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 federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program Funds (CMAQ). 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 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 11, 2009.