



**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
AGENDA**

**DATE:** Thursday, December 19, 2024  
**TIME:** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** ICTC Offices  
1503 N. Imperial Ave., Suite 104  
El Centro, CA 92243

**CHAIRPERSON: COUNTY OF IMPERIAL**

**VICE-CHAIR: CITY OF HOLTVILLE**

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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: [www.imperialctc.org](http://www.imperialctc.org).

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.

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Non-Voting Members and the Public can join the Zoom Meeting by computer using video and audio, please click on the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86344456390?pwd=1lTknZo7kHjzpOPPxfTLQGtGZ3Ygtn.1>

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: 863 4445 6390#

Password: 066394#

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Committee on any subject matter within their jurisdiction, but not an item on the agenda. Any action taken because of public comment shall be limited to direction to staff. Each speaker should contact the Secretary to the Commission at (760) 592-4494 or by email to [cristilerna@imperialctc.org](mailto:cristilerna@imperialctc.org). 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.

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

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**1. Introduction****2. Adoption of Minutes for November 21, 2024.***ACTION**Requesting a motion to adopt***3. Reap 2.0***ACTION**Presented by ICTC Staff*

ICTC staff forwards this item to the Technical Advisory Committee for their review and recommendation to submit to the ICTC Management Committee and Commission after public comments, if any:

Approve the recommendation to award the cities of Calexico, Imperial and Westmorland ICTC's REAP 2.0 SRP funding allocation in accordance with Table 2 as noted above.

**4. Caltrans Updates/ Announcements***Presented by Caltrans Staff***5. SCAG Updates/ Announcements***Presented by SCAG Staff***6. ICTC Updates / Announcements***Presented by ICTC Staff*

1. Transit Updates
2. Transportation Planning Updates
  - State/Federal Funded Project Obligation Updates 24/25

**7. Cities and County Planning / Public Works Updates***All***8. General Discussion / New Business****9. Adjournment**

The next meeting of the ICTC TAC is tentatively scheduled for January 23, 2025. For questions you may call Marlene Flores at (760) 592-4494 or contact by email at [marleneflores@imperialctc.org](mailto:marleneflores@imperialctc.org)

## **2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 21, 2024**

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**

**November 21, 2024**

### **Present:**

Ana Gutierrez	City of Brawley
Juan Manuel Cabrera	City of Brawley
Hector Salcedo	City of El Centro
Jesus Villegas	City of Imperial
Fernando L. Williams	City of Imperial
Veronica Atondo	County of Imperial
Adolfo Garcia	County of Imperial
Manuel Ortiz	IID

### **Others:**

David Aguirre	ICTC
Marlene Flores	ICTC
Cesar Beltran	ICTC
Marco Coronel	County of Imperial
Ismael Garcia	ICAPCD
Frank Safaie	Caltrans
Rob Owen	Caltrans
Alejandro Rangel	Caltrans
David Salgado	SCAG

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. A quorum was present, and introductions were made. There were no public comments made.

1. A *motion* was made to adopt the minutes for October 24, 2024 ([Gutierrez/Garcia](#)), **Motion Carried.**
2. **Caltrans Updates/ Announcements**  
*Presented by Caltrans Staff*

Alejandro Lopez introduced Frank Safaie as the new area engineer for the Cities of Brawley, Calexico, El Centro, Holtville and Imperial.

- **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Renewal!**

For every Local Agency, the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) expires annually and on different dates. An Agency must reverify on the SAM.gov website 4-6 weeks before a UEI expires. No Requests for Authorization will be processed if a UEI is flagged as invalid. (If Caltrans cannot verify a UEI, the

Local Agency might have opted-out of public view; if so, please send Caltrans a snapshot of the UEI from SAM.gov as verification.) The City of Holtville must renew a UEI registration. City staff could check SAM.gov for instructions. Agencies confirming a UEI, please click this UEI Smart Sheet link below, and enter information in the yellow columns –

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/publish?EQBCT=339b738857f44033b2e7d9a95742c38d>

- **November 27, 2024 – Deadline for California Transportation Commission (CTC) Requests**

Please see the link below to review the schedule of deadlines and prepare requests for California Transportation Commission (CTC) approval during the January 30-31, 2025, CTC meeting –

<https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/financialprogramming/documents/2025-external-preparation-schedule.pdf>

When possible, do not wait to submit requests, Caltrans District 11 must receive all documents at least two months prior to the desired CTC meeting date.

Wednesday, **November 27**, 2024, is the final deadline (for January 30-31, 2025, CTC meeting).

For assistance, please call the Caltrans Local Area Engineer, Alejandro Lopez-Rangel: 858-229-1721.

- **U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Grant Opportunities**

The USDOT website provides a DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard, which is a great tool that your local agency can use to find grant opportunities in various areas such as: Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART), Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success (ROUTES), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant programs, just to name a few. In the link provided below, you can filter for your agency specifics to narrow down grant opportunities. Directions, deadlines, and links to apply are here –

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants>

- **Fiscal Year 2025-26 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Call For Applications.**

On behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), we are pleased to release the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Application Guide and Call for Applications. Applications are due by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, January 22, 2025. The grant awards will be announced next summer 2025.

This year's grant program includes a third cycle of Climate Adaptation Planning grants to award the remaining budget of approximately \$3.7 million. These grants will support local and regional identification of transportation-related climate vulnerabilities through the development of climate adaptation plans, as well as project-level adaptation planning to identify adaptation projects and strategies for transportation infrastructure. Through this grant program, we look forward to supporting climate change adaptation efforts and studies statewide.

- **Implementation of the 2024 Caltrans Construction Contract Standards.**

This memorandum establishes the implementation date for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Construction Contract Standards 2024 Edition (2024 Standards). The 2024 Standards include the Standard Specifications, Standard Plans, Standard Special Provisions, and Standard Bid Items. The 2024 Standards must be used on all projects submitted to the Division of Engineering Services-Office Engineer (PPM&OE) on or after October 21, 2024, and on all on-system projects advertised, awarded, and administered by others with complete encroachment permit application package submitted to a Caltrans district on or after October 21, 2024. The 2024 Standards will be updated in April 2025, and as needed for special postings. Refer to the

Implementation of Integrated Construction Contract Standards memo for details. The 2024 Standards will be published in electronic format only and accessible in the following link:  
<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/ccs-standard-plans-and-standard-specifications>

The 2023 Standards will not be supported after October 18, 2024.

### 3. **SCAG Updates/ Announcements**

*Presented by SCAG Staff*

Additional to the SCAG report, Mr. Salgado talked about Funding opportunities with Deadline on December 13, 2024. Please see the link below for more information:  
<https://scag.ca.gov/sustainability-program-awards>

### 4. **ICT Updates/ Announcements**

*Presented by ICTC Staff.*

- **Electronic Fare Payments:**

ICTC is currently pursuing the implementation of an electronic fare payment system to its fixed route transit services. The system would allow all of its fixed route buses to take card payments in addition to its existing cash payment system. ICTC is working on securing the grant funds to implement this project. **More information to come in the coming months.**

- Mr. Aguirre stated that the Stuff-a-Bus annual campaign is going on until November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.

- **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 private bus companies, taxis and farm labor buses. ICTC previously received a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality federal program fund to complete the environmental and design plans of the new Calexico ITC. The environmental and design phase has been completed. Right of Way Acquisition is underway. ICTC has already acquired 2 of the required 3 properties for the project. The City of Calexico Council approved the commencement of the eminent domain process for two of the required properties. ICTC was recently awarded multiple grants to complete the required construction efforts for the project. ICTC received grant awards from the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0, Active Transportation Program (ATP) and Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Programs. Due to the anticipated State budget deficit, REAP 2.0 funding may be impacted. SCAG is working to ensure that the REAP 2.0 funding is not negatively impacted. ICTC is working with SCAG to identify possible alternative funding sources in the interim.

**It is anticipated that the project will start construction in January 2025. The final set of contract documents are being prepared in anticipation of the construction bidding phase. ICTC is also working on integrating CPFCDs funding into its existing FTA RAISE Agreement. The project is scheduled to go out to bid beginning on November 7, 2024.**

- **Bus Stop Improvement Project:**

Staff are working on developing a bus stop improvement project across multiple cities throughout the county. The project consists of installing various bus shelters and potentially other amenities. ICTC will be coordinating with the various cities to complete the development. ICTC released the Request for Proposals for design services for the project. ICTC is looking to begin design services soon and have construction take place within FY23-24/FY24-25. The contract was awarded at the April Commission meeting. ICTC has already participated in a kickoff meeting with the consultant

and all of the effected agencies. The project design is ongoing and is anticipated to be completed in the next few months. ICTC obtained additional funding to incorporate additional bus stop locations. The new location designs are being incorporated into the overall project design. **The 65% percent improvement plans have been completed and will be distributed to participating agencies.**

Ms. Flores shared an update about the ATP Cycle 7.

Ms. Flores stated that a total of 7 projects were submitted to the CTC for the Local Partnership Program. Local agencies will be working directly with CTC staff in submitting the projects for programming in the upcoming CTC meetings. The goal is to take the projects to CTC by March of 2025.

Ms. Flores shared information regarding Reap 2.0 Subregional Partnership Program, ICTC was awarded a total of \$274, 133 in funding from the Reap 2.0 Subregional Partnership Program to provide technical support to our local agencies with housing planning and to facilitate housing production. ICTC is currently working with SCAG in finalizing the scope of work, MOU, and ICTC is finalizing the potential project selection.

**5. Cities and County Planning / Public Works Updates:**

Updates were given by the agencies.

**6. General Discussion / New Business**

No new business was discussed.

The next TAC meeting will be on December 19, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., via Zoom for the public and in person at the ICTC offices.

The meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

# 3. REAP 2.0

## Action



1503 N. IMPERIAL AVE., SUITE 104  
EL CENTRO, CA 92243-2875  
PHONE: (760) 592-4494  
FAX: (760) 592-4410

December 17, 2024

ICTC Technical Advisory Committee  
Imperial County Transportation Commission  
1503 N. Imperial Ave., Suite 104  
El Centro, CA 92243

**SUBJECT:** Allocation of funding from the SCAG REAP 2.0 Subregional Partnership Program (SRP) to the Cities of Calexico, Imperial and Westmorland

Dear TAC Members:

### **BACKGROUND**

In 2020, the State of California made \$250 million available to regions, cities, and counties for planning activities to accelerate housing production and facilitate implementation of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). The primary vehicle utilized to administer the program was the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) program. In 2022, the State of California refunded the REAP program which created the REAP 2.0 program. The SCAG region received \$246M.in grant funds through the REAP 2.0 program, which is being administered by SCAG with suballocations made available to the SCAG region County Transportation Commissions (CTC).

In November 2023, SCAG approved ICTC's application for the REAP 2.0 Subregional Partnership Program for Technical Assistance in the amount of **\$274,133**. In January 2024, SCAG issued a Stop-Work Order due to probable state budget reductions. The REAP program was put on hold for several months until June 2024 when the governor approved the State budget for 2024, restoring funding to the REAP 2.0 Program. In July 2024, SCAG issued a notice to REAP 2.0 Grant Recipients that the REAP 2.0 Program was restored and project activities could commence. Due to the budget delays for the program, the delivery deadline for eligible projects is extremely condensed.

### **ICTC REAP 2.0 SRP**

At the September 26, 2024, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting, ICTC staff discussed opportunities for local agencies to leverage funding available through the REAP 2.0 SRP Program for Technical Assistance to support housing planning efforts, including updates to Housing Elements, multimodal corridor plans, and local housing planning processes. Local agencies were invited to submit letters of interest, and ICTC received a total of four (4) submittals. **Table 1** describes the projects submitted by the four agencies.

TABLE 1		
Agency	Project Name	Total SRP Funds Requested
City of Brawley	Online Permitting System	\$200,000 to 360,000
City of Calexico	Housing Element Update	\$200,000
City of Imperial	Update to the Local Housing Planning Processes	\$40,000
City of Westmorland	Housing Element Update	\$175,000
TOTAL SRP Funds Requested		\$775,000

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

ICTC participated in several meetings with SCAG staff that included project eligibility and delivery discussions, ICTC recommends the projects listed in **TABLE 2** for implementation.

<b>TABLE 2</b>		
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Total SRP Funds Requested</b>
City of Calexico	Housing Element Update	\$115,000
City of Imperial	Update to the Local Housing Planning Processes	\$40,000
City of Westmorland	Housing Element Update	\$115,000
<b>TOTAL SRP Funds</b>		<b>\$270,000</b>

To ensure the full allocation of funds to our region is utilized effectively, ICTC will provide partial funding for two of the three selected projects. The remaining funding required to fully implement these projects will need to be provided by the respective local agencies. Each of the local agencies has committed to funding any additional cost required for the project completion and delivery. The project submitted by the City of Brawley's did not meet the Technical Assistance Requirements and SCAG Guidelines. Therefore, the City of Brawley's project will not be considered for funding. The city of Brawley staff was notified of the project's ineligibility.

SCAG will procure and maintain the contractual relationship with the consultant, as well as manage invoices. The suballocated funds will be used exclusively for consultant work to complete the projects. Upon the approved recommendation by ICTC, SCAG will work directly with the City of Calexico, City of Imperial and the City of Westmorland to complete their project. The SRP funding will flow directly from SCAG to the cities. The cities will each be required to adopt a resolution accepting the funding in addition to authorizing the city to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SCAG. SCAG has prepared a program Resolution and MOU for city review and adoption. Attached is the letter of interest from the cities of Calexico, Imperial, and Westmorland, which outlines their specific needs and expectations for the program as a reference.

The proposed cities must commit to implementing the final deliverables by the expenditure deadline of June 2026. This collaborative approach ensures that the region can fully utilize the resources available through REAP 2.0 SRP while supporting local agencies in delivering impactful projects.

ICTC staff forwards this item to the Technical Advisory Committee for their review and recommendation to submit to the ICTC Management Committee and Commission after public comments, if any:

1. Approve the recommendation to award the cities of Calexico, Imperial and Westmorland ICTC's REAP 2.0 SRP funding allocation in accordance with Table 2 as noted above.

Sincerely,



DAVID AGUIRRE  
Executive Director

DA/mf

Attachment



# City of Calexico

608 HEBER AVENUE

• CALEXICO, CA 92231

• (760) 768-2110

October 11, 2024

David Aguirre, Executive Director  
Imperial County Transportation Commission  
1503 N. Imperial Ave., Suite 104  
El Centro, California 92243

**RE: REAP 2.0 Subregional Partnership Program  
Technical Assistance**

Dear Mr. Aguirre:

On behalf of the City of Calexico, I would like to submit this letter of interest for technical assistance under the above-mentioned program to complete the City of Calexico 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element update and implement the programs established by said element.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (760) 768-2110.

Sincerely,

**CITY OF CALEXICO**

Juan A. Contreras  
Acting City Manager

October 9, 2024

**To:** ICTC (Imperial County Transportation Commission)

**Subject:** Letter of Interest – REAP 2.0 Technical Assistance Opportunity

Dear Katie Luna,

I am writing to express the City of Imperial's strong interest in the REAP 2.0 technical assistance opportunity. Our goal is to revamp the local housing planning processes by streamlining land use entitlements and building permit procedures to make them more accessible and transparent for our residents and developers.

Our primary objective is to create a set of visual, step-by-step guides that clearly outline the submission requirements for all parties involved in the planning and development process. This will include easy-to-understand graphics detailing each stage of land use entitlements, from CEQA compliance to building permit applications.

The City of Imperial has initiated similar efforts in the past, developing step-by-step processes for Development Review Committee (DRC) meetings, site plan reviews, variance procedures, and Conditional Use Permit (CUP) processes. However, due to limited staff resources, we have been unable to complete these initiatives. Additionally, we face challenges related to annexations and zone changes that must be addressed to ensure a cohesive planning framework.

To make this effort more comprehensive, we aim to engage a consultant to review the City's General Plan and Zoning Ordinance to ensure that the streamlined processes align with our established goals and objectives. This will allow us to identify areas needing improvement and ensure that all efforts comply, ultimately boosting housing production more effectively.

We anticipate involving various stakeholders, including our Development Review Committee and local utility providers. We believe their collaboration will be crucial in ensuring that the new processes reflect the needs of all involved parties. We aim to complete this project within a four-month timeframe.

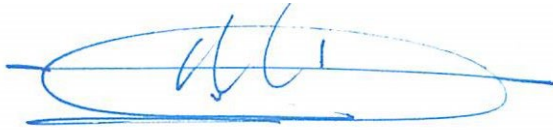
Based on our preliminary estimates, we expect the cost of hiring a consultant for this project to be around \$40,000. The consultant will provide general guidance to streamline these processes, review the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance, and develop

a social media strategy to communicate these changes to our community effectively. This comprehensive approach will help identify areas of improvement and guide us in enhancing housing production.

This initiative aligns with the goals of REAP 2.0 and will greatly enhance the housing development framework in the City of Imperial. We look forward to collaborating with ICTC to bring this project to fruition.

Thank you for considering our letter of interest. We are excited about the potential impact of this project and are eager to move forward with the next steps.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Othon Mora', enclosed within a large, stylized blue oval. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Othon Mora, MCM, CBO  
Community Development Director



## **CITY OF WESTMORLAND**

355 South Center Street • Post Office Box 699

Westmorland, California 92281

Tel: (760) 344-3411 • Fax (760) 344-5307

[westcityusa@roadrunner.com](mailto:westcityusa@roadrunner.com)

October 8, 2024

Imperial County Transportation Commission

Mr. David Aguirre

Executive Director

1405 N. Imperial Ave., Ste. 1

El Centro, CA 92243

**SUBJECT: Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0**

Dear Mr. Aguirre:

The City of Westmorland is hereby submitting this letter to serve as a formal communication and nomination of the application to access Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0 funding in the amount of \$175,000.

The following is the nominated REAP project:

City of Westmorland – The City of Westmorland is working with State Housing and Community Development to adopt our 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle Housing Element. We anticipate final approval by HCD in January 2025.

The City of Westmorland's REAP project is to secure a planning firm to work in cooperation with City administration with the goal of meeting various requirements identified in the Housing Element. The REAP project would hire a planning consultant firm to:

- Conduct community engagement, actively seek community input and engage the public, including organizations that represent lower-income and special needs households, by making information regularly available.
- Modifying the City's Zoning Code to comply with Health and Safety Code Sections, broaden the definition of "family" and to ease the planning and development restrictions for multifamily, low income housing, and infill development.
- Amend the City's General Plan, and Municipal Code to revise the ADU ordinance to ensure compliance with State law, identify incentives for construction of ADUs including but not limited to flexible zoning requirements, development standards, or processing and fee incentives, reduced parking requirements, pre-approved building plans, fee waivers, and create informative programs.
- To encourage housing developments and developers to construct housing designated and available for farm workers, low income and/or seniors, the City will prepare environmental clearance, site planning and specifications to allow for higher density housing in infill areas.
- The REAP consultant will coordinate with developers in order to continue supporting or pursuing additional funding for affordable multi-family housing developments in the city.

The City anticipates that it will require \$175,000, and one full year, to complete the Scope of Work outlined above. The REAP project has many planning components which require training and education to work with public, businesses, non-profits and staff to update the City's planning needs and Housing goals. The City of Westmorland does not have planning staff nor do they have the expertise needed to meet our planning and housing development needs. The REAP grant will help the City improve inclusivity and meet Housing needs.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter. Should there be any questions, please do not hesitate to call Laura Fischer at 760-334-3411 or 760-791-0949. Additionally, you can email Ms. Fischer at [lfischer@cityofwestmorland.net](mailto:lfischer@cityofwestmorland.net).

Sincerely,



Judith Rivera,  
Mayor



October 9, 2024

**To:** ICTC (Imperial County Transportation Commission)

**Subject:** Letter of Interest – REAP 2.0 Technical Assistance Opportunity

Dear Katie Luna,

I am writing to express the City of Imperial's strong interest in the REAP 2.0 technical assistance opportunity. Our goal is to revamp the local housing planning processes by streamlining land use entitlements and building permit procedures to make them more accessible and transparent for our residents and developers.

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The City of Imperial has initiated similar efforts in the past, developing step-by-step processes for Development Review Committee (DRC) meetings, site plan reviews, variance procedures, and Conditional Use Permit (CUP) processes. However, due to limited staff resources, we have been unable to complete these initiatives. Additionally, we face challenges related to annexations and zone changes that must be addressed to ensure a cohesive planning framework.

To make this effort more comprehensive, we aim to engage a consultant to review the City's General Plan and Zoning Ordinance to ensure that the streamlined processes align with our established goals and objectives. This will allow us to identify areas needing improvement and ensure that all efforts comply, ultimately boosting housing production more effectively.

We anticipate involving various stakeholders, including our Development Review Committee and local utility providers. We believe their collaboration will be crucial in ensuring that the new processes reflect the needs of all involved parties. We aim to complete this project within a four-month timeframe.

Based on our preliminary estimates, we expect the cost of hiring a consultant for this project to be around \$40,000. The consultant will provide general guidance to streamline these processes, review the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance, and develop



a social media strategy to communicate these changes to our community effectively. This comprehensive approach will help identify areas of improvement and guide us in enhancing housing production.

This initiative aligns with the goals of REAP 2.0 and will greatly enhance the housing development framework in the City of Imperial. We look forward to collaborating with ICTC to bring this project to fruition.

Thank you for considering our letter of interest. We are excited about the potential impact of this project and are eager to move forward with the next steps.

Sincerely,

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Othon Mora, MCM, CBO  
Community Development Director

# **4. Caltrans Updates/ Announcements**

**Presentation by Caltrans Staff**

## **Inactive Projects**

Please see link [HERE](#), open file and apply filters to locate any “inactive” project status. Send justification for inactive projects over to Alma Sanchez at [alma.sanchez@dot.ca.gov](mailto:alma.sanchez@dot.ca.gov)

## **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Renewal!**

For every Local Agency, the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) expires annually and on different dates.

An Agency must reverify on the [SAM.gov](#) website 4-6 weeks before a UEI expires. No Requests for Authorization will be processed if a UEI is flagged as invalid. (If Caltrans cannot verify a UEI, the Local Agency might have opted-out of public view; if so, please send Caltrans a snapshot of the UEI from [SAM.gov](#) as verification.)

**Holtville and Calexico must renew** UEI registration. City staff could check [SAM.gov](#) for instructions. Agencies confirming a UEI, please click this UEI *SmartSheet* link below, and enter information in the yellow columns –

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/publish?EQBCT=339b738857f44033b2e7d9a95742c38d>

For assistance, please call either one of the Caltrans Imperial Area Engineers: Frank Safie 619-985-2444 or Alejandro Lopez-Rangel 858-229-1721.

## **January 17, 2025 – Deadline for California Transportation Commission (CTC) Requests**

Please see link below to review the schedule of deadlines and prepare requests for California Transportation Commission (CTC) approval during the March 20-21, 2025, CTC meeting –

[https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/financial-programming/documents/2025\\_external\\_preparation\\_schedule.pdf](https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/financial-programming/documents/2025_external_preparation_schedule.pdf)

When possible, do not wait to submit requests, Caltrans District 11 must receive all documents at least two months prior to the desired CTC meeting date.

Friday, **January 17, 2025**, is the final deadline (for that March 20-22, 2025, CTC meeting).

For assistance, please contact the assigned Caltrans Local Area Engineer: Frank Safie 619-985-2444 or Alejandro Lopez-Rangel 858-229-1721.

## **Bridge Investment Program (BIP)**

The Bridge Investment Program is a competitive, discretionary program that focuses on existing bridges to reduce the overall number of bridges in poor condition, or in fair condition at risk of falling into poor condition.

Fiscal Year BIP Funding	Planning Application Deadline	Bridge Project Application Deadline
FY 2025	October 1, 2024	November 1, 2024
FY 2026	October 1, 2025	November 1, 2025

The deadline for **Large Bridge Project Grant Applications** to be uploaded to [Grants.gov](#) is August 1, 2025, for consideration of FY 2026 funds.

Further details are available at this link – [BIP - Funding Programs - Management and Preservation - Bridges & Structures - Federal Highway Administration \(dot.gov\)](#)

## **U.S. Department of Transportation Grant Opportunities**

The USDOT website provides a DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard, which is a great tool that your local agency can use to find grant opportunities in various areas such as: Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART), Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success (ROUTES), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant programs, just to name a few. In the link provided below, you can filter for your agency specifics to narrow down grant opportunities. Directions, deadlines, and links to apply are here – <https://www.transportation.gov/grants>

## **Key Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**

To provide stakeholders with more visibility on upcoming funding opportunities, DOT is publishing a list of anticipated dates for upcoming Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for key programs. This list is not comprehensive and will be updated periodically with additional programs and revised dates as appropriate.

### **A few of the key programs and their deadlines:**

- \* Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)

- 1) FY 2025: 1/13/2025

- 2) FY 2026: 1/13/2026

- \* Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program (NOFO anticipated soon)

- [Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program | Build America](#)

Further details are available at this link – [Key Notices of Funding Opportunity | US Department of Transportation](#)

## **Title VI Nondiscrimination Program**

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

<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/local-civil-compliance/title-vi>

Caltrans has edited to the *Local Assistance Procedures Manual (LAPM)* Sections 9.1 through 9.3 to provide improved guidance and consistency with Title VI of the Civil Rights of 1964. These changes impact Local Public Agencies receiving funds through Caltrans from the FHWA.

This *Office Bulletin* linked below has details –

<https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/local-assistance/documents/ob/2024/ob24-06.pdf>

## **January 23, 2025 – Statewide IIJA Transportation Reauthorization Workgroup Meeting**

An Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act (IIJA) Reauthorization Workgroup meets 10 am – 11 am, January 23, 2025. An agenda and list of speakers will be posted prior to the meeting. [Register on WebEx](#) to receive access.

[Caltrans Local Assistance Blog \(LAB\)](#) has additional resources and updates – [LocalAssistanceBlog.com](#)

# Memorandum

To: LOCAL AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Date: November 12, 2024

From: DEE LAM  
Chief  
Division of Local Assistance



Subject: **IMPLEMENTATION MEMO FOR THE 2024 CALTRANS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT STANDARDS (CCS) FOR LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCIES (LPAs) UTILIZING CCS FOR OFF THE STATE HIGHWAY (SHS) AND ON THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM (NHS).**

This memorandum establishes the implementation date for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) CCS (2024 Standards) for projects administered by LPAs off the SHS. The 2024 Standards and its subsequent annual updates include the Standard Specifications, Standard Plans, Standard Special Provisions (SSP), and Standard Bid Items.

All local agencies using CCS for projects off the SHS, regardless of funding sources, must use the 2024 Standards for projects receiving approval, allocation, obligation, and authorization for the construction phase on or after October 31, 2024. The LPAs may request District Local Assistance Engineer (DLAE) approval for up to an additional three (3) months with reasonable justification.

Projects utilizing locally approved Standards that are both off the SHS and off the National Highway System (NHS) are exempt from this memorandum.

The 2024 Standards have been posted and are accessible [here](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/ccs-standard-plans-and-standard-specifications):  
< <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/design/ccs-standard-plans-and-standard-specifications> >

Please contact your DLAE any questions.

C:

Brandon Larsen, District 1 Deputy Director, Division of Planning & Local Assistance  
Brett Ditzler, District 2, Deputy District Director, Division of Planning & Local Assistance

Sukhvinder K Takhar, District 3, Deputy District Director, Division of Planning & Local Assistance

Cameron Oaks, District 4, Deputy District Director, Division of Transportation Planning & Local Assistance



United States  
Department of Transportation

## FY 2025 RAISE Notice of Funding Opportunity \$1.5 Billion Available

U.S. Department of Transportation sent this bulletin at 11/20/2024 03:44 PM EST



Transportation.gov  
U.S. Department of Transportation

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

### FY 2025 RAISE NOFO

The U.S. Department of Transportation has published the FY 2025 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

The NOFO announces the availability of \$1.5 billion to award to surface transportation infrastructure projects with significant local or regional impact. Half of the FY 2025 RAISE funding will go to projects in rural areas and half will go to projects located in urban areas. In addition, projects in a rural area, a historically disadvantaged community, or an area of persistent poverty will be eligible for up to 100 percent federal cost share.

The Department is reducing the burden on all previous applicants, who would otherwise have to revise applications, by evaluating and selecting applications for funding using the same criteria as the FY 2024 RAISE NOFO.

The Department intends to hold two rounds of selections under the [FY 2025 RAISE NOFO](#):

- **Round 1** - A portion of the \$1.5 billion is reserved for [FY 2024 Projects of Merit](#). Those are applications that advanced to the Highly Rated List, but were not selected for award. FY 2024 Projects of Merit must "opt in" for consideration via email by **December 2, 2024**.
- **Round 2** - A portion of the \$1.5 billion is available for all eligible applicants as well as additional funding that may become available for the program under the annual appropriations act. Applications must be submitted via [grants.gov](#) by 11:59 pm eastern on **January 30, 2025**.

#### For more information on this opportunity:

- See the FY 2025 RAISE NOFO posted on the [RAISE website](#) and [grants.gov](#)
- Learn [How to Apply](#)
- Read the [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

- [Register](#) for FY 2025 RAISE webinars using this [link](#). Upcoming webinars include:

Webinar	Date	Time
How to Compete	Monday, December 2 ( <b>NEW</b> )	1:00 pm eastern
Location Designations	Thursday, December 12	2:00 pm eastern
How to Prepare a BCA	Tuesday, December 17	2:00 pm eastern
BCA Template + Office Hours	Thursday, December 19	1:00 pm eastern

Please send questions about the RAISE program and this funding opportunity to [raisegrants@dot.gov](mailto:raisegrants@dot.gov)

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## Fiscal Year 2025-26

### Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant

### Call for Applications

Dear Stakeholders,

On behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), we are pleased to release the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Application Guide and Call for Applications. Applications are due by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, January 22, 2025. The grant awards will be announced next summer 2025.

This year's grant program includes a third cycle of Climate Adaptation Planning grants to award the remaining budget of approximately \$3.7 million. These grants will support local and regional identification of transportation-related climate vulnerabilities through the development of climate adaptation plans, as well as project-level adaptation planning to identify adaptation projects and strategies for transportation infrastructure. Through this grant program, we look forward to supporting climate change adaptation efforts and studies statewide.

Caltrans is conducting grant application workshops starting next week to provide a grant program overview and review the resources that we have to assist with competitive application development. Contact the appropriate Caltrans district staff to request workshop information and draft application feedback. They can also help choose the the best grant category for your proposed planning project.

Visit the grants website (link below) for workshop dates and times, the Grant Application Guide, application forms and templates, and Caltrans district staff contacts.

### Caltrans Headquarters Contact

Kevin Mariant

Chief, Grant Management Branch

Email: [kevin.mariant@dot.ca.gov](mailto:kevin.mariant@dot.ca.gov)

Connect With Us:



[Visit our website](#)

### Subscribe for Future Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Updates

You will not receive future emails from us unless you sign up by clicking here:

**[Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants Mailing List](#)**

Caltrans | 1120 N Street | Sacramento, CA 95814 US

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# **5. SCAG Updates**

**Presented by SCAG Staff**

## Memorandum

**Date:** December 11, 2024  
**To:** ICTC Committee and Management Meeting  
**From:** David Salgado, Government Affairs Officer (GAO)  
**Re:** **Southern California Association of Government's (SCAG) Report**

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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 and Regular Commission meeting for the month of DECEMBER 2024.

### **1. December Regional Council Features '2024 Southern California Economic Update'**

SCAG's December Regional Council meeting included a presentation of the "2024 Southern California Economic Update," featuring SCAG's annual economic reporting, presentations from SCAG's Economic Roundtable, and in-depth discussion about the state of the economy among Regional Council members.

SCAG Regional Council President and San Bernardino County Supervisor Curt Hagman delivered the opening remarks to the presentation. Kate Gordon, chief executive officer of California Forward, moderated the event, with members of the SCAG Economic Roundtable presenting reports on the overall regional economy, each of SCAG's six counties, and additional presentations on regional sustainability and economic equity. A round of questions from members of the Regional Council followed the presentations.

SCAG also published the "2024 Southern California Economic Update" in conjunction with the event. SCAG publishes this annual economic update with analysis covering the entire region and specific insight into the economies of Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial counties. The "2024 Southern California Economic Update" reviews the past year and highlights economic trends to watch for in the coming year to assist Southern California policymakers in planning for the next 30 years. To read more about the update and download the full report, visit SCAG News.

SCAG looks forward to continuing the conversation at our next event as we keep working toward implementation of the Connect SoCal 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy. Please mark your calendars for the upcoming 2025 Regional Conference and General Assembly on May 1-2, 2025, in Palm Desert.

## **2. Go Human 2025 SCAG Sustainability Awards**

Nominations are now open for SCAG's 2025 Sustainability Awards. The SCAG Sustainability Awards recognize projects for contributing to the goals of the Connect SoCal Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy and for achieving progress toward a more mobile, sustainable, and prosperous region.

The 2025 Sustainability Awards are open to governmental agencies, non-governmental agencies, community-based organizations, nonprofits, universities, and more. Applicants are encouraged to submit a joint entry for projects that span multiple agencies, sectors, and geographies. Projects completed or adopted between Jan. 1, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2024, are eligible for nomination. The deadline for nominations is Dec. 13, 2024. More information about the awards and the nomination guidelines is available at the Sustainability Awards page on the SCAG website.

SCAG will announce the winners of the 2025 Sustainability Awards at the 2025 Regional Council Conference and General Assembly at the JW Marriott Resort & Spa in Palm Desert on May 1.

## **3. SCAG Receives \$6 Million for Transportation Safety During the 2028 Olympics and Paralympics**

In November, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded SCAG a \$6 million Safe Streets and Roads for All grant to help the region prepare for the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. The grant will fund a partnership between SCAG and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to create safe street reconfigurations along corridors in the high injury network expected to experience high volumes of travel during the 2028 Games. This demonstration project will prioritize safety for walking, biking, and riding transit and will allow SCAG to establish regional best practices for future permanent projects. Read more about the grant award on SCAG News.

## **4. SCAG Hosts First 'Freight Industry Forum' to Prepare for the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games**

On Nov. 20, SCAG hosted the first Freight Industry Forum to gather a diverse set of participants—including the Games Mobility Executive partners, SCAG regional partners, industry stakeholders, and other agency representatives—to discuss the upcoming 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. The meeting included overviews of logistics planning for the LA28 Games and lessons learned from past Olympic Games in Paris and London. Industry stakeholders want to ensure that LA28 Games events locations and routes are well understood and that communication is clear before and during the events.

SCAG's Freight Industry Forum will continue to advise during the preparation leading up to the LA28 Games, with the next meeting anticipated for this winter.

## **5. 2024 Sustainable Communities Program – Active Transportation and Safety Award List Approved**

On Dec. 5, the Regional Council approved the 2024 Sustainable Communities Program (SCP) – Active Transportation and Safety Project List and Contingency Project List. The 2024 SCP – Active Transportation and Safety awards include active transportation-related plans and quick-build projects that support the implementation of mobility policies included in the Connect SoCal 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy. Projects will be funded through the state’s Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 7 regional funds, a federal Safe Streets and Roads for All grant, and SCAG matching state funds (to address the ATP Cycle 7 budget cuts). A total of 40 applications were evaluated, with 13 projects selected for funding. Unfortunately, no project applications were submitted for Imperial County. SCAG Staff held numerous presentations and met directly with potential applicants in Imperial County. More information about the 2024 SCP – Active Transportation and Safety Project List and Contingency Project List can be found on SCAG News.

## **6. SCAG Attends Organizational Session in Sacramento**

On Dec. 2, SCAG’s Legislative Team and Executive Director Kome Ajise traveled to Sacramento to represent SCAG while the California State Legislature conducted its “Organizational Session” and swearing-in ceremony.

Of the assemblymembers and senators sworn in, 33 are brand new to the legislature. The next year will be important for building relationships and providing education on the needs of our region.

During this trip, the team met with Senator Catherine Blakespear (D-Encinitas), who is leading the charge to prioritize state funding for the LOSSAN line, Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton), who played a central role in protecting the REAP program, and Assemblymember Lori Wilson (D-Fairfield), chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee.

## **7. ‘Big 4’ State Metropolitan Planning Organizations Gather for SB 375 Discussion**

On Nov. 17-18, the California Association of Councils of Government hosted a meeting for executive directors of the state’s “Big Four” metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and key members of leadership teams to discuss shared goals for Senate Bill (SB) 375 reform and priorities for the upcoming legislative sessions.

The group also met with executive officers from the California Air Resources Board (CARB), California Transportation Commission, and Caltrans to discuss next steps in working together on SB 375 implementation and potential reform.

MPO representatives emphasized our commitment to climate goals and improving the process without abandoning SB 375 and discussed technical challenges with the current SB 375 process, including modeling, data, and metrics. MPO representatives also expressed concern over the growing cost of these activities and a desire to simplify plan submittal processes to put more funding toward implementation.

The meeting concluded constructively, with an agreement to continue discussions and a commitment from CARB to follow up on next steps regarding a pause in Sustainable Community Strategy guidelines.

Following the meetings, SCAG staff had additional conversations with CARB staff on the process for addressing outstanding technical issues regarding CARB's approval of SCAG's greenhouse gas (GHG) assessment for the Connect SoCal 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy. Based on these conversations, SCAG will be preparing additional analysis on the plan's work-from-home assumptions and electric vehicle strategies to further support that the plan would meet GHG targets if implemented.

# **6. ICTC Updates**

**Presented by ICTC Staff**



1503 N IMPERIAL AVE SUITE 104  
EL CENTRO, CA 92243-2875  
PHONE: (760) 592-4494  
FAX: (760) 592-4410

## Memorandum

**Date:** December 11, 2024  
**To:** ICTC Management Committee & Commission Members  
**From:** David Aguirre, Executive Director  
**Re:** Executive Director's Report

The following is a summary of the Executive Director's Report for the ICTC Management Committee & Commission meeting on December 11, 2024.

- 1) **Imperial Valley Transit (IVT) Veterans Day and Stuff-a-Bus Campaigns:** *ICTC and IVT celebrated Veterans on November 4-11th with free rides on IVT, IVT Access and IVT Ride. We also just concluded our Stuff-a-Bus campaign and donated just under 1,600 pounds worth of canned and dried goods. The food was delivered to the Imperial Valley Food Bank for distribution to residents in need. We were very close to breaking our previous record of 1700 pounds and hope to exceed the record next year. We very much appreciate the support and donations from all our IVT passengers. Below are photos of the drop off.*



- 2) **Calexico East Port of Entry Intermodal Transportation Center:** *ICTC was recently awarded \$12.6 million by the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) through its Transit Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) to acquire, design and construct a transit facility at the Calexico East Port of Entry (POE). The goal of the Calexico East POE Intermodal Transportation Center is to create a transformative transportation hub that integrates various modes of transportation including public transit buses. The facility is anticipated to offer amenities such as shade, seating, bicycle parking, signage, and travel guidance, addressing the current lack of amenities and transportation options for pedestrians crossing the border at the Calexico East POE. Additionally, this project will bring four new zero emission vehicles to provide public transit services to the area. The project will have several phases with an estimated completion date in 2030.*
- 3) **Electronic Fare Payments:** *ICTC is currently pursuing the implementation of an electronic fare payment system to its fixed route transit services. The system would allow all of its fixed route buses to take card payments in addition*

to its existing cash payment system. ICTC is working on securing the grant funds to implement this project. **More information to come in the coming months.**

- 4) **Reap 2.0 – Subregional Partnership Program:** ICTC was awarded a total of \$274,133 in funding from the Reap 2.0 Subregional Partnership Program to provide technical support to our local agencies with housing planning and to facilitate housing production. ICTC has notified each of our member agencies about the funding availability. Several cities have expressed interest in the funding and staff is working with each of the agencies to further evaluate their proposed projects. **Potential projects have been identified and ICTC is working on next steps with the proposed agencies and SCAG.**
- 5) **Imperial Mexicali Binational Alliance (IMBA):** *The next IMBA Strategic Planning and regular meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2025, in the City of Mexicali. More information to come about location.*
- 6) **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 currently operates 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 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Further information about the service can be viewed on the website: <https://city.ridewithvia.com/calexico-ondemand>. ICTC was awarded an additional \$500,000 to be utilized for operations of the service and additional service hours through the CMO program in late 2023. **ICTC was recently awarded a grant from the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program in the amount of \$520k to continue funding operations for the service. ICTC was also able to secure an additional grant through the CMO program to continue funding the service. ICTC also received an additional funding commitment to further continue the service beyond the current grant funding received.**
- 7) **Active Transportation Program, Cycle 7:** The California Transportation Commission (CTC) has released the Active Transportation Program (ATP) guidelines as of March 22, 2024. Approximately \$568 Million funding will be available for fiscal years 2025/26 through 2028/29 statewide. **Applications were due to the CTC by June 17, 2024.** Imperial County applicants were asked to submit a copy of their applications to the Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC). For a copy of the adopted ATP guidelines please refer to Active Transportation Program Guidelines directly at: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/fed-and-state-programs/active-transportation-program/cycle7>.

In addition, only applicants that submit applications to the statewide ATP will be eligible for Regional ATP funds. Imperial County anticipates approximately \$1.1 million in ATP Cycle 7 Regional Funds will be available for all applicants that are not successful in the statewide call. There might also be additional funding available for quick build type projects. ICTC staff have developed an ATP factsheet for reference to both funding opportunities. Also, the Regional Active Transportation Plan adopted by ICTC is a valuable resource for agencies seeking funding through ATP Cycle 7. The document outlines priorities for each jurisdiction within Imperial County and was developed with significant input from the public. This input likely reflects the needs and preferences of the local community, making it a valuable tool for agencies seeking to align their grant proposals with the region's priorities. The ATP document is on the ICTC website at [https://www.imperialctc.org/assets/documents/transportation-plans-and-studies/ICTC-ATP\\_Final-Document\\_2022.02.28\\_Reduced-Size.pdf](https://www.imperialctc.org/assets/documents/transportation-plans-and-studies/ICTC-ATP_Final-Document_2022.02.28_Reduced-Size.pdf)

**ICTC received correspondence indicating five (5) applications for the Imperial County Region. Applications were submitted by the City of El Centro, Imperial County Office of Education, Heber Public Utility District, City of Calipatria and City of Holtville.**

**As a result of the State of California's budget deficit the ATP program overall funding was reduced significantly. Funding was anticipated to be \$568 Million overall but was ultimately reduced to approximately**

**\$168 Million. Also, because of the budget deficit and associated cuts, the anticipated Imperial County Regional Share was reduced to approximately \$300k. The CTC has released the scoring for all submitted projects. The Imperial County Region was not awarded a statewide award; however, statewide applications will be eligible for regional share consideration. Of the five Imperial County projects, the highest scoring projects were submitted by the Imperial County Office of Education and the City of Holtville. More information to come pertaining to possible regional share award(s).**

- 8) **2024 Local Partnership Program, Cycle 5:** The Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (Senate Bill 1) created the Local Partnership Program (LPP) as a program to reward and incentivize local or regional transportation agencies that have sought and received voter approval of taxes or that have imposed fees, which taxes or fees are dedicated solely for transportation improvements. The program is implemented by the California Transportation Commission (CTC). The CTC adopted the 2024 LPP Program Cycle 5 Guidelines on August 15-16, 2024. As a result of the adoption of the Cycle 5 Guidelines the Call for Projects has opened. The LPP Grant funds require a one-to-one match. The Imperial County Region's estimated allocation amount for FY 2025/26 is \$524million and \$520 million for FY2026/27 for a total of \$1,044 million. There is also a competitive program that is administered by the CTC. Guidelines for the program can be found at <https://catc.ca.gov/-/media/ctc-media/documents/programs/senate-bill-1/2-bi-4-12-draft-2024-lpp-competitive-guidelines-red-line-v8.pdf>

In the past call for projects, ICTC staff proposed options to TAC members for the distribution of the LPP funds. The distribution calculations proposed were Option 1- Population and Maintained Mileage Based Distribution and Option 2- Using a Flat Distribution in addition to Population and Maintained Mileage Distributions. The proposed distribution is similar to the Local Transportation Authority (LTA) formula distribution.

On August 22, 2024, the TAC committee members reviewed and ultimately recommend Option 2 to be forwarded to the Commission for approval and to authorize ICTC to open the Call for Projects for the Local Partnership Formulaic Program Cycle 5. On August 28, 2024, the Commission approved TACs recommendation. **The Competitive Call for Projects for the CTC opened on August 16, 2024, with a deadline of November 20, 2024, for submittal to the CTC. All agencies with the exception of the city of Westmorland were able to submit a project to the CTC for consideration. The projects are currently being reviewed by the CTC for final implementation.**

- 9) **Bus Stop Improvement Project:** Staff are working on developing a bus stop improvement project across multiple cities throughout the county. The project consists of installing various bus shelters and potentially other amenities. ICTC will be coordinating with the various cities to complete the development. ICTC released the Request for Proposals for design services for the project. ICTC is looking to begin design services soon and have construction take place within FY23-24/FY24-25. The contract was awarded at the April Commission meeting. ICTC has already participated in a kickoff meeting with the consultant and all of the effected agencies. The project design is ongoing and is anticipated to be completed in the next few months. ICTC obtained additional funding to incorporate additional bus stop locations. The new location designs are being incorporated into the overall project design. **The 65% percent improvement plans have been completed and were distributed to participating agencies. ICTC has received agency comments and the comments have been forwarded to the consultant for incorporation into the project improvement plans.**
- 10) **Imperial County EV Charging Infrastructure Feasibility Study:** ICTC recently submitted a grant application under the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) to prepare a Countywide EV Charging Infrastructure Feasibility Study. The project will aim to identify strategic locations within the county for EV Charging Infrastructure. Caltrans is currently developing a similar project for locations along State facilities. **Staff is currently working on the development of the Scope of Work for the project to proceed to the issuance of a Request for Proposals. Staff reviewed the proposed SOW with the ICTC TAC to obtain additional feedback. Staff is anticipating releasing the RFP in the coming weeks.**
- 11) **ICTC/IVT Operations and Maintenance Facility:** ICTC staff has engaged with the proposed property owner's representative about ICTC's interest in the property. ICTC has also communicated with the city of El Centro regarding action items that would need to take place to facilitate the goal of the project. ICTC has also communicated with grant agencies and our Zero Emission Bus Plan engineering consultant to develop a preliminary site plan of the

proposed improvements. Next steps include executing a Letter of Intent with the property owner, continuing coordination with the city of El Centro, and to begin conducting the required environmental studies like a Phase 1 Site Assessment. ICTC will also continue to work on grant opportunities to fund the acquisition of the property. **A preliminary site plan has been prepared and was shared with the commission. ICTC was recently informed that it had received a funding commitment for the completion of the design/environmental phases of the project. ICTC is working towards completing a phase 1 site assessment for the proposed site. ICTC is seeking to obtain NEPA clearance from the FTA and further processes would be required to obtain clearance from the FTA.**

- 12) **Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending (CPFCDs):** ICTC recently received an award of 4.1 million dollars to be utilized towards the Calexico Intermodal Transportation Center Project. The project has already received awards from the RAISE, ATP and REAP 2.0 programs. We would like to thank our local, State and Federal Partners and Congressman Raul Ruiz for their continued support of the project, ICTC and the Imperial County. ICTC would also like to congratulate the cities of Imperial and El Centro, the County of Imperial and the Imperial Irrigation District on their awards. ICTC will continue to work with all the awardees to ensure that their projects are programmed to enable the use of the project funding.
- 13) **Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) 2024 Call for Projects – FFY 2023-2024 to FFY 2025/2026:** The STBG, CRP and CMAQ Call for Projects began on November 9, 2023. Applications were due on Friday, January 26, 2024, at the ICTC office. All agencies were provided guideline documentation were encouraged to submit potential projects.

Program	Applicants	Total Value Requested by All Applicants
CMAQ	City of Imperial	\$388,000
STBG	City of Imperial, City of Brawley and City of El Centro	\$2,416,000
CRP	ICTC – City of Imperial	\$1,083,000

Due to the number of projects submitted, ICTC was able to evaluate all projects internally without utilizing the normal process which involves all cities participating in the scoring and ranking process. ICTC recommended projects to SCAG as part of the final submittal process. SCAG recently approved the list of projects anticipated to receiving funding. The project list is as follows:

Program	Applicants	Total Value Requested by All Applicants
CMAQ	City of Imperial – Aten Blvd Sidewalk Installation Phases 1 through 3	\$388,000
STBG	City of Imperial – P Street Rehab	\$519,000
STBG	City of El Centro – S. Imperial Avenue Utility Relocations	\$520,000
STBG	City of Brawley – Western Avenue Improvements	\$599,000
CRP	ICTC – EV Charger Study	\$150,000
CRP	City of Imperial – EV Charger Installation Phases 1 and 2	\$622,000

ICTC staff will be working with local agency staff and programming all approved projects in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP). **Several projects have already started development for use of the grant funds.**

- 14) **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 widening 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 was anticipated to be completed at the beginning of 2023 but suffered delays due to the issuance of the presidential permit. Approximately 87% of construction efforts have been completed. The project was temporarily placed on hold for 6 months due to the issuance of the presidential permit to relocate the border fence. The Presidential Permit was received on July 7, 2023. On November 15, 2023, GSA, ICTC, and regional partners celebrated the completion of Stage 1 of the project with a Ribbon Cutting celebration. ICTC Executive Director David Aguirre led the ceremony. Speakers included ICTC Chair Mike Goodsell, CBP Calexico Port Director Roque Caza, GSA Pacific Rim Region Public Buildings Service Deputy Regional Commissioner Amanda Sweeney, FHWA Senior Project Engineer Tay Dam, Caltrans District 11's South County and Trade Corridor Director Nikki Tiongco, CTC Commissioner Clarissa Reyes Falcon, and Head Counsel of the Mexican Consulate in Calexico Tarcisio Montes de Oca. The event concluded with the anticipated Ribbon Cutting followed by media opportunities. For additional information regarding this project visit the ICTC website at: <https://www.imperialctc.org/projects/calexico-east-port-of-entry-bridge-expansion>. Stage 3 of the project, which consisted of the completion of improvements to the passenger vehicle lanes, is now complete. Stage 4 of the project is now complete, which consisted of retrofitting activities and roadway striping. The final project improvements, which consisted of the reinstallation of new bolts under the existing bridge section was completed in early August 2024. **The project construction efforts are now complete, and the project is now in closeout phase.**
- 15) **IVT Ride Potential Service Modifications:** IVT Ride is a dial-a-ride service that is available to seniors (55 years of age or older) and persons with disabilities in the communities of Calexico, Heber, El Centro, Imperial and Brawley. The service primarily operates in an intracity capacity with the exception of the communities of El Centro, Imperial and Heber and the Westshores service which travels to the city of Brawley or the Coachella Valley. The Westshores service is also available to the general public. Due to continuing declining ridership on all IVT Ride services, staff are exploring the possibility of modifying the service to provide trips to the general public but still provide priority to the senior population. The possible modification would enable the service to capture additional passengers and implement a microtransit like service in various communities. The possible modification would also require financial investment in technology and the development of a passenger web and mobile application. Staff anticipate bringing the further evaluated concept to the Management Committee and Commission in the coming months. Staff are also pursuing funding opportunities to facilitate the possible transition of the service. **Staff provided the Commission with a presentation on August 28, 2024, with further details. There was consensus to proceed with the software development and hardware acquisition. This item received approval to proceed to further development by the commission. ICTC has received state funding to complete the software and hardware upgrades for the project. ICTC Staff are currently working on developing a plan to conduct outreach (inclusive of in-person presentations and surveys) to the public about the possible service modifications.**
- 16) **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 private bus companies, taxis and farm labor buses. ICTC previously received a Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality federal program fund to complete the environmental and design plans of the new Calexico ITC. The environmental and design phase has been completed. Right of Way Acquisition is underway. ICTC has already acquired 2 of the required 3 properties for the project. The City of Calexico Council approved the commencement of the eminent domain process for two of the required properties. ICTC was recently awarded multiple grants to complete the required

construction efforts for the project. ICTC received grant awards from the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0, Active Transportation Program (ATP) and Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Programs. Due to the anticipated State budget deficit, REAP 2.0 funding may be impacted. SCAG is working to ensure that the REAP 2.0 funding is not negatively impacted. ICTC is working with SCAG to identify possible alternative funding sources in the interim.

**It is anticipated that the project will start construction in February 2025. The project is currently in the construction bidding phase and bids are anticipated to be received in the month of December 2024. ICTC's goal is to award a construction contract in the month of January 2025.**

- 17) **Transit Comprehensive Operational Analysis:** Staff was able to secure grant funding to complete a Transit Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA). The COA is a comprehensive evaluation of ICTC's existing transit services while also presenting evaluation findings and recommendations to further improvement of ICTC's existing public transit system. ICTC intends to evaluate all ICTC operated services in addition to incorporating an assessment of the feasibility of intercity passenger rail. Staff recently released the Request for Proposals to the public and are anticipated to work towards a contract award in October 2024. **The analysis is anticipated to take a year to complete.**
- 18) **EV Charger Installation Project:** Staff are working on developing an EV charger installation project across multiple cities throughout the county. ICTC will be coordinating with the various cities to complete the development. ***It is anticipated that the project will be completed within FY24-25/25-26.***
- 19) **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 took place at the ICTC offices on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 9 a.m. Further updates to the PSR are anticipated along with additional meetings to discuss the updated PSR. **The updated PSR was recently completed, and the PSR was presented to the management committee and commission in September 2024.**
- 20) **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 is 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. CBP will be working with Caltrans to obtain environmental clearance once funding for construction is obtained. The improvement plans have been prepared in final draft form and have been submitted to Caltrans for review. Caltrans has provided review comments on the project improvement plans. ICTC will work with the design engineer to complete the required updates. Environmental studies and Caltrans submittal are pending submittal by CBP. ICTC's consultant is working on finalizing the remaining documents. CBP will proceed with developing environmental documents and pursue funding for the construction of the facility.*

- 21) **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. Projects are underway at various stages by the agencies. Staff recommendations were approved at the January Commission meeting. See the table below for further information.

Regional ATP Projects		
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
<b>TOTAL Regional ATP funds</b>		<b>\$3,270,000</b>

- 22) **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.
- 23) **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. Strategy outcomes are scheduled to be presented to SANDAG and ICTC groups as well as community organizations such as IMBA and AB617 meetings starting in June in Imperial County.
- 24) **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).
- 25) **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: [https://www.sco.ca.gov/ard\\_payments\\_rmra\\_cities.html](https://www.sco.ca.gov/ard_payments_rmra_cities.html)

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## 26) Funding Opportunities:

- **LPP Cycle 5 Call-for-Projects:** LPP Cycle 5 is expected to include about \$72M/per year made up of Federal and State funding. The funding/programming years include the 25/26 and 26/27 fiscal years.
  - Schedule and major milestones can be found at: <https://catc.ca.gov/-/media/ctc-media/documents/programs/senate-bill-1/2-bi-4-12-draft-2024-lpp-competitive-guidelines-red-line-v8.pdf>
- For a complete list of California specific grant opportunities go to <https://www.grants.ca.gov/>.
  - [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2023 through FY 2026 Bridge Investment Program, Planning and Bridge Project Grants](#)
- For a complete list of federal transportation grant opportunities go to <https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/key-notices-funding-opportunity>.

## 27) Meetings/trainings attended on behalf of ICTC Executive Director and staff:

- November 4, 2024 – IVC Resource Fair at the IVC Student College Center (attended by Priscilla)
- November 6, 2024 – ICTC SSTAC Meeting at the ICTC office
- November 6, 2024 – Meeting with Eric Reyes, Los Amigos at the ICTC offices
- November 7, 2024 – SCAG Regional Council Meeting in Los Angeles (attended by Commissioner Mike Goodsell and David A.)
- November 7, 2024- Drop off Brochures in Holtville (attended by Priscilla Baca)
- November 12-14, 2024- Advance Title VI and Public Transit-Training (attended by Priscilla Baca)
- November 13, 2024- ICTC Commission Meeting at the ICTC office and via Zoom (attended by ICTC Staff)
- November 14, 2024- IMBA Meeting (attended by ICTC Staff)
- November 14, 2024- Resources Fair Access to Independence (attended by Gustavo Gomez and Priscilla Baca)
- November 21, 2024- Drop off Brochures in El Centro (attended by Priscilla Baca)
- November 21, 2024- ICTC TAC Meeting at the ICTC office
- November 27, 2024- Meeting with San Diego (attended by Priscilla Baca)