SR-86** from Countryside Dr to Treshill Rd. Relinquishment to City of El Centro, estimated completion 2026. (#12 on Status Map)

#### **IMPERIAL COUNTY STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**



Construction

Relinguishment

Miles

Abbreviations:

Questions can be directed to (619) 688-6699 ct.public.information.d11@dot.ca.gov

**GSA:** General Services Administration

Date:01/19/2023



#### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

1. SR-186/I-8 Quechan Interchange Improvements\* Complete Dec 2023

2. SR-186 All-American Canal Bridge Complete Dec 2024

3A. SR-86 USBP Checkpoint Canopy\* Complete Fall 2023

#### DESIGN

3B. SR-86 USBP Checkpoint Canopy\* Complete Fall 2023

4. Middle Mile Broadband Initiative, SR-78, SR-86, SR-111, SR-115 Construction start early 2024

#### CONSTRUCTION

5. I-8 Colorado River Viaduct Begin Construction Feb 2023

6. Bridge Rehab Projects on I-8 and SR-78 Begin Construction early 2023

7. Calexico East POE Bridge Widening Design/Build Begin Mar 2021; Complete June 2023

8. SR-86/Dogwood Road Intersection Improvements County Permit\*

9. SR-98 Widening Phase 1C Ollie Ave to Rockwood Ave Complete summer 2023

#### RELINQUISHMENT

10. SR-86 Relinquishment to County of Imperial Date Estimate 2026

11. SR-86 Relinquishment to City of El Centro Date Estimate 2026

<sup>7</sup> The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is a partner in this study/projects, although not the lead agency.









SB1

#### 2023 MEETING SCHEDULE CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Adopted June 29, 2022

#### JANUARY 25(W) - JANUARY 26(TH), 2023 - ROCKLIN

#### FEBRUARY 2023 - NO REGULARLY SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETING

#### MARCH 22(W) - 23(TH), 2023 - LOS ANGELES AREA

APRIL 2023 – NO REGULARLY SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETING April 12(W) & 13(TH) – Town Hall Meeting – Redding TBD – Joint CTC/CARB/HCD Meeting — TBD

MAY 17(W) - 18(TH), 2023 - BAY AREA

<u> JUNE 28(W) – 29(TH), 2023 – SACRAMENTO</u>

#### JULY 2023 – NO REGULARLY SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETING

#### AUGUST 16(W) - 17(TH), 2023 - SAN DIEGO

SEPTEMBER 2023 – NO REGULARLY SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETING September 20(W) & 21(TH) – Town Hall Meeting – San Benito

OCTOBER 18(W) – 19TH), 2023 – CENTRAL VALLEY TBD – Tri-State Meeting –

NOVEMBER 2023 – NO REGULARLY SCHEDULED COMMISSION MEETING TBD – Joint CTC/CARB/HCD Meeting – TBD

#### DECEMBER 6(W) - 7(TH), 2023 - RIVERSIDE



**CLEAN CALIFORNIA** 

### Local Grant Program

#### Project Selection Criteria

For Cycle 2, Caltrans has refined the project selection criteria to further support:

- Community need
- Potential to enhance and beautify public space
- Potential for greening to provide shade, reduction of the urban heat island effect, and use of native drought-tolerant plants
- Potential to improve access to public space
- Public engagement in the project proposal that reflects community priorities
- Benefit to underserved communities

These funds shall not be used to displace people experiencing homelessness.

Cycle 2 Milestones	Dates
Call for Projects	February 14, 2023
Project Application Deadline	April 28, 2023, by 5:00 PM PDT
Project Award Announcement	August/September 2023
Project Completion Date	June 30, 2026



Eel River Trail Project and Rio Dell Gateway Beautification Project, City of Rio Dell, Cycle 1 Awardee



South of Market (SoMa) Transit Gardens Connection Project, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, Cycle 1 Awardee

#### Start Preparing Your Cycle 2 Application(s) Now!

- Identify potential project site(s) and/or educational program concept(s)
- Plan and begin your community engagement
- Develop project/program design plans
- Identify State and/or federal permits or approvals that will be needed
- Stay informed on program updates through stakeholder workshops

For more information, please visit: https://cleancalifornia.dot.ca.gov/local-grants/local-grant-program

Sign up for our mailing list <u>HERE</u>

Questions? Email: CleanCA.LocalGrant@dot.ca.gov

# 6. SCAG UPPATES/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Presented by SCAG Staff



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS 900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90017 **T:** (213) 236–1800 www.scag.ca.gov

### Memorandum

Date:	March 22, 2023
To:	ICTC Committee Meeting
From:	David Salgado, Government Affairs Officer (GAO)
Re:	Southern California Association of Government's (SCAG) Report

The following is a summary of the SCAG Executive Director's Report and/or Federal and State Legislature Staff Report for the Imperial County Transportation Commission Management Committee meeting for the month of March 2023.

- 1. 2023 REGIONAL CONFERENCE & GENERAL ASSEMBLY: On May 4-5, local leaders from throughout Southern California will convene for SCAG's 58th annual Regional Conference and General Assembly at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa in Palm Desert, CA. This conference brings together state and local elected officials, CEOs, business and civic leaders, transportation and environmental stakeholders, local government staff, and others. *More information about our General Assembly will follow up shortly. Stay tuned!*
- 2. 2023 SCAG General Assembly (GA) Delegate Appointments: Please be advised that the 2023 SCAG GA delegate selection notice has been sent to all SCAG member city clerks and managers. Some agencies have appointed delegates as part of their regular reorganization processes. Those member cities who have not selected delegates will need to take action to appoint their respective official delegate and alternate to the 2023 SCAG General Assembly. Please feel free to contact SCAG Government Affairs Officer David Salgado with any questions.
- 3. Regional Council Approves Programs to Accelerate Transformative Housing (PATH) Guidelines

The Regional Council approved the REAP 2.0 PATH Program application and authorized its Call for Applications. The PATH program, formerly named the Housing Supportive Infrastructure Program, is one of the three major funding areas in SCAG's REAP 2.0 Program Development Framework. The program guidelines outline the program's components, requirements, eligibility and application process, and staff recommendation to set aside \$88.835 million of SCAG's REAP 2.0 funding to support the program.

The PATH program supports actions that accelerate infill development that facilitates housing supply,



choice and affordability; affirmatively furthers fair housing; and reduces vehicle miles traveled. Funding opportunities in this program are designed to bring housing production to scale across the Southern California region to meet the 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation.

SCAG anticipates releasing Calls for Applications for the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and Housing Infill on Public and Private Lands (HIPP) programs in April 2023, following state approval of SCAG's REAP 2.0 application. The Call for Applications for the Regional Utilities Supporting Housing (RUSH) program is anticipated to be released in Summer 2023.

For more information on REAP 2.0, visit scag.ca.gov/reap2021.

**4. DRAFT FY 2023-24 OVERALL WORK PROGRAM - Public Review and Comment Period** SCAG welcomes your comments on its Fiscal Year 2023-24 Draft Overall Work Program. All written comments must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 3, 2023 and addressed to:

SCAG Attn: Kana Sato-Nguyen 900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700 Los Angeles, CA 90017

Comments may be submitted by e-mail to <u>nguyenk@scag.ca.gov</u>.

#### 5. REGIONAL COUNCIL APPROVES THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM – CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (SCP CEEEJ) PROGRAM GUIDELINES

On Jan. 5, SCAG's Regional Council approved the SCP CEEEJ program guidelines and authorized staff to release the Call for Applications, upon approval of SCAG's Regional Early Action Planning Grant (REAP 2.0) full application to the State Interagency Partners.

This competitive Call for Applications includes \$5 million through a mix of two funding sources, including REAP 2.0 and Senate Bill 1 funds. SCP CEEEJ is one of the Early Action Initiatives of SCAG's larger REAP 2.0 program, which was approved by the EAC on behalf of the RC on Nov. 30, 2022. SCP CEEEJ funds eligible transportation and land use projects, with a focus on funding projects that provide direct benefit to Priority Populations (underserved and under-resourced areas across the region) and encourages co-applicant partnerships between community-based partners and government agencies.



SCAG anticipates opening the Call in the coming months, following the State's approval of SCAG's full REAP 2.0 application. SCAG expects evaluation will occur in the spring, with project recommendations in the summer.

- 6. SCAG Regional Council (RC) District #1- Election Results!: Upon the conclusion of the SCAG Regional Council District 1 Special Election Brawley City Councilmember Gil Rebollar was successful in securing the Regional Council seat by a vote of his peers. RC member Rebollar will serve in his role until the next election cycle which will occur in 2025. Congratulations Councilmember Rebollar.
- 7. Calexico "Project Roll-Out" Rockwood Promenade: As part of a SCAG Sustainability Grant award the City of Calexico is working to implement the Calexico Rockwood Ave. Promenade closure. A consultant team worked to conduct outreach and develop designs to close Rockwood Ave. between First and Second Streets in downtown Calexico to create an inviting walkable space. The project will be implemented over the coming weeks highlighting the benefits of providing an accessible safe space to convene. In addition to the promenade the City of Calexico was successful in securing a grant from Bloomberg to create incorporate an "artistic" component to the closure. The city painted a resurfaced street using a design derived from a competitive process. The promenade is set to be in place for 6 months once fully implemented.

#### 8. SCAG 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

With 2022 coming to an end, we extend a sincere thank you on behalf of everyone at SCAG. As we continue to work together to achieve our unified goals, the region is looking toward a brighter future because of our collaboration.

To reach our regional goals, we need a holistic plan to elevate the Southern California region. We kicked off the process for Connect SoCal 2024 – the 2024-2050 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy in 2022. **Three new subcommittees were formed to support plan development: Next Generation Infrastructure, Resilience and Conservation and Racial Equity and Regional Planning.** These subcommittees comprise elected officials who are members of SCAG's Regional Council and Policy Committees and bring unique and valuable perspectives to provide guidance on priorities and strategies for Connect SoCal 2024. SCAG also began the process to prepare the draft Connect SoCal 2024 Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), with the release of the Notice of Preparation for the PEIR in October 2022.

A strong plan allows us to achieve attainable solutions to address some of the region's biggest challenges. In 2022, several steps have been taken to improve mobility in Southern California. We



approved the 2023 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, which contains approximately 2,000 projects in the SCAG region, programed at \$35.9 billion over a six-year period. SCAG also advocated for an increase in funds from California's Active Transportation Program and succeeded in increasing the share of funding that we will administer to regional programs from \$138 million to \$361 million. Our Go Human campaign promoted safe communities as well as low-emissions transportation options with the Go Human Safety Pledge and projects and partners through the community mini-grants.

Another major hurdle our region is facing is the housing shortage. This past year, we gained critical momentum for our efforts to address the housing crisis through innovative solutions to reduce barriers to creating housing. Through the ongoing \$47 million Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 1.0 grant program SCAG funded eight cohorts of a Housing Policy Leadership Academy, where stakeholders attended ten monthly sessions that gave an in-depth understanding of the challenges and opportunities of delivering more housing in the region. The leadership academy was accompanied with four housing policy forums that brought up to 300 people together at each forum to discuss new housing legislation, homeownership, and financing options. In July 2022, our Regional Council approved the REAP 2.0 Program Development Framework, which highlights core objectives, program areas and the schedule for allocating funds for REAP 2.0, which, once approved by the state, will allow SCAG to administer approximately \$246 million across the SCAG region to accelerate housing production. For more information on REAP programs, visit scag.ca.gov/reap2021.

As our region changes each year, we must continue to grow and adapt. In October 2022, **our Regional Council formally affirmed the drought and water shortage emergency in the region and called on jurisdictional partners to join in addressing that crisis by unanimously adopting a resolution committing to work towards a clean, safe, affordable and reliable water supply for Southern California.** SCAG also affirmed our commitment to bridge the digital divide and began work on the Broadband Action Plan, which outlines steps we will take to provide digital accessibility and in turn foster an equitable, prosperous and resilient region for all residents. This plan is expected to be released in early 2023 and will be available at scag.ca.gov/broadband.

Regional challenges can't be addressed without action. In 2022, SCAG advocated for the needs of Southern California's diverse and growing communities. This includes 15 meetings with our State and Federal Legislative Delegation to discuss budget and legislative asks for the region. From these meetings, there were several legislative and budgetary victories – through our advocacy partnerships we helped secure \$575 million in funding for the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program and \$1.05 billion for the Active Transportation Program. SCAG's efforts also provided additional flexibility for local



cities and counties working to complete their Housing Element updates and secured a federal earmark to conduct a comprehensive highways to boulevards study for our region. For more information on SCAG'S legislation and advocacy work, visit scag.ca.gov/legislation.

A robust inventory of tools can help when tackling challenges. In February 2022, we launched the Regional Data Platform, a revolutionary system for collaborative data sharing that levels the playing field for local jurisdictions by supporting transparent and collaborative community planning. A number of new regional reports and toolkits debuted in 2022. For instance, the REAP funded Other to Residential Toolkit – a step-by-step guide for policymakers and agency staff on innovating and expanding housing options through converting underutilized sites into residential – and the Development Streamlining Guidelines – guidance materials that provide technical assistance to jurisdictions seeking to streamline the entitlement and approval process of housing development. Additionally, SCAG published the Racial Equity Baseline Conditions Report, which identifies long-standing regional inequities to help us plan for a healthier, more sustainable and economically resilient region.

Most importantly, 2022 was a year of gatherings. We convened in-person for the first time in three years at the 57th Annual Regional Conference and General Assembly to work together to get to the heart of how we can foster change in Southern California communities. We hosted our 33rd Annual Demographic Workshop virtually, where a lineup of leading experts weighed in on what's in store for post-COVID Southern California. Later in the year, we met again in person at our 13th Annual Southern California Economic Summit where the SCAG Regional Briefing Book, a comprehensive understanding of our economic landscape and the SoCal Economic Trends Tool [beta], an interactive display of key economic indicators, were released.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without our partners. Thank you for a great year, and we look forward to working with you in 2023. Happy New Year from all of us at SCAG!

# 7. CITIES AND COUNTY PLANNING/ PUBLIC WORKS UPDATES