

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2022
TO: EL DORADO COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
FROM: WOODROW DELORIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The following is an overview of the issues, projects, and coordination currently being advanced by EDCTC.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

State Route 49 American River Confluence Study

El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) was awarded \$175,000 in State Highway Account grant funding for the SR 49 Confluence Study ("Study"). The project team has been working since early 2022 to develop recommendations to address the truck traffic, parking, and general safety of the SR 49 corridor from Cool to the City of Auburn. The first two stakeholder and public workshops combined with the online Social Pinpoint interactive tool and survey all generated a great deal of feedback from the local community. This initial community input was all focused around the issues the study was scoped to address, truck traffic, parking, and safety. The third and final stakeholder and public meetings were held on October 25 and the input received varied greatly from previous outreach. The feedback received at this final workshop focused solely on evacuation planning, perhaps due to the recent impacts of the Mosquito fire. While this study was not scoped to be an evacuation plan, the project team is postponing release of the outreach summary to better incorporate comments received at this final workshop. Therefore, the Draft study will be presented to the Commission in February to allow time to account for this shift in the input received.

Greater Placerville Wildfire Evacuation Preparedness, Community Safety, and Resiliency Plan

On June 22, 2021, EDCTC received \$250,000 in Caltrans planning grant funds to complete the Greater Placerville Wildfire Evacuation, Community Safety, and Resiliency Plan (wildfire plan). This effort was initiated based on requests from Placerville residents and public agency leaders to address the project area's growing vulnerability to wildfire. The project kickoff meeting was held on May 27, 2022, with key agency stakeholders, including the City of Placerville, El Dorado County, El Dorado County Sheriff's OES, Cal Fire Amador-El Dorado Unit, El Dorado County Fire, and the Forest Service. The project is currently collecting data from agency partners to use in drafting the Existing Conditions Report (ECR). The Draft ECR is anticipated to be ready by the end of December or early January. During September, October, and November, EDCTC participated in three "Greater Placerville Multi-Project Coordination" meetings with the El Dorado County Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience, El Dorado and Georgetown Resource Conservation District (RCD), El Dorado County Fire, and the Placerville and Texas Hill Fire Safe Councils. The next coordination meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 12, 2022, to discuss coordinating public outreach between the El Dorado County Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience, the RCD, and EDCTC's wildfire preparedness planning efforts.

US Highway 50 Corridor System User Analysis, Investment Strategy, and Access Control Action Plan (US 50 Corridor Plan)

EDCTC was awarded \$185,040 in Strategic Partnerships Transportation Planning grant funding for the US 50 Corridor Plan, now known as the Trip to Green project. The 2022 "Trip to Green" Proof of Concept Pilot was completed successfully. Three evolutions took place during the first weekend of August, September, and October. The team released a community survey to gather public opinion on the concept. The survey was distributed mid-October and closed mid-November. Additionally, two drone flyovers took place during the Trip to Green weekends. An additional drone flyover was

conducted on Sunday October 16th and Friday November 25th during normal traffic operations. EDCTC has provided comments on the System User Analysis Draft Technical Memo, which is currently being augmented by Caltrans Data from each of the Trip to Green weekends. The Investment Strategies Draft Technical Memo has been delivered to EDCTC, and public workshops for the overall plan are scheduled this winter as follows:

- December 8, 2022; Trip to Green Public Workshop 5:00 – 7:00pm Placerville Town Hall, 549 Main St, Placerville, CA 95667 (Attachment B)
- January 19, 2023; US 50 Corridor Investment Strategies Workshop: 5:00 – 7:00pm Placerville Town Hall, 549 Main St, Placerville, CA 95667
- February 16, 2023; US 50 Corridor Online Workshop 5:00pm via Zoom, details coming soon.

Transportation Demand Management

EDCTC supported Sierra and Schnell Schools in their efforts to hold a Walk to School Day event in the City of Placerville on October 5, 2022. EDCTC also met with SACOG staff to discuss their “Engage, Empower, Implement” program which is focused on efforts to engage and support community-based organizations in developing transportation and land use solutions in historically disinvested communities.

Active Transportation Planning

El Dorado County and City of Placerville Active Transportation

EDCTC supported El Dorado County staff with active transportation project grant applications and project development as required. EDCTC has taken responsibility for collection of bicycle and pedestrian counter data from counters located on multi-use trails on the west slope. The County is currently working to order replacement batteries for the counters. EDCTC is supporting El Dorado County and the City of Placerville with the adoption of Active Transportation Plans.

EDCTC is coordinating with El Dorado County to ensure timely delivery of the awarded Cycle 5 Active Transportation Project on Pony Express Trail in Pollock Pines. The project received approval of an extension request required due to delays from both COVID-19 and the Caldor fire. EDCTC supported El Dorado County DOT staff with the preparation of two grant applications for statewide and SACOG regional ATP Cycle 6. The County was not awarded funding in the statewide ATP round. However, two projects are being considered for SACOG Regional ATP funding.

The City of Placerville submitted an Active Transportation Program Cycle 6 State application on June 15, 2022, for construction funding of the entire Placerville Drive segment of the Placerville Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Project. On October 21, 2022, CTC staff recommended the project for \$15.4 million of State ATP Cycle 6 funding to construct improvements along Placerville Drive. The CTC will adopt the 2023 ATP Statewide and Small Urban and Rural Components at their December 7-8, 2022, meeting. The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was submitted to the State Clearinghouse on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, for a 30-day public review period that will end on Friday December 9, 2022.

CITY OF PLACERVILLE AND EL DORADO COUNTY

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality

At the August 2022 EDCTC meeting the Commission programmed \$7,541,014 in CMAQ funding to projects and programs to be completed or administered by Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), City of Placerville, and El Dorado County Department of Transportation. The Commission also recommended the Bass Lake/Bridlewood Road Roundabout project for funding. EDCTC worked with a consultant team to clear the project environmentally for inclusion in the 2020-2040 Regional Transportation Plan. EDCTC has included all of the recently programmed projects in the EDCTC Project Monitoring Report and SACOG MTIP.

State Transportation Block Grant Program Funds

EDCTC released a Call for Projects for STBG funding on May 5th, making available approximately \$4.4 million in future funding. EDCTC received five applications for STBG funding. All five projects were recommended for programming at the September 2022 Commission meeting. EDCTC has included all of the recently programmed projects in the EDCTC Project Monitoring Report and SACOG MTIP.

EL DORADO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

TRANSIT SERVICE

In September 2022, systemwide passenger trips increased by 41.4% compared to September 2021. Passengers per Revenue Hour increased from 3.4 to 4.5, or 34.4%. Demand Response ridership increased by 39.5%, Local Fixed Route ridership increased by 30.6%, and Commuter ridership increased by 102.5%. In October 2022, systemwide passenger trips increased by 40.5% compared to October 2021. Passengers per Revenue Hour increased from 3.3 to 4.6 or 40.3%. Demand Response ridership increased by 63.6%, Local Fixed Route ridership increased by 27.3%, and Commuter ridership increased by 84.3%.

While the year-to-year ridership increase is impressive, the impact of the Caldor Fire must be considered to provide context to the relatively large jump in ridership when comparing September and October 2021, to September and October 2022. The Caldor Fire necessitated the suspension of fixed routes serving the US 50 corridor east of Camino for a significant portion of September and October 2021. Therefore, some of the increase in ridership between September and October 2021 and 2022, especially on the Tahoe route, is due to not only the upward trend in overall ridership but to the resumed operation of fixed routes serving the US 50 corridor east of Camino.

SACOG

EDCTC staff is supporting SACOG with the review/scoring of Cycle 6 Regional Active Transportation Program applications. EDCTC is also working with SACOG, El Dorado County, and the City of Placerville on the next update of the MTP/SCS (2024 Blueprint), including the coordination of presentations to local elected officials that took place in September at Placerville City Council and October at the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors.

CALTRANS

EDCTC staff continues close coordination and collaboration on the delivery of the US 50 Camino Safety Improvements Project. A weekly project team meeting occurs every Thursday morning followed by an Executive Team meeting every Friday to closely monitor progress, identify challenges, and brainstorm solutions. The undercrossing of US 50 connecting Ponderado Road to Lower Carson Road is now open to the public. Punch list items are wrapping up as weather permits. The project is still anticipated to be completed by the end of 2022.

On November 14, EDCTC met with Caltrans and the City of Placerville staff regarding the engagement on the SR 49 project study report which Caltrans is initiating and will be finalizing in March of 2023. This Caltrans led study report will set the stage for maintenance and roadway

improvements planned for future years under the State Highway Operations and Protection Program. This effort will improve SR 49 in and through Placerville to consider accessibility improvements for all modes.

STATE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

The Governor's draft budget proposal will be released in January. The State Legislature will reconvene on January 4, 2023. EDCTC staff will provide a legislative and budget update in February 2023.

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

With the recent Federal election and changes made in the legislature, no update will be presented. The next update of Federal funding and legislation will be in February 2023.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED *(since the last Commission meeting October 6, 2022)*

10/7/22	SR 49 Confluence Check-in with DKS – J. Damkowitz
10/7/22	Camino Safety Bi-Monthly Project Status - Caltrans
10/10/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
10/10/22	SACOG 2024 Blueprint Discussion
10/10/22	Regional Transit Networking Meeting – SACOG and El Dorado Transit
10/11/22	Panelist for SHSP Sacramento Area Virtual Regional Workshop
10/11/22	US 50 Action Plan Bi-Weekly Check-In with Wood Rodgers – B. Gant
10/12-13/22	CTC Meeting
10/12/22	RTPA Meeting
10/13/22	Camino Weekly Update - Caltrans
10/17/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
10/17/22	D3 MLSP Stakeholder Kickoff Meeting
10/17/22	Diamond Springs Circulation Discussion with Supervisor Thomas
10/18/22	SR 49 Confluence Check-in with DKS – J. Damkowitz
10/18/22	Caltrans – S. Takhar
10/18/22	SACOG/EDCTC/PCTPA Monthly Coordination Meeting
10/19/22	El Dorado Hills Pedestrian Master Plan Discussion – R. Martinez
10/19/22	IJJA Carbon Reduction Program Sub-Working Group Meeting
10/20/22	SHSP Steering Committee
10/20/22	Camino Weekly Update - Caltrans
10/20/22	SACOG Board of Directors Meeting
10/21/22	Camino Safety Weekly Project Status Meeting - Caltrans
10/24/22	SR 49 – Final Stakeholder Meeting
10/24/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
10/25/22	EDC BOS Meeting
10/26/22	SR 49 – Public Workshop
10/27/22	Camino Weekly Update - Caltrans
10/27/22	Meeting with Supervisor Parlin
10/28/22	Meeting with M. Saragosa
10/28/22	Camino Safety Weekly Project Status - Caltrans
10/28/22	IJJA Transportation Implementation Working Group Meeting
10/31/22	MPDG Rural Grant Discussion with City of Placerville – R. Neves
10/31/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
11/1/22	SR 49 Confluence Study Discussion with DKS – K. Flint
11/1/22	SR 49 Confluence Check-in with DKS – J. Damkowitz
11/2/22	SR 49 Confluence Study Discussion with Caltrans – A. Padilla
11/2/22	SACOG Discussion with Supervisor Thomas
11/3/22	Trip to Green Discussion with Caltrans – S. Takhar
11/3/22	SACOG Transportation Committee Meeting
11/3/22	CMAQ and STBG Funding Discussion with PCTP – M. Click
11/3/22	SACOG Land Use and Natural Resources Meeting
11/3/22	State Roadway Pricing Workgroup

11/4/22 STBG CMAQ Check In Meeting
11/7/22 EDCTC Staff Meeting
11/7/22 SACOG Policy and Innovation Meeting
11/8/22 EDC DOT – R. Martinez
11/8/22 Caltrans – C. Peri
11/9/22 El Dorado County CAO Hiring Interview Panel
11/10/22 Transportation Cooperative Committee Meeting
11/10/22 Camino Weekly Update – Caltrans
11/10/22 SACOG Board of Directors Meeting
11/10/22 CALCOG Legislative Committee Meeting
11/14/22 EDCTC Staff Meeting
11/14/22 OWP Workshop with EDCTC Staff
11/14/22 SR 49 Confluence Study Engagement Meeting
11/15/22 INFRA Grant Update regarding Trip to Green
11/15/22 FHWA Corrective Action Discussion with Caltrans, SACOG, and PCTPA
11/15/22 Caltrans – S. Takhar
11/15/22 SACOG/PCTPA/EDCTC Monthly Coordination Meeting
11/16/22 Review Financial Statements with EDCTC Staff – K. Thompson
11/16/22 Supervisor Hidahl
11/16/22 Wildfire Plan Public Outreach Coordination Meeting
11/16/22 SR 49 Confluence Study Discussion with Supervisor Parlin
11/17/22 Camino Weekly Update – Caltrans
11/18/22 RCTF Meeting
11/18/22 SACOG Race, Equity, and Inclusion Working Group
11/21/22 EDCTC Staff Meeting
11/21/22 EDCTC TAC Meeting
11/21/22 EDCTC Audit Review with Supervisor Hidahl and City Councilmember Thomas
11/23/22 EDCTC/PCTPA Meeting
11/28/22 SACOG Blueprint Planning Schedule Discussion
11/28/22 Agenda Review with Councilmember J. Neau
11/28/22 Agenda Review with Supervisor Hidahl
11/29/22 OWP Workshop with EDCTC Staff
11/29/22 VMT Mitigation Plan Discussion
11/29/22 CALCOG Board Meeting
11/29/22 Federal Advocacy Discussion with D. Ashton (El Dorado County), C. Morris (City of Placerville) and M. Mauk (EDCTA)
11/29/22 SR 49 Confluence Check-in with DKS – J. Damkowitz
11/30/22 Agenda Review with Supervisor Turnboo
11/30/22 2023 RTPA Legislative Advocacy Meeting
12/1/22 Camino Weekly Update – Caltrans
12/1/22 SACOG Meeting
12/1/22 SACOG – Land Use and Natural Resources Meeting