

VENTURA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)

VCTC Large Conference Room
751 East Daily Drive Suite 420, Camarillo, CA
Wednesday, November 15, 2023
1:30 p.m.

AGENDA

Action may be taken on any item listed on the agenda.

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

ITEM 2 INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENT

ITEM 3 PUBLIC COMMENT

Under the Brown Act, the committee should not act on or discuss matters raised during the Public Comment portion of the agenda which are not listed on the agenda. Committee members may refer such matters to staff for facts or to be placed on the subsequent agenda for consideration.

ITEM 4 AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS

ITEM 5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommended Action:

- *Approve the meeting minutes from October 2023.*

Responsible Staff: Jeni Eddington

ITEM 6 CALTRANS LOCAL ASSISTANCE VERBAL UPDATE

Recommended Action:

- *Receive and file.*

Responsible Staff: Robert Wong, Caltrans

ITEM 7 SCAG REGIONWIDE CALL FOR CMAQ, STP, AND CRP FUNDS

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in a committee meeting, please contact the Administrative Assistant at (805) 642-1591 ext. 111. Notification of at least 48 hours (about 2 days) prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting.

Recommended Action:

- *Request agency information by December 18th regarding cost increases for previously selected projects from competitive project selections, or (on a very limited basis) new projects they wish to nominate, for consideration for the upcoming SCAG call for projects for which applications will be due from SCAG to VCTC by March 29 2024, and for consideration of FY 24/25 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 funds.*

Responsible Staff: Peter De Haan

ITEM 8 ALLOCATION OF TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT (TDA) FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2023/24 ARTICLE 3 BIKE PATH MAINTENANCE FUNDS

Recommended Action:

- *Approve the allocation of Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Bike Path Maintenance funds totaling \$252,631.*

Responsible Staff: Peter De Haan

ITEM 9 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Rice Avenue Grade Separation Project (December 2023)
- Periodic Highway Construction Updates
- Regional Transportation Funding & Planning
- Transportation Emergency Response (Fire and Flood Seasons)
- Roundtable of Active Transportation Plans
- Planning for Future Active Transportation Program Grants
- Regional Transportation Funding & Planning
- Construction Project Updates (upon completion)

ITEM 10 ADJOURNMENT



VENTURA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TTAC)

VCTC Large Conference Room
751 East Daily Drive, 4th Floor, Camarillo

Wednesday, October 18, 2023
1:30 PM

Item 5

MEETING MINUTES

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** James Campero, City of Camarillo (Chair)
Debbie O'Leary, City of Oxnard
Charles Cable, City of Port Hueneme
Justin Link, City of Simi Valley
Mike Tohidian, City of Thousand Oaks
Ben Emami, County of Ventura
Adam Vega & Rodrigo Zaragoza, Port of Hueneme
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** City of Fillmore
City of Moorpark
City of Ojai
City of Santa Paula
City of Ventura
- EX OFFICIO PRESENT:** Robert Wong, Caltrans District 7
- EX OFFICIO ABSENT:** California Highway Patrol
Ventura County Air Pollution Control District
- VCTC STAFF PRESENT:** Peter De Haan, Director of Programming
Amanda Fagan, Director of Planning and Sustainability
Heather Miller, Program Manager
Geiska Velasquez, Programming Analyst

- ITEM 1** **CALL TO ORDER**
Chair Campero called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.
- ITEM 2** **INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None.
Heather Miller updated the committee on programming opportunities and deadlines.
- ITEM 3** **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None.
- ITEM 4** **AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS** – None.
- ITEM 5** **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

ACTION:

O'Leary, moved, seconded by Tohidian, that the committee approve the August 2023 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 6 CALTRANS DISTRICT 7 LOCAL ASSISTANCE UPDATE

Robert Wong updated the committee on 1) Fund Transfer Agreements, 2) current staffing, 3) projects application deadlines, and 4) upcoming workshops.

ITEM 7 STREETLIGHT INSIGHT | BIG DATA PILOT PROGRAM

The committee received a presentation on the Streetlight Insight Big Data Pilot Program and the ClearGuide dashboard and tools including 1) project background, 2) project goals, 3) licensing, and 4) the training schedule. The committee discussed the differences between the Streetlight Insight program and the ClearGuide program.

ITEM 8 VENTURA COUNTY REGIONAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – SUBMITTAL FOR 2024 STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (STIP)

ACTION:

O’Leary moved, seconded by Tohidian, that the committee approve the 2024 STIP submittal to the California Transportation Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 9 STATUS OF CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ), SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT (STBG/STP), AND CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP) PROJECTS

Heather Miller reviewed the status of CMAQ and STBG/STP, and CRP Projects and requested that members provide her with a project update.

ITEM 10 STATUS OF 2025 FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (FTIP)

Geiska Velasquez provided a status of the 2025 FTIP update and requested that committee members provide updated 2025 FTIP Project Sheets.

ITEM 11 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – For Discussion

- Rice Avenue Grade Separation Project (December 2023)
- Transportation Emergency Response (Fire and Flood Seasons)
- Roundtable of Active Transportation Plans
- Planning for Future Active Transportation Program Grants
- Regional Transportation Funding & Planning
- Construction Project Updates (upon completion)
- Caltrans Training

ITEM 12 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Campero adjourned the meeting at 2:41 p.m.



Item 7

November 15, 2023

MEMO TO: TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TTAC)
FROM: PETER DE HAAN, PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (SCAG) REGIONWIDE CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ), SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (STP), AND CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP) FUNDS

RECOMMENDATION:

- Request agency information by December 18th regarding cost increases for previously selected projects from competitive project selections, or (on a very limited basis) new projects they wish to nominate, for consideration for the upcoming SCAG call for projects for which applications will be due from SCAG to VCTC by March 29, 2024, and for consideration of FY 24/25 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 funds.

BACKGROUND:

In December 2022, VCTC completed its project selection process for CMAQ and CRP projects using funds made available by the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The project selection process also programmed the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Bicycle and Pedestrian funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 22/23 and FY 23/24.

As has been previously discussed, in 2021 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) notified Caltrans that multi-county MPOs such as SCAG should play a more active role in the selection of projects to be funded with the Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program that are destined to Ventura County. Later, FHWA notified Caltrans and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) that SCAG had until July 2023 to adopt a new process for selection of CMAQ and Surface Transportation Program (STP) projects whereby projects are prioritized on a regional basis. Since VCTC was established in 1989, it had received a specific apportionment of these funds and submitted the recommended project list to SCAG for review and approval as specified in the state law governing county transportation commissions.

It was understood that programming actions for STP and CMAQ that occur prior to the June 2023 deadline would be grandfathered in, and the funding will be secured for those projects. As a result, the county transportation commissions were able to commit the estimated funding through fiscal year 2025/26. While the new Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) established under the IIJA was not part of the prior federal direction that was provided, given that the federal authorizing

language was very similar to STP and CMAQ, it was anticipated that in the future CRP might be incorporated into the new process.

On February 13th, FHWA staff informed SCAG that the new regionwide prioritizing process must also apply to CRP, but that in this case there would be no transition period, and so that new CRP projects cannot be programmed in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) until SCAG has adopted its new regional prioritization process and then completed the process for the selection of CRP projects. The only exception to this requirement for CRP was to allow SCAG to move forward with programming ready-to-go projects identified by the County Transportation Commissions to receive funds apportioned to CRP during the first year of IJJA, FY 21/22, to ensure that these funds will be obligated before they lapse in September, 2025. VCTC had identified five (5) projects to receive CRP funds apportioned through FY 25/26, but as a result of the FHWA directive SCAG could only approve the FY 21/22 CRP funds. As a result, VCTC in working with TTAC recommended that \$4,667,000 that VCTC had intended to commit to the Central Avenue Bike Lanes project in Camarillo instead be identified as a priority for a future request to SCAG for CRP funds. However, at last month's meeting TTAC instead approved the staff recommendation to include the \$4,667,000 in VCTC State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) nomination to the California Transportation Commission, to receive funds from the Ventura County STIP share.

SCAG is now developing selecting guidelines for the required regionwide call for projects, and shared preliminary drafts with county transportation commission staff for review. Subsequent to the commissions' CMAQ and STP project selection, Caltrans completed updated CMAQ and STP apportionments based on IJJA authorized amounts, resulting in an incremental increase in these funds which are subject to the new SCAG process, in addition to the authorized CRP funds from FY 23/24 forward.

Under the draft process, the county commissions will prioritize and submit applications to SCAG, selecting projects for consideration based on their own process for the county, subject to various requirements for encouraging broad participation. The deadline for county commission submittal of applications is March 29, 2024. SCAG has also provided to VCTC a preliminary draft application.

DISCUSSION:

The SCAG CRP Guidelines call for 65% of the CRP funds to be programmed through a call for projects, with the remaining 35% to be programmed to regional initiatives, to identify, evaluate, and awarded funding to projects that achieve regional transportation goals and further the objectives of Connect SoCal. SCAG has developed the following estimates for funds available in the regionwide call for projects, including the incremental increase in CMAQ and STP, and 65% of the CRP funding for FY 22/23 – 25/26:

CMAQ	\$ 57 million
STP	\$130 million
CRP	\$ 88 million

The draft guidelines for STP and CMAQ identify advisory county funding targets percentages based on various planning criteria, and the Ventura County targets are 4.3% for STP, or \$5.6 million, and 3.3% for CMAQ, or \$1.9 million. SCAG does not believe that FHWA will allow publication of advisory targets for CRP. For illustrative purposes, since the IJJA authorization of CRP has the same language as Surface Transportation Block Grant, which California distributes to regions as STP, if CRP were to have the same 4.3% target as STP, then VCTC's target would be \$3.8 million.

Staff will share the SCAG guidelines with the committees when they become publicly available. We believe that the requirements for outreach in identifying candidate projects will have been met, due to various VCTC's previous efforts, including: (1) the public outreach conducted in

support of VCTC planning efforts including 101 Communities Connected, the Freight Corridors Study, and the Comprehensive Transportation Plan Update; (2) the recent CMAQ/STP/TDA Article 3 call for projects; and (3) the ongoing work with the transit operators to identify projects for use of state budget funds made available to transit through SB 125.

Given the relatively small amount of money likely to come to Ventura County, there will be few if any new projects that VCTC can consider for submittal to SCAG, and the priority for the available funds is likely to be assisting previously committed projects which are short of funds due to unanticipated cost increases. Staff recommends that local agencies be asked to provide to VCTC staff by December 18th the amount of funds required for such projects. Subsequent to receiving feedback from TRANSCOM and TTAC, VCTC anticipates sending a notice to public works directors on November 20th, requesting information on projects requiring additional funds.

Rather than developing project numerical scores and a ranked list, the SCAG draft guidelines provide for county commissions to submit a project list with each project designated as “Highly Recommended,” “Recommended,” or “Contingency.” Commissions are required to develop a written procedure for selecting projects to submit to SCAG, and to assign priority, and this written procedure must receive prior SCAG staff approval. Accordingly, VCTC staff intends to prepare the project prioritization procedure for Committee approval in January. The SCAG draft guidelines provide that the county commission’s prioritization will account for 50% of a project’s score for CMAQ and STP, and 20% for CRP.

At the February committee meetings, staff plans to recommend the SCAG project submittal list and the assignment of priority categories. Staff will then work with the project sponsors to complete the SCAG project applications for the selected projects, to be submitted by VCTC to SCAG by the March 29th deadline. In addition, as part of this project prioritization process VCTC will also identify projects to use the approximately \$750,000 of TDA Article 3 to come available in FY 24/25, not including the maintenance set aside.

Although staff plans to bring formal prioritization criteria to the committees in February, given the relatively small amount of available funds, we expect the projects to generally be selected and prioritized as follows:

- Project readiness;
- For previously committed competitively selected projects, the ranking score that it received when it was originally selected;
- For STP, continuing VCTC’s policy of giving priority to the US 101 project.
- Should a new project be considered for CMAQ, CRP, or TDA Article 3, it will likely have less readiness than a previously committed project, but should funds be available it could be further ranked using VCTC’s previously approved criteria for CMAQ, CRP and Article 3;
- Assignment of projects to CMAQ or CRP fund types based on likely competitiveness given SCAG’s different criteria for the two programs.



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Item 8

November 15, 2023

MEMO TO: TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FROM: HEATHER MILLER, PROGRAM MANAGER

SUBJECT: ALLOCATION OF TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT ACT (TDA) FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2023/24 ARTICLE 3 BIKE PATH MAINTENANCE FUNDS

RECOMMENDATION:

- Approve the allocation of Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Bike Path Maintenance funds totaling \$252,631 as shown in the attached table.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to California PUC Section 99233.3, two percent (2%) of Transportation Development Act (TDA) Local Transportation Funds are set aside for planning, constructing and maintaining bicycle and pedestrian facilities. In Ventura County 25% of the TDA Article 3 Bicycle/Pedestrian funds are set aside for maintenance of Class I pathways based upon the proportional share of pathway miles within each jurisdiction. Class I bike paths, also termed shared-use or multi-use paths, are paved right-of-way for exclusive use by bicyclists, pedestrians and those using non-motorized modes of travel. They are physically separated from vehicular traffic and can be constructed in roadway right-of-way or exclusive right-of-way.

The FY 2023/24 Article 3 apportionment for Ventura County is \$1,010,524, with \$252,631 of that amount available for this cycle's (FY2023/24) maintenance allocation. The remainder of the annual TDA Article 3 Bicycle/Pedestrian funding is allocated on a competitive basis for projects that foster an increase in bicycling and walking.

DISCUSSION:

This year there is an estimated \$252,631 (25%) of FY 2023/24 Article 3 funds available for distribution to local jurisdictions for Class I Bike Path maintenance. Agencies were asked to review and update the mileage information for their jurisdictions. The attached table provides a breakdown of Class I Bicycle Path mileage reported by each jurisdiction and their recommended proportional share of the FY 2023/24 TDA Article 3 maintenance funds.

The \$252,631 in available funding this year is an increase of approximately 5% from last year's funding. TDA revenue in Ventura County is sales tax revenue equal to ¼% of taxable sales (out of a state sales tax of 7¼%).

The remaining 75% of 2023/24 TDA Article 3 or "competitive" funding of approximately \$750,000, was programmed with 2022/23 funds as part of last year's CMAQ/TDA Article 3 call for projects. Any remaining funds will be available for projects submitted in SCAG's upcoming CMAQ/STP/CRP call for projects.

ATTACHMENT A

FY 2023-2024 TDA Article 3 Maintenance Funding			
City	Existing Class I Mileage	Class I Maintenance Allocation	% Share
Camarillo	4.4	\$12,529	4.96%
Fillmore	5.68	\$16,174	6.40%
Moorpark	2.4	\$6,834	2.71%
Ojai	0.4	\$1,139	0.45%
Oxnard	4.74	\$13,497	5.34%
City of Port Hueneme	5.71	\$16,259	6.44%
San Buenaventura	32.88	\$93,626	37.06%
Santa Paula	1.98	\$5,638	2.23%
Simi Valley	13.6	\$38,726	15.33%
Thousand Oaks	3.13	\$8,913	3.53%
Ventura County	13.8	\$39,296	15.55%
TOTAL	88.72	\$252,631	100%