

Butte County

2026 Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program – CMAQ

For the

2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program

INSTRUCTIONS & APPLICATION

Due Date for Submittals: April 17, 2026

Prepared by:



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I. INTRODUCTION

The Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is soliciting project applications for funding under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program. BCAG is making available approximately **\$10 million** in CMAQ funding, representing four years of estimated apportionments provided by Caltrans, including prior fund balances.

Projects selected through this Call for Projects will be programmed as part of the **2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP)** development process.

Applications must be submitted electronically to BCAG no later than **April 17, 2026**.

II. CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM

The CMAQ Program, administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), provides federal funding for transportation projects that reduce congestion and improve air quality in areas designated as non-attainment or maintenance for federal air quality standards.

All projects must:

- Be consistent with federal CMAQ eligibility requirements.
- Demonstrate quantifiable emissions reductions.
- Be included in the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), adopted by the BCAG Board in December 2024.

Projects failing to meet timely use of funds requirements may be replaced by eligible projects identified in the RTP/SCS.

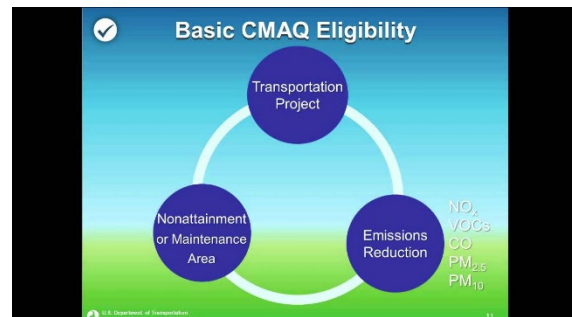
Projects not currently included in the RTP/SCS must undergo amendment procedures consistent with BCAG's Public Participation Plan (PPP).

Final programming decisions are made by the BCAG Board of Directors.

Eligible Activities

Eligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- Transportation measures identified in the State Implementation Plan (SIP)



- Bicycle and pedestrian facilities and programs
- Public transit improvements
- Traffic monitoring, management, signal coordination, roundabouts
- Inspection and maintenance programs
- Planning and air quality monitoring projects leading directly to construction or new services
- Public-private partnerships for alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure (under federal eligibility provisions)
- Cold start and idle reduction programs
- Transportation Control Measures (TCMs) identified in the federal Clean Air Act

Other transportation projects may be considered if the project can demonstrate and contribute to attainment of federal air quality standards.

Eligible Costs

CMAQ funds are reimbursable federal funds subject to Title 23 of the United States Code. Eligible costs for typical infrastructure improvements include:

- Preliminary Engineering (Environmental & Design)
- Right-of-way
- Construction

Costs incurred prior to receipt of federal authorization (E-76) from Caltrans are not eligible for reimbursement.

III. CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP)

BCAG may utilize this CMAQ Call for Projects process to program Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds if the program is funded in the next federal reauthorization bill.

The CRP shares similar goals and eligibility criteria with CMAQ. If funding becomes available, BCAG may fund eligible but unfunded CMAQ projects using CRP funds through the FTIP amendment process or address cost increases to existing eligible projects.

Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), BCAG 's estimated apportionment for CRP was \$2 million.

IV. PROGRAM DETAILS

Funding Availability (2027 FTIP Period)

Fiscal Year Estimated Amount

2026–2027	\$2,087,366
2027–2028	\$2,360,761
2028–2029	\$2,401,073
2029–2030	\$2,442,040
Total	\$9,291,240

Including prior balances, total available funding is estimated at approximately \$10 million. Final apportionments are subject to annual adjustment by Caltrans and FHWA.

Project Selection Process

BCAG staff, in consultation with the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), will:

1. Review applications for eligibility.
2. Prioritize eligible projects.
3. Make funding recommendations to the BCAG Board.

Projects not selected will be placed on a standby list. If a selected project is withdrawn, deemed ineligible, or fails to meet delivery requirements, BCAG may fund projects from the standby list.

Final approval of CMAQ projects will occur concurrently with adoption of the 2027 FTIP.

Equity

Federal guidance prohibits direct suballocation of CMAQ funds by geography or mode. BCAG will seek to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of funding among eligible sponsors and project types.

Project Size

BCAG recommends a minimum construction project size of **\$100,000** due to administrative requirements associated with federal funds.

CMAQ funds may be used for preliminary engineering only if the applicant intends to pursue additional funding sources (e.g., ATP or other grants) and demonstrates a realistic financial plan for project completion.

Project Delivery & Timely Use of Funds

Projects should be obligated early in the federal fiscal year whenever possible.

The BCAG Board reserves the right to rescind funding if a sponsor fails to meet its delivery schedule. A one-time extension may be requested but is not guaranteed.

Successful applicants must comply with AB 1012 Timely Use of Funds provisions.

Federal Share and Local Match

The federal share may be up to 100 percent.

If a local match becomes required, BCAG may use federal toll credits, subject to availability.

Eligible Agencies

Applicants must:

- Be a public agency (city, county, Tribal Government, special district, transit operator, etc.), or
 - Be a nonprofit sponsored by an eligible public agency.
-

Applicants must have a Caltrans Master Agreement or be an eligible FTA grant recipient.

Projects must be located within Butte County.

V. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

BCAG

BCAG will:

- Solicit and screen applications
- Verify eligibility
- Prioritize projects
- Present recommendations to the BCAG TAC and Board

The BCAG Board makes final funding decisions.

Applicants

Applicants are responsible for:

- Submitting complete application packages
- Demonstrating emissions reductions
- Managing project delivery
- Complying with all federal, state, and local requirements
- Developing realistic delivery schedules

Applicants should consult Caltrans for projects affecting state highways.

Air District

The Butte County Air Quality Management District will review applications and emissions calculations, as appropriate, and provide technical input as requested.

Caltrans

Caltrans will:

- Review project eligibility
- Confirm sponsor capacity
- Provide federal authorization (E-76)
- Administer reimbursement

Applicants must comply with Caltrans Local Assistance procedures.

FHWA and FTA

CMAQ funds are apportioned through the federal transportation bill by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and may be transferred to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) if appropriate for the project.

These agencies confirm eligibility and compliance but may not alter BCAG's project priorities except on eligibility grounds.

VI. SCREENING CRITERIA

Projects must:

1. Meet federal CMAQ eligibility requirements.
2. Be sponsored by an eligible agency.
3. Be located on eligible facilities.
4. Demonstrate measurable air quality benefits.
5. Comply with ADA requirements.
6. Clearly define purpose, need, and benefits.
7. Be included in the current RTP/SCS.
8. Demonstrate financial capacity.
9. Identify all necessary funding sources.

Projects failing any applicable screening criterion will not advance.

VII. SELECTION CRITERIA (100 POINTS)

Criterion	Maximum Points (100)
Project Need	40
Air Quality Benefit & CAPTI Alignment	30
Cost Effectiveness	10
Readiness	10
Equity	10

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Clearly define the issue and need
 - Reduce VMT & GHG emissions
 - Support mode shift
 - Improve safety
 - Project derived from a local plan, safety plan, or study
 - Can be considered competitive for other federal or state grant funds such as ATP
-

VIII. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit:

- Completed Electronic Project Programming Request (ePPR)
- Performance metrics and emissions calculations
- Project study report (PSR or equivalent)
- Complete electronic PDF package including Excel and Word files

Incomplete applications may be rejected.

Submissions must be emailed to: igarcia@bcag.org. Questions may be directed to:

Ivan Garcia

Programming Director

530-809-4603

ATTACHMENT A

Timeline for Programming

- Call for Projects – BCAG TAC Meeting, February 5, 2026
- Application Submittal Deadline – April 17, 2026
- Draft Recommendations to BCAG TAC – May 7, 2026
- Draft Recommendations to BCAG Board – May or June 2026
- New Projects Incorporated into 2027 FTIP Process with Adoption – August 27, 2026

ATTACHMENT B

AGENCY LISTING

BUTTE COUNTY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Jason Mandly
Air Quality Planner
629 Entler Ave # 15
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530-332-9400
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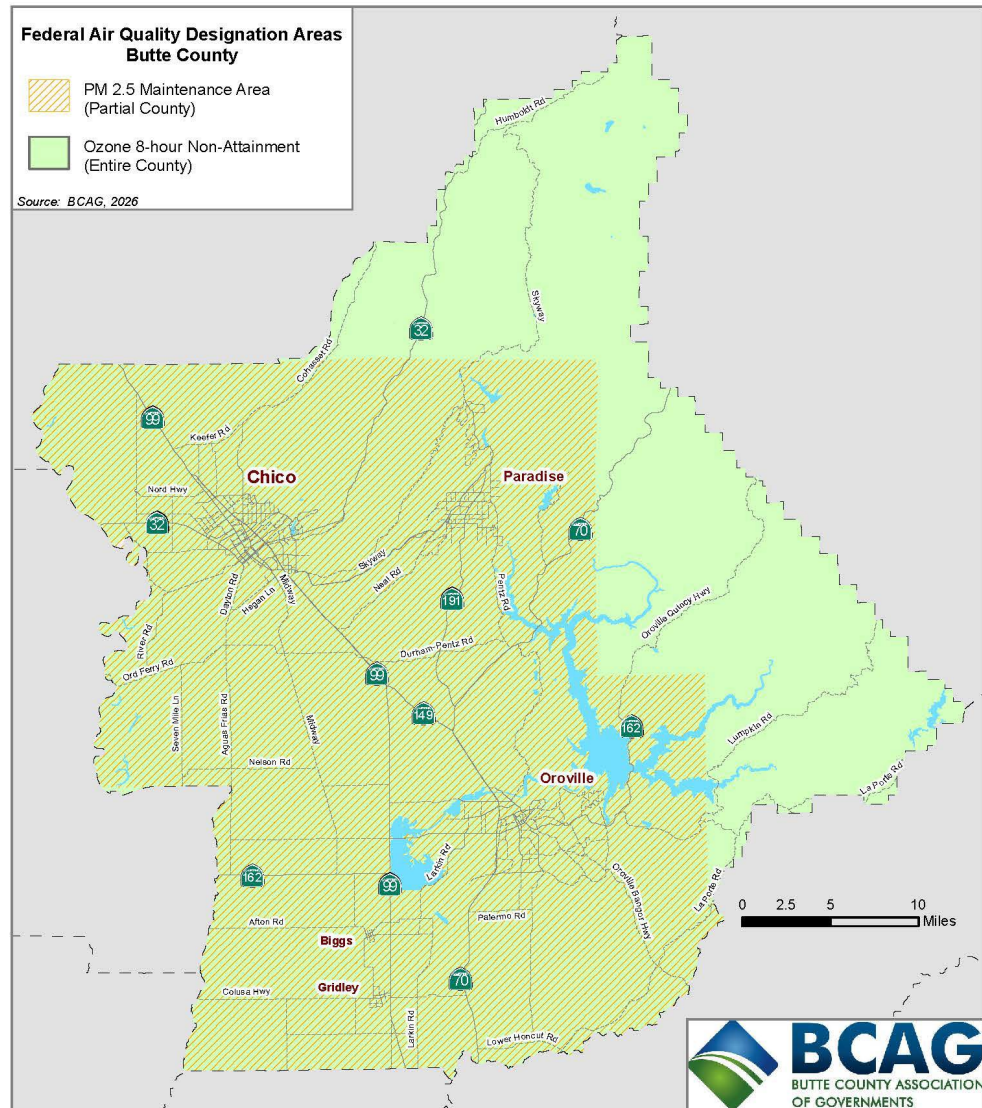
RTPA/MPO

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CITY OF OROVILLE

Tim Kaber
Director of Public Works
1735 Montgomery St., Oroville, CA 95965
(916) 705-8007
tkaber@cityoforoville.org

ATTACHMENT C



ATTACHMENT D

MASTER AGREEMENT AND ELIGIBLE FHWA GRANT APPLICANTS WITH THE AUTHORITY TO AWARD AND ADMINISTER FEDERAL AID CONTRACTS

BUTTE COUNTY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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RTPA/MPO

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Executive Director
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NON-PROFIT AGENCIES:

WORK TRAINING CENTER FOR THE HANDICAPPED, INC

Cameron Wise
2233 Fair Street
Chico CA 95928
(530) 343-5713
cameron@ewtc.org
(FTA Managed GRANTS)

ATTACHMENT E

TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS IN BUTTE COUNTY

Berry Creek Rancheria
The Honorable Jim Edwards, Chairperson
P.O.Box 709
Oroville, CA 95966

Enterprise Rancheria
The Honorable Glenda Nelson, Chairperson
2133 Monte Vista Ave.
Oroville, CA 95965

Mechoopda Indian Tribe of the Chico Rancheria
The Honorable Dennis Ramirez, Chairperson
125 Mission Ranch Blvd.
Chico, CA 95926

Mooretown Rancheria
The Honorable Gary Archuleta, Chairperson
#1 Alverda Drive
Oroville, CA 95966

KonKow Valley Band of Maidu Indians
The Honorable Patsy Seek, Chairperson
1185 18th Street
Oroville, CA 95965

ATTACHMENT F

Examples of Projects Consistent with the Goals, Objectives, and Policies of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Performance Measures, and Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI)

(Listed in no priority order)

Projects eligible for consideration include, but are not limited to, those that:

- Strive to achieve and maintain federal and state air quality standards.
 - Provide convenient access to a regional transportation network that serves all modes of travel.
 - Provide for and maintain a safe, efficient, and convenient roadway system that meets the travel needs of people and goods within and through the region.
 - Support a safe, convenient, and efficient non-motorized transportation system as part of a balanced, multimodal transportation network.
 - Include bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements.
 - Improve transportation safety in ways that also produce air quality benefits.
 - Increase the safety and security of the transportation system for both motorized and non-motorized users.
 - Enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, and improve overall quality of life.
 - Address the transportation needs of persons with limited mobility due to inaccessible transportation systems.
 - Support transportation maintenance and preservation projects that generate air quality benefits.
-

ATTACHMENT G

ELECTRONIC PROJECT PROGRAMMING REQUEST FORM (ePPR)

The following tabs are required to be completed for funding consideration

PROJECT NAME:

PROJECT LOCATION: Please identify the Latitude and Longitude coordinates for BCAG Mapping here:

Latitude: _____
Longitude: _____

PROJECT INFO TAB: Project Info tab is necessary to clearly define the scope and benefits of the projects. CMAQ project nominations are required to include in this spreadsheet or as a separate attachments a complete emissions reduction analysis/calculations.

Regarding Performance Measures: Once the project is defined the applicant should consult BCAG for the appropriate performance metric to define.

FUNDING INFO TAB: The FTIP requires all projects to demonstrate financial reasonableness through project completion

INVOLVEMENT & SIGNATURE TAB: The purpose of this tabe is to document the proposed project has been vetted and is derived from some type of planning document which included public participation & defines key stakeholders.

EMISSIONS CALCULATIONS TAB: For CMAQ Projects only, the project applicant may include the emissions analysis here or attach a separate electronic file.

2026 CMAQ ePPR - Project Programming Request Form

(Project Information - All tabs are required)

TAB 1 of 4

Applications Due - April 17, 2026

Federal Program		CMAQ		Date:	
Caltrans District	EA	PPNO	MPO ID	Local Agency ID	
3					
Route/Corridor		Project Sponsor/Lead Agency		MPO	Project Type
				BCAG	
Project Title					
PM Bk	PM Ahd	Project Mgr/Contact	Phone	E-mail Address	
Location, Project Limits, Description, Scope of Work					
Component	Implementing Agency	RFA Target Date	Emissions (CMAQ Projects)	Reduction in kg/day	
PE			ROG		
R/W			Nox		
CONST			CO		
Program/Other			PM2.5		
Purpose and Need			C/B Ratio		
Project Benefits - Include Performance Measure(s). Please consult with BCAG for appropriate measure					
Project Milestone					Date
Project Study Report Approved					
Begin Environmental (PA&ED) Phase					
Circulate Draft Environmental Document				Document Type	
Draft Project Report					
End Environmental Phase (PA&ED Milestone) - COMPLETED					
Begin Design (PS&E) Phase					
End Design Phase (Ready to List for Advertisement Milestone) - COMPLETED					
Begin Right of Way Phase					
End Right of Way Phase (Right of Way Certification Milestone) - COMPLETED					
Begin Construction Phase (Contract Award Milestone)					
End Construction Phase (Construction Contract Acceptance Milestone)					
Begin Closeout Phase					
End Closeout Phase (Closeout Report)					

Public Participation Process & Project Pre-Nomination Consultation Requirements

TAB 3 of 4

List the public involvement taken place or identify the public participation process to be taken with target dates

Project Delivery Team - Including Other Staff/Agencies Involved & Concurrence with Project Delivery Schedule				Email	Confirmed		Comments
Agency	Name	Position	Phone		Yes	No	
General Plan		Other Local Planning Documents					
If project includes other agencies, have they been formally notified (yes, no, not yet)							
Other Agency Documents - Identify appropriate planning document or other reference to ensure the project is consistent with the other agency(s) planning document							
Agreements & Permits Required							
Timely Use of Funds - Project sponsor understands that should delivery milestones not be met, and should federal funds be in jeopardy, BCAG reserves the right to substitute a project. Substituting a project does not guarantee the reprogramming of funds lapsed.							
Advanced Delivery - Sponsor would like project considered for advanced delivery should BCAG be able to secure funding at an earlier fiscal year					Yes	No	
APPROVAL							
I hereby certify that the above information is complete and accurate and understand "Timely Use of Funds" provisions.							
Name (Print or Type)	Signature			Title		Date	

Emissions Analysis Demonstration - Required for CMAQ Only

Emissions Analysis Demonstration **REQUIRED**

TAB 4 of 4

Use the following resources as guides:

FHWA CMAQ website: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/cmaq/

Caltrans' CMAQ website: <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/local-assistance/documents/lpp/2010/lpp09-03.pdf>

Add tabs as needed & list resources to emissions analysis approach as appropriate.

Attachments

Emissions analysis may be a separate attachment or include calculations here.

Please include project location map and provide coordinates for mapping purposes.

Latitude :

Longitude:

AMENDMENT TO EXISTING PROJECT***TAB 5 Amendments Only*****Programming Change Requested****Reason for Proposed Change****If proposed change will delay one or more components, clearly explain 1) reason the delay, 2) cost increase related to the delay, and 3) how cost increase will be funded****Other Significant Information****Approvals****I hereby certify that the above information is complete and accurate and all approvals as applicable have been obtained for the processing of this amendment request.**

Name (Print or Type)	Signature	Title	Date