BCAG Transportation Advisory Committee

December 5, 2019

2020 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (RTIP) DEVELOPMENT

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Transportation Programming Specialist

ISSUE: BCAG is required to prepare and adopt a Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) by December 31, 2019 for the 2020 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

DISCUSSION: The purpose of the RTIP is to identify programming recommendations for the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is adopted by the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

The STIP is comprised of two components including the Regional Improvement Program and Interregional Improvement Program:

STIP:

1) 75% - *Regional Improvement Program (RIP).* Projects nominated by the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) like BCAG as part of the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP Document)

2) 25% - *Interregional Improvement Program (IIP).* Projects nominated by Caltrans as part of their Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP).

In developing the RTIPs and ITIP, Caltrans prepares a “Fund Estimate” (FE) which identifies the amount of funding or programming capacity for new projects. The FE is identified for each county in California and is referred to as the “County Shares”. Below is a summary of the County Shares for Butte County:

**2020 Fund Estimate:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2020 STIP Programming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butte</td>
<td>$1,278,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2020 STIP Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 14-15, 2019</td>
<td>CTC Adopts the 2020 Fund Estimate and STIP Guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 2019</td>
<td>Caltrans Develops Draft ITIP for Caltrans Executive Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1, 2019</td>
<td>Caltrans submits Final Draft ITIP to the CTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 3, 2019</td>
<td>Draft RTIP to BCAG TAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 8, 2019</td>
<td>North ITIP Hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 7, 2019</td>
<td>Draft RTIP to BCAG TAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 12, 2019</td>
<td><strong>BCAG Board Adoption of 2020 RTIP</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 13, 2019</td>
<td>Final 2020 ITIP submitted to the CTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 20, 2019</td>
<td>BCAG Submits adopted 2020 RTIP to CTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 30, 2020</td>
<td>North STIP Hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 28, 2020</td>
<td>CTC Staff Recommendations Released</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 25-26, 2020</td>
<td><strong>CTC Adopts the 2020 STIP</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Route 70 Corridor

The State Route 70 Corridor Project (Segments 1, 2 & 3) represent the segments which are left to be widened to 4 lanes in Butte County. These segments were fully funded and programmed in the 2018 STIP Cycle. The projects on the State Route 70 Corridor **currently not fully funded are Segments 4 & 5 in Yuba County.** These segments are only programmed to add a center turn lane and 8-foot shoulders. The additional 2 lanes to provide a four-lanes with a continuous center left-turn lane (5 total lanes) is not funded. **The funding shortfall to complete the widening requires $32 million.**

During the past two years, BCAG and Caltrans held meetings with representatives from Yuba County and SACOG requesting their support and funding to finish these last two projects in Yuba County.

Caltrans had proposed the remaining $32 million shortfall could be shared among the three agencies.

Since the September 5, 2019 TAC meeting, the Yuba County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution to recommend that the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) support the programming of $4 million in regional funds for the SR 70 Corridor. The City of Marysville also supported a resolution of support (no funding) because the project lies in Yuba County.
In addition, since the last TAC meeting, Caltrans released the draft Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) in which they specifically define the estimated revenues and projects for programming consideration. Due to a lack of funding capacity, the State Route 70 Corridor was not included. The primary reasons provided included cost increases for existing projects in the 2018 STIP and lower than anticipated revenues. The ITIP will remain in draft form until the STIP is adopted.

The combination of the above factors has limited BCAG’s ability to identify a complete financial plan to complete the corridor. In the meantime, staff is continuing to work with Caltrans, Yuba County, SACOG and the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) in advocating for the completion of the corridor.

2020 RTIP Recommendation

Table 1 summarizes the 2020 RTIP/STIP Recommendations for BCAG.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGENCY</th>
<th>RIP PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS</th>
<th><em><strong>BCAG</strong></em> FUNDING RECOMMENDATION RIP ONLY</th>
<th>Caltrans IIP Funds</th>
<th>Yuba County (SACOG)</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BCAG/Caltrans/SACOG</td>
<td>SR 70 Passing Lanes – Segment 4&amp;5. Laurellen to Yuba/Butte County Line.</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCAG</td>
<td>Planning Programming and Monitoring (PPM)</td>
<td>$565</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$32,565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL 2020 RTIP RECOMMENDATIONS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,565</strong></td>
<td><strong>$24,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,565</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Should funding support from Caltrans and SACOG not occur, BCAG staff will rescind the $4 million recommendation prior to adoption of the 2020 STIP Cycle. The 2020 STIP is scheduled to be adopted in March 2020.

Staff will continue to meet with our transportation partners with the goal of completing the corridor. In doing so, staff’s recommendations may change. Any changes will be presented to the committee and the BCAG Board.
Attached for the committee’s record is a complete draft 2020 Butte County RTIP (separate attachment). Also attached is a letter from BCAG Board Chair, Mr. Bill Connelly advocating for the SR 70 Corridor as part of Caltrans’ draft ITIP.

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Staff is requesting the BCAG TAC support staff’s recommendation that $4 million in Regional Improvement Program funds be programmed for the SR 70 Corridor in Yuba County. This recommendation is contingent that a financial plan be included prior to adoption of the 2020 STIP.

Key staff:  
Jon Clark, Executive Director  
Andy Newsum, Deputy Director  
Ivan Garcia, Transportation Programming Specialist
November 22, 2019

California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814

Caltrans Director Toks Omishakin
1120 N Street, MS 52
P.O. Box 942873
Sacramento, CA 95273-001

Subject: 2020 Draft Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) Hearing

Dear Commissioners and Director Omishakin:

The purpose of this correspondence is to thank the Commission for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) for consideration into the development of the 2020 Interregional Transportation Improvement Program. In addition, BCAG would like to provide the entire Commission and Caltrans Director Toks Omishakin with a brief summary of Butte County’s talking points which are germane to the development of the ITIP. It’s my understanding that not all Commissioners are typically present during the ITIP hearings.

BCAG, Caltrans District 3, Yuba County and the City of Marysville are working to complete the last remaining project on State Route 70 from Laurellen Road, just north of the City of Marysville in Yuba County to the Yuba/Butte County line. If funding is approved by the Commission in the 2020 STIP, the State Route 70 corridor improvements that was directed by the CTC in 1988 will finally be completed and Butte County will finally be served by a continuous 4-lane highway.

Addressing fatalities continues to be our top priority in developing BCAG’s 2020 RTIP recommendations. With this in mind, BCAG continues to recommend the SR 70 Corridor for joint Regional and Interregional funding in the STIP. We offer the following points for ITIP funding consideration:

**ITIP Considerations**

- **44 fatalities on State Route 70 since 2010, 4 have occurred on this segment this year.**

- This project is partially funded with SHOPP funds, the remaining $32 million to complete the project is being requested as part of the 2020 STIP.

- This last project segment from Laurellen Road to the County line is lined with 158 driveways with heavy a.m. and p.m. commuter traffic, increased truck traffic that is part of the Paradise Clean-up and the agricultural industry......bottom line, these fatalities are not going to decrease until this last project is complete.
• After 30 years and over $1 billion in transportation investments, the Commission and Caltrans are poised to complete the State Route 70 Corridor between Sacramento and Chico by funding the last project in Yuba County.

• BCAG, Caltrans District 3 and with the support of the Yuba County Board of Supervisors and the Marysville City Council have agreed to a funding plan to complete this final project in Yuba County which includes a funding contribution of $4 million from BCAG, a $4 million contribution from Yuba County Board of Supervisors and a $24 million contribution from Caltrans’ ITIP.

• State Route 70 serves as a critical emergency access route as demonstrated in the Oroville Dam Crisis of 2017 with 180,000 evacuees and the Paradise Camp Fire in 2018.

Attached are our most recent fatality map and a corridor map highlighting the 68 miles of four lanes that have completed and the remaining gap of 9.6 miles left in Yuba County. We recognize the limited funding capacity in the ITIP and the funding needs from the rest of the state. We believe we have extenuating circumstances for this “grandfathered corridor” as highlighted above.

BCAG has already contributed $4 million of RIP funding to complete the environmental component for this corridor and we are willing to match Yuba County’s pledge of $4 million thru SACOG leaving a request of $24 million from Caltrans.

If we are unable to identify a plan to complete this remaining gap and this corridor becomes a future separate project, Caltrans District 03 has indicated the cost estimate would exceed $50 million at which point BCAG would be financially unable to further partner. We sincerely hope we can come together and finish the job. If approved and programmed, the project can be delivered for construction within the timeframe of the 2020 STIP.

Thank you for your time,

Bill Connelly, Chair
Butte County Association of Governments
HIGHWAY 70 FATALITIES
MARYSVILLE TO OROVILLE
2010 - 2019

Major Safety Issues
- 22 Fatalities since January 1, 2017
- 32 Fatalities since January 1, 2014
- 44 Fatalities since January 1, 2010
- 340 Collisions & 140 Serious Injuries from 2004 to Present
- Does Not Provide for an Adequate or Safe Evacuation

Last Updated: November 8, 2019
LEGEND

Two Lanes – 9.6-mile gap remaining

Four Lanes (Completed or Fully Funded) – 68 Miles of have been completed