



BCAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Item #9 Information

February 25, 2016

UPDATE ON THE 2016 STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (STIP) REVISED FUND ESTIMATE AND IMPACTS TO BUTTE COUNTY

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

ISSUE: Due to insufficient transportation revenues that fund the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has requested that submitted Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) documents be revised.

DISCUSSION: In December 2015, the BCAG Board adopted the 2016 RTIP for programming consideration into the 2016 STIP. However, in January, the CTC revised the "STIP Fund Estimate" which gives regional agencies a target for which to program transportation projects.

Due to the anticipated reduction in the price-based excise tax in 2016-17, the Commission adopted a revised Fund Estimate at its January 2016 Commission meeting. This action reduced the amount of funding available for the five-year STIP period by \$800 million. This means that a net \$754 million of existing STIP commitments must be deleted. Each regional agency and Caltrans must delete projects from their RTIPs and ITIP to reach the \$754 million mandatory reduction. In addition, each regional agency and Caltrans must identify projects to delay into the last years of the STIP. In the event insufficient projects are proposed for deletion and delay by the regions and Caltrans, Commission staff will recommend additional projects to delete and delay in order to remain within the constrained amounts in the revised Fund Estimate.

The following projects were recommended for programming into the 2016 STIP:

Butte County - 2016 RTIP Recommendations

<u>Project</u>	<u>RIP Only</u>
SR 70 Passing Lane Project (Segment 1)	\$13,100,000 PS&E, R/W, CON
SR 70 Passing Lane Project (Segment 2)	\$ 1,500,000 PS&E and R/W
Midway Bridges across Butte Creek	\$ 1,499,000 CON
Planning, Programming and Monitoring	\$ 202,000 CON
Total	\$16,301,000

BCAG's STIP "reduction target" is \$3,904,000.

Status of Projects:

Midway Bridges across Butte Creek Project. In staff's opinion the County's Midway Bridge project will remain in the STIP because it is leveraging STIP funds for \$13.9 million in federal Highway Bridge Program funds. This project is also considered a safety project. BCAG has consulted Caltrans HQ and they agree this project will likely not be effected.

SR 70 Passing Lane Project – Segment 2. This project will likely be deleted from the STIP and will need to be reprogrammed if able to as part of the 2018 STIP Cycle. Deleting this project will count towards BCAG's reduction target by \$1.5 million.

SR 70 Passing Lane Project (Segment 1). The fate of this project is unknown and is considered to be in jeopardy as well. BCAG will be testifying at the STIP hearing in support of delaying the project, but not deleting. BCAG is currently attempting to transfer \$1.7 million in an old federal earmark on SR 70 at Georgia Pacific Way to the SR 70 Segment 1 to offset the reduction amount needed. Staff believes this will get the region close enough to its reduction target of \$3.9 million even though BCAG would be proposing to reduce its RTIP by \$3.2 million. If this is not enough, the construction component may be delayed or deleted altogether.

Staff has met with Senator Nielson and Assemblyman Gallagher's staff regarding this issue affecting the entire STIP and BCAG's specific projects in jeopardy. In addition, staff will be testifying at the STIP hearings in support of SR 70 Segment 1.

The following page summarized with more details each of the projects included in the current 2016 RTIP. Also attached for the Board's awareness is a presentation by the CTC to the California Legislature regarding the issue of insufficient funding in the STIP.

REQUESTED ACTION: This item is presented for the information and discussion. A revised RTIP will be presented at the March BCAG Board meeting.

Key staff: Jon Clark, Executive Director
 Andy Newsum, Deputy Director
 Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

2016 BUTTE COUNTY RTIP

State Route 70 (Segment 1) – From Palermo Road to Ophir Rd / Pacific Heights Intersection. The scope of the project is to widen from 2 lanes to 4 lanes. BCAG is currently using available old SR 70 federal demonstration dollars to completely fund the environmental component for \$1.5 million. The remaining components are recommended for programming for \$13.1 million in RIP and \$13.1 million in Caltrans' IIP funds for the Design (PS&E), Right of Way and Construction for a total remaining cost of \$26.2 million. Construction has been pushed out one fiscal year from 2017/18 to 2018/19.

State Route 70 (Segment 2) – From Cox Lane to just south of Palermo Rd. The scope of the project is to widen from 2 to 4 lanes. This project would close the gap between Segment 1 to the north and the recently completed passing lanes on SR 70 near E. Gridley Road to the south. For the 2014 RTIP, the CTC approved the programming of environmental, design and right of way. The construction component would be recommended as part of the 2018 STIP Cycle if funding permits. As such, the RTIP recommendation for this project is only for \$1.5 million in RIP funds and \$1.5 million in Caltrans' IIP funds for a total cost of \$3 million. Construction could be ready in the 2019/20 fiscal year for a total estimated cost of \$24.6 million.

Midway Bridges across Butte Creek Replacement - On Midway (old SR 99) approximately 0.2 miles south of White Ave to approximately 0.7 miles south of White Ave. spanning Butte Creek and Butte Creek Overflow. The purpose is to replace 2 bridge structures. This project leverages \$1,499,000 in STIP funds for \$13,991,000 in federal Highway Bridge Program (HBP) funds in the 2016/17 fiscal year.

Planning Programming and Monitoring (PPM) – BCAG staff is requesting \$202,000 which represents the allowable 5% of Regional Improvement Program funding for PPM activities. These funds support the staff time necessary for various STIP projects in BCAG's Overall Work Program and Budget. The funds requested cover the 5 year period of the STIP. This is a carryover from the 2014 STIP cycle with no new programming.

Unprogrammed RIP Balance. (SR 70 Passing Lane Project – Reserve) – BCAG staff is requesting that the remaining RIP fund balance of \$2,230,000 remain as an unprogrammed balance. BCAG intends to program the SR 70 Passing Lane Project (Segment 2) south of Oroville in the 2018 or 2020 STIP Cycle.