



**BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION NO 2024/2025 #05**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
APPROVING THE 2024 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES STRATEGY AND CERTIFYING THE FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE 2024 REGIONAL
TRANSPORTATION PLAN AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY, AND
ADOPTING A MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) comprised of five member agencies: Butte County, the cities of Biggs, Chico, Gridley, Oroville or Paradise; and

WHEREAS, BCAG is the agency responsible for maintaining a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process which will result in a Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 134(a) and (g), 49 U.S.C. §5303(f); 23 C.F.R. §450, and 49 C.F.R. §613; and

WHEREAS, BCAG is the Lead Agency in preparing the Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy and is required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) [Cal. Pub. Res. Code § 21000 et seq.]; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(f), an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is the public document used by a governmental agency to analyze the significant environmental effects of a proposed project, to identify alternatives, and to disclose possible ways to reduce or avoid the potential environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, CEQA Guidelines Section 15168(a) specifies that a Program EIR (PEIR) be prepared on a series of actions that can be characterized as one large project and are related either: (1) geographically; (2) as logical parts in a chain of contemplated actions; (3) in connection with issuance of rules, regulations, plans, or other general criteria, to govern the conduct of a continuing program; or (4) as individual activities carried out under the same authorizing statutory or regulatory authority and having generally similar environmental effects which can be mitigated in similar ways; and

WHEREAS, BCAG has determined that a Supplemental EIR (SEIR) is appropriate to assess the environmental impact of the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) for the Butte County regional given no major new projects and policies since the 2016 and 2020 RTP/SCS; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15088(a), BCAG, as the Lead Agency, must evaluate comments on significant environmental issues received from persons who review the Draft SEIR and must prepare a written response thereto; and

WHEREAS, BCAG received no comment letters, regarding the Draft Program EIR; and

WHEREAS, the Final SEIR document and the Draft SEIR, as amended by the Final SEIR, constitute the Final SEIR; and

WHEREAS, when making the findings pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15091(a)(1), the agency must also adopt a program for reporting on or monitoring the changes which have been either required in the project or made a condition of approval to avoid or substantially lessen significant effects, and which are fully enforceable through permit conditions, agreements, or other measures, as required by CEQA Guidelines Section 15091(d); and

WHEREAS, consistent with the requirements of the CEQA Guidelines, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been prepared to outline the procedures for implementing all mitigation measures identified in the SEIR; and

WHEREAS, according to CEQA Guidelines Section 15093(b), where the decision of the public agency allows the occurrence of significant effects which are identified in the Final SEIR but are not avoided or substantially lessened, the agency must issue a Statement of Overriding Considerations setting forth the specific reasons to support its actions based on the Final SEIR or other information in the record; and

WHEREAS, CEQA Guidelines Section 15093(c) provides that if an agency makes a statement of overriding considerations, the statement should be included in the record of the project approval and should be mentioned in the Notice of Determination.

WHEREAS, The results from the 2025 FTIP and 2024 RTP emissions analysis show that current and future emissions of the ozone precursors ROG and NOx will be no greater than the 2011 and 2017 base year emissions levels. Thus, Butte County, in accordance with the Transportation Conformity Rule requirements applicable to Butte County (§51.464 and §51.436 – 51.440), has satisfied the “no-greater-than-2011” test for the 2008 8-hour federal ozone NAAQS and the “no-greater-than-2017” test for the 2015 8-hour federal ozone NAAQS. **Based on this analysis, the 2024 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) Amendment #1 conform to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) and all applicable sections of the EPA’s Transportation Conformity Rule.**

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Butte County Association of Governments on the 12th day of December 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Connelly, Dorfee, Ritter, Teeter, Reynolds,
Calderon, Pittman

NOES: ∅

ABSENT: Himmelshue

ABSTAIN: ∅

APPROVED: Bill Connelly
BILL CONNELLY, CHAIR
BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

ATTEST: Andy Newsum
ANDY NEWSUM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS