

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Butte County Association of Governments
Conference Room
2580 Sierra Sunrise Terrace, Suite 100, Chico CA
(530) 879-2468

***Thursday** - November 10, 2011 - 10:00 A.M.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA DURING CONSIDERATION OF THAT ITEM.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATION

PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS OR COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA MAY DO SO AT THIS TIME. COMMENTS ARE LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA, NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME. IF IT REQUIRES ACTION, IT WILL BE REFERRED TO STAFF AND OR PLACED ON THE NEXT AGENDA.

COPIES OF STAFF REPORTS OR OTHER WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION RELATING TO ITEMS OF BUSINESS REFERRED TO ON THE AGENDA ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (BCAG). PERSONS WITH QUESTIONS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS MAY CALL BCAG TO MAKE INQUIRIES REGARDING THE NATURE OF THE ITEM DESCRIBED ON THE AGENDA.

<u>ITEM</u> STAFF 3. Minutes from September 8, 2011 TAC Meeting Ivan Garcia For review and approval 4 Draft – 2012 Regional Transportation Improvement Program Ivan Garcia Presenting final draft 2012 RTIP recommendations 5. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program – Call for Projects Ivan Garcia Initiating call for new CMAQ projects 6. Caltrans Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) Ivan Garcia Discussion of next round of BTA funding and programming 7. Butte County Regional Transportation Plan – Sustainable Brian Lasagna **Communities Strategy Development** Providing schedule for development of the SCS for the 2012 RTP 8. Other Items



Butte County Association of Governments Transportation Advisory Committee Draft Summary Meeting Minutes for October 13, 2011

The following minutes are a summary of the Transportation Advisory Committee. The Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting of the Butte County Association of Governments was held at their office, 2580 Sierra Sunrise Terrace, Suite 100, Chico CA. The meeting started at 10:00 a.m.

Item #3 – September 8, 2011 TAC Meeting

No comments were received.

Item #4 – 2012 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Fund Estimate for Butte County

Staff presented the adopted STIP Fund Estimate of \$15.479 million for the 2012 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) development. Staff indicated the upcoming STIP period included the 5 fiscal years starting on July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017. While specific annual targets were not provided by the California Transportation Commission (CTC), staff stated that programming capacity for Regional Improvement Program (RIP) funds were in the last fiscal years of the STIP period. Staff also stated that while BCAG's TE target was \$863,000, staff recommended to the BCAG Board that \$2 million in TE projects be recommended for new programming. The BCAG Board supported this recommendation at their August Board meeting. In doing so, staff issued a call-for-project on August 26, 2011 with a deadline to submit project proposals for new RIP programming by September 30, 2011.

In addition, the County presented their proposal to program \$1.5 million for the Midway at Butte Creek Bridge Project. The County requested that \$1.5 million in RIP funds be used to leverage for approximately \$14 million in Highway Bridge Program (HBP) funding. The County communicated to the committee that utilizing RIP funds for the local match was a good use of leveraging regional funds requested support by the committee.

Staff highlighted that BCAG needs to ensure that enough RIP funding is available for the next SR 70 Passing Lane project in Butte County as part of the 2014 STIP Cycle. In doing so, BCAG would be developing a PSR/PID document for the next passing lane project beginning in the 2011/2012 fiscal year utilizing available SR 70 "High Priority" (earmark) funds. Once completed, BCAG would then be able to nominate a jointly funded project with Caltrans. The anticipated costs for the project would be approximately \$25 million.

Staff stated that all TE project recommendations are required to be reviewed by the Caltrans TE coordinator to ensure eligibility.

Item #5 Other Items

None.



Item # 4
Action

October 25, 2011

DRAFT - 2012 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (RTIP)

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

ISSUE: BCAG is required to prepare and adopt a Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and submit it to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) by December 15, 2011. The CTC then has the authority to approve the 2012 RTIP and include it as part of the 2012 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

DISCUSSION: The 2012 RTIP is scheduled to be adopted by the BCAG Board of Directors at the December 8, 2011 Board meeting. The RTIP is then submitted to the California Transportation Commission for programming consideration into the 2012 STIP. The 2012 STIP covers the five year period between FY 2012-13 through FY 2016-17.

As part of the RTIP/STIP development, Caltrans prepares a Fund Estimate (FE) to identify the available funding for each region for the five year period of the STIP. The FE includes a funding target for Regional Improvement Program (RIP) funds and Transportation Enhancement (TE) activities. RIP funds are generally programmed to major highway projects, while TE funds are programmed towards enhancement projects such as pedestrian and bicycle projects.

BCAG's 2012 RTIP Fund Estimate identifies a funding level of **\$15.479 million** for RIP programming, and **\$838,000** for TE programming. The RIP funds may be available starting in the last two years of the STIP, 2015/16 and 2016/17, while the TE funds may be available starting in the 2012/13 FY.

In order for a project to be eligible for RTIP/STIP programming, an approved Project Study Report (PSR) or Project Initiation Document (PID) must be completed.

BCAG Transportation Advisory Committee November 10, 2011 – Agenda Item #4 Page 2

2012 RTIP/STIP RECOMMENDATIONS: BCAG staff has been working with the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) during the past month to identify project recommendations for the RIP program and the TE program. Staff issued a call for new TE projects on August 26, 2011 with a programming target of \$2 million as supported by the Board at the August 25, 2011 Board meeting. Staff requested new TE applications to be submitted to BCAG by Friday, September 30, 2011. In addition, staff informed the Board that Butte County Public Works requested \$1.5 million in Regional Improvement Program (RIP) funds be used as the local match requirement for the Midway over Butte Creek Bridge funded in the Highway Bridge Program (HBP). The following project recommendations have not changed since they were last presented at the October 13, 2011 TAC meeting.

FINAL DRAFT - 2012 RTIP/STIP RECOMENDATIONS

AGENCY	PROJECT	F	UNDING RECOMMENDATION
	TE RECOMMENDATIONS		
County	Neal Rd Class 2 Bike Lane Project	\$	1,500,000
Gridley	Downtown Streetscape Project	\$	452,000
BCAG	Chico Bike Map Update	\$	30,000
	Subtotal for TE Projects	\$	1,982,000
	RIP RECOMMENDATIONS		
County	Butte County Midway over Butte Creek Project (Local Match)	\$	1,499,000
BCAG	Planning Programming and Monitoring (PPM)	\$	740,000
BCAG	Reserve balance for future SR 70 Passing Lane Project in the 2014 STIP Cycle	\$	11,258,000
	Subtotal for RIP Recommendations	\$	13,467,000
	TOTAL 2012 RTIP RECOMMENDATIONS	\$	15,479,000

Description of Project Recommendations:

<u>Butte County Neal Rd Class 2 Bike Lane Project</u>. The County has requested \$1.5 million in RIP TE funds. The County is proposing to improve traffic safety, circulation and promote intermodal transportation by providing Class 2 bike lanes along Neal Road as part of a planned contiguous bikeway facility from the Town of Paradise to the City of Chico as currently defined in the Butte County Bikeway Master Plan. The proposed project also enhances the bicycle rideability of both Neal and Cohasset Roads for cyclists along these signature regional cycling routes. Specifically, the County is proposing the following:

- Complete design for phased improvements to widen Neal Rd to accommodate Class 2 bike lanes from Oro-Chico Hwy to the Town Limits (7.5 miles)
- Construct Phases 1 & 2 Class 2 bike lanes from SR-99 to 4.7 miles east as the
 initial phase of work along with installation of "Share the Road" signage on the
 remainder of Neal Road (2.8 miles) to the Town Limits and within the Town of
 Paradise to the Skyway (1.7 miles.)
- "Share the Road" signage along Cohasset Road from Chico City Limits to the Cohasset School (11.5 miles.)

Gridley Hazel Street Rehabilitation Project. The City of Gridley has requested \$452,000 in RIP TE funds with \$286,000 in local funds for a total project cost of \$738,000. The project includes bulb-outs between Virginia and Vermont Streets that includes new layouts and hardscape design at bulb-outs and street crossings, creating new and comfortable people spaces, appropriate site furniture and utilities with the space and developing new landscape areas and planting to enhance the intersection area. Also included are low walls to accent the entry into downtown, provide pedestrians a sense of protection and identify the space. The project also includes mid-block bulb-outs in front of active store fronts to provide pedestrian access along with outdoor dining and social areas; and an entire landscaping plan for the area to create a comfortable atmosphere.

<u>Chico Bike Map Update</u> - BCAG has requested \$30,000 to update and reproduce the Chico Bike Map. As a result of recent significant project delivery accomplishments by the City of Chico including the SR 99 Corridor Bike Project and other bike and road projects, the bike map is in need to be updated. In addition, the bike map includes a transit layer in which routes have been modified by Butte Regional Transit in the spring of 2011. BCAG staff is proposing to update and reproduce the map. Staff anticipates updating and reproducing the map twice to accommodate necessary changes and to cover the needs for approximately 4 years.

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Butte County Midway over Butte Creek Bridge – Butte County has requested \$1.499 million to leverage towards \$13.991 million in federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP) funds for this bridge replacement project. The proposed project constructs a new 1600 foot long multi-span prestressed cast-in-place concrete box girder with approximately 2300 feet of approach of roadway reconstruction. This project will replace 2 existing structures that currently span Butte Creek and Butte Creek Overflow. Both of the structures proposed to be replaced have low sufficiency ratings and have been determined to be "Structurally Deficient" by Caltrans Structures Maintenance and Investigations. They are both load limited and are of sub-standard width. The structure over Butte Creek also carries a speed limit of 10 mph for vehicles over 10 tons. It has been determined that replacement of the bridges is the most feasible alternative.

Utilizing RIP funds to leverage towards federal HBP funds has been identified as a priority for funding consideration by the California Transportation Commission.

Projects Not Recommended for Funding

<u>Gridley SR 99 Pedestrian Sidewalk Project</u> – The City has requested \$600,000 in RIP TE funds for this project. The scope of the project includes construction of typical urban improvements such as curb, gutter, sidewalk, driveways and pedestrian ramps on the east side of S 99 within the City of Gridley from Obermeyer Avenue to approximately 1,800 feet north of Obermeyer Avenue. Based on the funding target supported by the BCAG Board at \$2 million for TE projects, staff has recommended not to fund the City's second TE priority project. However, BCAG staff will assist the City in pursuing other funding sources to complete this project. The City of Gridley is currently developing the environmental component.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff requests the committee support staff's recommendation to the BCAG Board that the 2012 RTIP Projects be recommended for programming as presented. A complete draft 2012 RTIP document will be presented at TAC meeting.

Key Staff: Jon Clark, Executive Director

Andy Newsum, Deputy Director Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager



Item # 5
Information

October 25, 2011

CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY PROGRAM – CALL FOR PROJECTS

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

ISSUE: New Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) applications are being accepted for BCAG Board funding consideration. Applications for new projects are due no later than December 19, 2011.

DISCUSSION: Transportation projects and programs are eligible for CMAQ program funds only if they meet certain criteria in the Federal Highway Act and Federal Highway Administration Guidelines for the CMAQ program. Approval of CMAQ projects will be incorporated into the 2011 and 2013 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) as appropriate and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

The amount of funds estimated to be available for the next three federal fiscal years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Amount	
2011-2012	\$ 1,281,940	
2012-2013	\$ 1,600,632	
2013-2014	\$ 2,675,632	
2014-2015	\$ 2,675,632	
2015-2016	\$ 2,675,632	
TOTAL	\$ 10,909,468	
	2011-2012 2012-2013 2013-2014 2014-2015 2015-2016	

Until Caltrans releases the final apportionments from FHWA, the actual amounts may be adjusted as needed.

The following types of projects may be eligible for CMAQ funding:

- Transportation activities in the approved State Implementation Plan (SIP)
- Traffic signalization projects that improve traffic flow and do not add capacity

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Projects types continued from previous page:

- Bicycle and pedestrian programs
- Traffic monitoring, management and control operations
- Emission inspection and maintenance programs
- Planning and air quality monitoring projects that lead directly to construction, or new services, or programs that have an air quality benefit
- Public-private partnerships which allow limited eligibility for privately owned or operated alternative fuel vehicles and facilities under certain circumstances
- Extreme low temperature cold start programs
- Other transportation projects or programs not listed above may be considered for funding if endorsed by the air quality control district if the project can be shown to help attain federal air quality standards for the region
- Specific transportation control measures (TCMs) listed in the federal Clean Air Act

The attached public notice will be placed in the local newspapers. Project nominations are due to the BCAG offices by December 19, 2011.

The schedule for programming CMAQ projects is:

- 11/10/11 Project Nomination Packages distributed to BCAG Transportation Advisory Committee
- 12/19/11 Complete Project Nomination Packages due to BCAG Staff
- 01/12/12 BCAG TAC Meeting / Draft Project Recommendations Presented
- 01/26/12 Draft Recommendations– 30 Day Public Notice to Amend 2011 FTIP and 2008 RTP
- 02/23/12 BCAG Board Approval 2009 FTIP & 2008 RTP amended with new CMAQ Projects
- 02/29/12 FTIP Submitted to Caltrans, FHWA and FTA for approval

Projects received after 12/23/2011 will not be accepted. Projects selected by the BCAG Board for funding will be amended into the FTIP. Priority will be given to existing projects which can be accelerated and or for the construction component of a project. Projects which are not selected due to financial constraints may be incorporated into the Regional Transportation Plan for future consideration. All information including electronic fact and funding sheets are posted on the BCAG web page at: http://www.bcag.org/Projects/Congestion-Mitigation-and-Air-Quality-Program/index.html. Caltrans resources can be found at:

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hg/transprog/federal/cmag/Official CMAQ Web Page.htm

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STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No action is requested. Applications are due December 19, 2011. A complete application package will be distributed at the committee meeting and emailed electronically to the cities and county.

Key Staff: Jon Clark, Executive Director

Andy Newsum, Deputy Director Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager



PUBLIC NOTICE

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 (RTP) 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 also 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.

BCAG has initiated a call for projects for <u>federal</u> **Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ) Funds**. Eligible applicants must have a master agreement in place with Caltrans. Typical applicants include cities and county, however, joint project sponsorship is allowed. Interested applicants without a master agreement with Caltrans are encouraged to work with the local cities and county for potential projects. New projects will be programmed as part of the FTIP and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The CMAQ Instructions and Application Package can be downloaded from BCAG's website at:

http://www.bcag.org/Projects/Congestion-Mitigation-and-Air-Quality-Program/index.html
Questions regarding the CMAQ program or project eligibility can be directed to Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager at BCAG at 530-879-2468 or by e-mail at igarcia@bcag.org. Complete applications are due to BCAG no later than December 19, 2011.



Item # 6
Information

November 3, 2011

CALTRANS BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION ACCOUNT

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

ISSUE: Caltrans is scheduled to issue a call for new Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) projects by February 2011 for the 2012/13 grant cycle.

DISCUSSION: The purpose of this memorandum is to begin the dialogue concerning the next round of BTA projects and to ensure local agencies have a current Bicycle Plan. Last year's grant application included:

Part 1. The electronic application file for each project is due via email to Caltrans Headquarters Bicycle Facilities Unit.

Part 2. The printed application package for each project is due to the Caltrans District Local Assistance Office.

Part 3. Grant Application Checklist.

Additional resources can be found at the Caltrans BTA website at: http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/bta/btawebPage.htm.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No action is requested.

Key Staff: Jon Clark, Executive Director

Andy Newsum, Deputy Director Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager



Item # 7
Information

November 4, 2011

2012 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN / SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT - UPDATE

PREPARED BY: Brian Lasagna, Senior Planner

ISSUE: Pursuant to Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg), also known as the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008, BCAG is required to prepare a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) as an additional element of the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The 2012 RTP and SCS are scheduled to be adopted in December 2012.

DISCUSSION: As a newly required element of the 2012 RTP, the SCS will contain the forecasted development pattern for the region, which, when integrated with the transportation network, and other transportation measures and policies, will meet the passenger vehicle greenhouse gas reduction target for the area.

The SCS must be consistent with the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) and must consider the region's natural resource areas, farmland, and the spheres of influence that have been adopted by the Butte Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).

If the SCS is unable to meet the regional greenhouse gas reduction targets, an Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) must be developed to demonstrate how the targets could be achieved.

BCAG staff has the following information to report regarding the preparation and development of the 2012 RTP/SCS.

Strategic Growth Council Planning Grant

In August 2011, BCAG and its local partners received consent from the California Strategic Growth Council to begin work on the approved grant for the coordinated development of the 2012 RTP/SCS. Over the next 12 months, BCAG will be working closely with planning staff from each of the local jurisdictions and the Butte Local Agency Formation Commission in preparing the land use component of the SCS.

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Technical Methodology

On August 30th, 2011, BCAG submitted to the California Air Resources Board (ARB) the technical methodology to be used in the development of the 2012 RTP/SCS, as required by Senate Bill 375. To date, BCAG has not received comments from ARB on the methodology. However, ARB staff has indicated that comments are scheduled to be provided to BCAG by the end of November 2011.

Model Improvement Plan

BCAG was awarded both a Caltrans 5304 Planning Grant and Proposition 84 Modeling Improvement Plan Grant for the purpose of enhancing BCAG's regional travel model to assist in preparing and quantifying the region's SCS. BCAG is utilizing Fehr & Peers, the California State University, Chico – Geographical Information Center (GIC), and the University of California Davis – Information Center for the Environment (ICE) to assist with preparing the project's required GIS datasets, land use allocation model, and implementing the travel model enhancements.

To date, the GIS data development portion of the project has been completed with regional datasets finalized for existing land use, combined general plans, bike facilities, transit facilities, and commercial building footprints. In addition, work has begun on the development of a regional land use allocation model. The model will be used to assist in allocating future jobs and housing for the land use component of the SCS. This model is expected to be completed in January 2012.

Regional Housing Needs Allocation

In accordance with SB 375, the 2012 RTP/SCS is required to accommodate the eight year housing need identified in the areas Regional Housing Need Plan (RHNP) and the RHNP is to be consistent with the development pattern in the RTP/SCS.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) have provided BCAG with a draft schedule for the development of the RHNP, which shall be developed in coordination with the 2012 RTP/SCS. According to the draft schedule, HCD will provide BCAG with the "lump sum" housing figures in June 2011. BCAG could then issue a draft RHNP in June 2011, along with the draft 2012 RTP/SCS. Local housing elements would be due in June 2014.

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<u>Schedule</u>

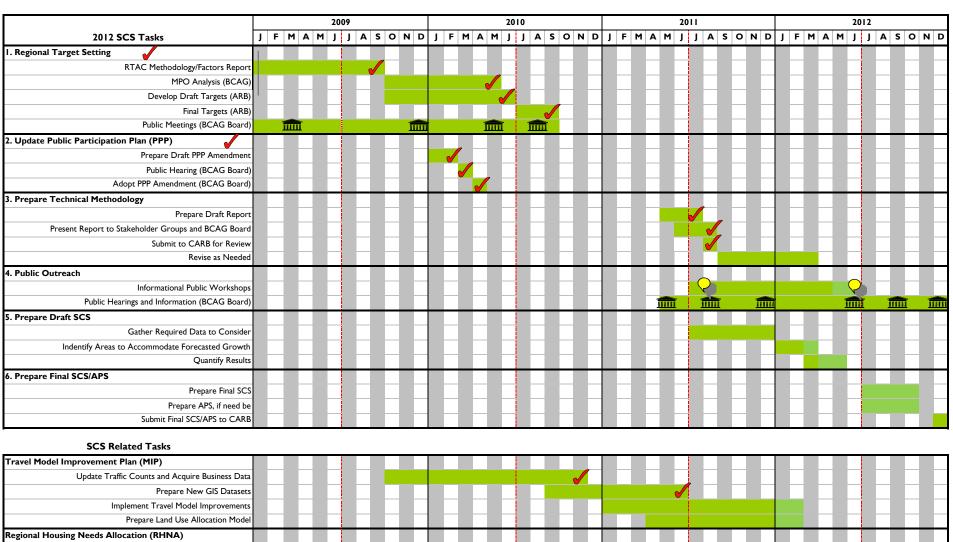
The latest revised schedule for the development of the SCS has been included for the committee's information. It shows the updated dates associated with the release of the Draft 2012 RTP/SCS and the development of the RHNP.

Staff will continue to keep the TAC informed regarding the preparation and development of the 2012 SCS.

Key staff: Brian Lasagna, Senior Planner

Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS - 2012 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY (SCS) Schedule



Prepare Land Use Allocation Model

Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA)

Consultation with CA Dept. of Housing
Prepare Methodology
Draft Regional "Lump Sum"
Final Regional "Lump Sum"
Final Plan Approval

Prepared 12/31/08 - Revised 11/04/11

Board of Directors

Public Meeting/Workshop(s)

Completed Task