The Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Butte County and its incorporated cities. As the MPO, BCAG is required to prepare a Federal Transportation Improvement program (FTIP) every two years and a long-range Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) every four years. The purpose of the FTIP is to identify all transportation-related projects that require federal funding or other approval by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The FTIP identifies all non-federal, regionally significant projects for information and air quality emissions modeling purposes. The FTIP indicates the area’s short-term plan for use of federal dollars and other resources for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the transportation system and the achievement of federal air quality standards over the next four federal fiscal years. The RTP/SCS identifies the long-range transportation plans for specific funding programs through the year 2040. Notice is hereby given that:

The 2017 FTIP Amendment #05 and 2016 RTP/SCS Amendment #02 have been prepared and are available for public review. The purpose of these amendments is to make the following changes described below to the FTIP and to the RTP/SCS:

(NEW PROJECT) City of Chico Bruce Road Bridge Replacement Project - Project location is in Chico 0.5 miles south of Humboldt Road on Bruce Road Over Little Chico Creek. Project includes replacement of an existing 2-lane functionally obsolete bridge with a new 4-lane bridge including reconstruction of bridge approaches. The new bridge also incorporates a class I bicycle facility. This amendment programs $225,000 in local funds in the 2016/17 fiscal year for the preliminary engineering component only. It is anticipated the project will be awarded $5.4 million in federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP) funds at a later time. This amendment programs the project into the FTIP. The financial information for the project will be updated in the RTP/SCS. This project is being programmed for the Preliminary Engineering component. The project is not exempt from regional air quality conformity. However, the project will rely on a previous regional emissions analysis since the design concept and scope of the project has been adequately included in the 2016 RTP/SCS to determine the project’s contribution to the 2017 FTIP’s regional emissions at the time of the previous conformity determination. BCAG’s previous regional emissions analysis and air quality conformity determination for the 2016 RTP/SCS was approved by FHWA/FTA on March 21, 2017 and included the widening of Bruce Road from 2 to 4 lanes (Skyway to State Route 32 in Chico) for the 2018 analysis year. The new bridge replacement project is within the scope of the Bruce Road widening.

FTA Section 5310 Enhancement Program Grouped Listing – Non-Infrastructure, Various Agencies - The California Transportation Commission is scheduled to approve the following projects identified for the 2016/17 FTA Section 5310 Program at their June 29, 2017 meeting. Projects are awarded through a competitive grant program for Small Urban and Rural projects. In sum, the region is expected to receive $1,060,643 in federal funds. This project category is already included in the 2017 FTIP, however, the recent grant awards require the FTIP be amended. The specific list of projects is recommended incorporation into the FTIP and the RTP/SCS.
The FTA Section 5310 projects are exempt from a regional emissions analysis per EPA’s Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Table 2 “Mass Transit” and “Other” indicating that purchase of new vehicles and other activities that do not lead directly to construction are exempt.

This amendment does not reflect a change in the design concept and scope of the project or the conformity analysis years as assumed for the regional emissions analysis of the currently conforming RTP and TIP. This amendment, meets all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450 (financial constraint, public involvement and consistency with the RTP). BCAG does not have any Transportation Control Measures in the State Implementation Plan (SIP) and therefore the project does not interfere with any TCMs. The BCAG Board of Directors is scheduled to approve this amendment at the July 27, 2017 Board meeting. Details of these amendments can be found at: http://www.bcag.org/Planning/FTIP/index.html for the FTIP and at: http://www.bcag.org/Planning/RTP--SCS/index.html for the RTP/SCS.

These amendments to the FTIP and RTP/SCS are scheduled to be approved by the BCAG Board of Directors on July 27, 2017 Board meeting located at the BCAG Board Room, 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico CA 95928 at 9:00 a.m. Information is also available for review at the Butte County Association of Governments office located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 100, Chico CA 95928. Questions can be directed to Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager at BCAG at 530-809-4616 or by e-mail at igarcia@bcag.org.