



## BCAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Item #8 Information

December 10, 2020

### CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY PROGRAM (CMAQ) AND HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – DRAFT STAFF RECOMENDATIONS

**PREPARED BY:** Ivan Garcia, Transportation Programming Specialist

**ISSUE:** BCAG initiated a call to member jurisdictions for new Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) and Highway Improvement Program (HIP) projects for funding consideration. Applications were due on November 5, 2020.

**DISCUSSION:** The purpose of the CMAQ program is to fund projects which reduce the region's non-attainment pollutants. As in the past, projects are ranked by the amount of emissions reduced with regional equity also being considered. At the September 2020 BCAG Board meeting, staff indicated approximately \$6.2 million was being made available for new CMAQ projects to be incorporated into the development of the new 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program.

In addition, BCAG's federal Highway Improvement Program (HIP) apportionment of \$1,609,209 is available for projects on the federal aid system. This program was created through a previous Appropriations Act. It is not known if these funds will continue as part of the federal FAST Act reauthorization.

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:** Staff received two project applications for funding consideration:

**City of Chico – Hegan Lane Business Park Access Improvement Project.** This project will provide operational and safety improvements to the Hegan Lane Business Park District. This funding request is for the development and construction of a phase 1 project working towards the construction of **four (4) roundabouts** at the intersections of:

- Park Avenue and Midway
- E. Park Avenue and Fair Street
- Hegan Lane and Midway
- Hegan Lane and Otterson Drive

The City is requesting \$6.2 million in CMAQ and \$1.6 million in HIP funds.

**BCAG Board of Directors - Item #8**  
**December 10, 2020**  
**Page 2**

Staff Recommendation: Staff supports the programming of the City's request. The four (4) roundabouts are necessary for the full congestion relief and air quality benefits to be realized. This project also improves access for all transportation modes including bicycles and pedestrians.

**Butte County – Autrey Lane South Rehabilitation Project.** The County is requesting funding for the preliminary engineering component only to design curb, gutter and sidewalk with enhanced intersection crossings to replace the existing inefficient infrastructure to encourage students walking to school, local citizens walking to businesses and churches in the area. The County intends to pursue Active Transportation Program (ATP) through Caltrans once the component is done.

The County is requesting \$150,000.

Staff Recommendation: Staff supports the programming of this project.

Staff will incorporate the CMAQ and HIP funded recommendations supported by the BCAG Board into the development of the 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program. Complete project applications are available at the BCAG offices.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** This item is presented for information and discussion.

Key Staff: Jon Clark, Executive Director  
Ivan Garcia, Transportation Programming Specialist  
Brian Lasagna, Senior Planner