

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DATE: OCTOBER 1, 2026
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

SACOG Regional Funding Round

SACOG released the System Preservation Program call for projects on March 19, 2026, and applications were due May 8, 2026. EDCTC supported El Dorado County Department of Transportation (DOT) with the preparation of two System Preservation applications for projects on Missouri Flat Road and Latrobe Road. On September 17, the SACOG Board approved the award of \$46 million for 24 system preservation projects including \$1.84 million to the Missouri Flat Road project.

Two additional SACOG federal funding program cycles opened in June 2026 and closed on September 18. These include the System Performance and Next Generation Solutions and Clean Air Program. With the support of EDCTC, the County submitted two System Performance applications, one for rehabilitation of the El Dorado Trail Weber Creek Bicycle Pedestrian Trestle Bridge, and another for the Bass Lake Road/Bridlewood Road roundabout project. EDCTC also supported the City of Placerville in the preparation of an application for the Canal Street Bicycle and Pedestrian project.

Active Transportation Program

EDCTC supported El Dorado County DOT with the preparation of four Statewide ATP Cycle 8 applications. The call for projects opened March 19, and applications were due for the statewide program June 22, 2026. EDCTC worked with El Dorado County on the submission of three Regional ATP Cycle 8 applications which were due to SACOG September 30. These included active transportation investments in Diamond Springs, the Lotus Road near Henningson Lotus Park, and on La Canada Drive.

Additionally, EDCTC has been supporting the City of Placerville with project development on the Placerville Drive Active Transportation Program project. The allocation for construction funding was approved by the CTC at their August 2026 meeting.

Active Transportation Planning

EDCTC has been working with El Dorado County Parks and members of the public to integrate a conceptual Class I multi-use trail alignment between Bass Lake Road and El Dorado Hills Boulevard into the US 50 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan (CMCP). While the alignment remains conceptual, it is anticipated to be included in a future update of the County's Active Transportation Plan. EDCTC has also been working with the County's GIS Department to update the Bicycle User Map to ensure compliance with current ADA accessibility standards.

PARTNER AGENCY COORDINATION

El Dorado County

EDCTC monitors County project allocation requests, bid awards, and planning and project development activities for EDCTC related projects. EDCTC staff also monitors land use development activities, provides comment letters and attends County planning TAC meetings when warranted.

EDCTC regularly works with El Dorado County staff to amend the SACOG Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) for El Dorado County DOT projects. EDCTC has been working with the County and the CTC on the project description for the STIP funded Ponderosa Interchange project. Since there have been some changes to the project's scope since the adoption of the STIP earlier this year, a STIP amendment may be required. EDCTC also supported El Dorado County DOT with the submittal of an extension request to the CTC for the allocation of construction funds for the El Dorado Hills Boulevard Interchange Phase 2B project. The extension request was approved at the June 25-26 CTC meeting.

El Dorado Transit Authority

Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant

EDCTC was awarded \$132,750 in Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant funding on Friday, May 29, 2026 for the 2026/27 Short- and Long-Range Transit Plan Update, bringing the total project cost to \$177,000. This update builds on the 2019 Short-and Long-Range Transit Plan, the 2024 Short-Range Transit Plan – Service Development Update and completed the Zero-Emission Bus Transition plan to address critical needs: post-pandemic ridership recovery, zero-emission fleet implementation, service gaps for an aging population (27.8% over age 65), and equity challenges in rural foothill communities. Deliverables will include an adopted Short- and Long-Range Transit Plan document with prioritized improvements, financial plans, and implementation strategies. A request for proposals will be released in early October to solicit consultant proposals.

El Dorado Transit Ridership Report

For the month of August 2026, ridership for Demand Response Services and Commuter Routes trended up and Local Fixed Routes stayed flat. Fiscal year-to-date ridership was up 17.7% overall. The August 2026 Ridership Report compares systemwide monthly passenger trips to the same period in the previous fiscal year. Demand Response ridership increased by 7.8%, Local Fixed Route ridership stayed flat, decreasing by 1.9%, and Commuter ridership increased by 62.9%. The Commuter ridership increase was due to the return-to-office mandate that went into effect July 1, 2026. We have had 16,885 Commuter trips so far in fiscal year 2026-27, a 58% increase over the same period last year. Overall ridership was up 17.6%.

EDCTC PROJECT OVERSIGHT AND ADMINISTRATION

Partner Agency Project Delivery

EDCTC oversees the implementation of transportation projects funded through Commission approval, ensuring compliance with state and federal funding requirements administered by Caltrans. Caltrans Local Assistance mandates that local jurisdictions invoice regularly to ensure timely use of funds and retention of programmed allocations. Caltrans monitors project delivery closely and publishes an "Inactive List" of projects that have not been invoiced within the last six months. If an agency fails to submit an invoice within 11 months without justification, the obligated funds may be removed and reallocated.

The current Caltrans Inactive list includes two El Dorado County projects, both on Pleasant Valley Road and in final closeout. The County is working with Caltrans to submit the final invoices for these projects. The City of Placerville does not have any projects on the inactive list.

STATE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING and LEGISLATION

California State Budget 2026/2027

For the 2026/27 California State Budget, the overall outlook for the El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) is relatively stable. While California continues to face long-term fiscal pressures, the enacted budget largely preserves the state's core transportation funding programs that

EDCTC relies upon. The budget also includes additional transportation-related revenues and maintains the state's commitment to SB 1 transportation investments.

Key implications for EDCTC include:

- SB 1 funding remains intact. Formula-based programs such as the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Local Partnership Program (LPP), State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP), and Local Streets and Roads funding continue to provide the backbone of California's transportation investment program.
- Regional transportation planning continues to be supported. Funding for regional planning agencies and programming responsibilities remains available, allowing EDCTC to continue implementation of the 2025 Regional Transportation Plan, programming funds, and coordination with Caltrans, SACOG, and local agencies.
- Highway preservation remains a statewide priority. Continued investment in the SHOPP benefits El Dorado County through ongoing maintenance, pavement rehabilitation, bridge work, and safety improvements along the US 50 corridor and other state highways.
- Transit funding remains available but constrained. The budget preserves major transit funding programs, including the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP), although these programs continue to operate within a constrained fiscal environment. This supports continued opportunities for El Dorado Transit to pursue fleet, facility, and service improvements.
- Continued emphasis on competitive grants. State funding continues to prioritize projects that advance safety, climate resilience, active transportation, and multimodal improvements. Rural agencies such as EDCTC remain competitive for programs addressing wildfire evacuation, highway safety, bridge rehabilitation, and resilience.

California Transportation Legislation

The California Legislature concluded its 2026 legislative work on August 31, sending the final group of bills to Governor Newsom, who had until September 30 to sign or veto measures passed at the end of session. Several transportation measures are particularly relevant to the EDCTC. Most significant is SB 1087 (Cabaldon), which remains on the Governor's desk and proposes a substantial update to California's regional transportation planning framework, including changes to Regional Transportation Plans and Sustainable Communities Strategies and revisions affecting transportation funding programs such as the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, making it important for EDCTC and its coordination with SACOG. The Governor has already signed AB 2168 (Wicks), which modifies the Active Transportation Program guidelines beginning in 2028, including greater recognition of projects that expand access to transit in underserved and rural areas, new incentives for leveraging other transportation funds, and stronger project-delivery requirements; these changes could directly affect future EDCTC and El Dorado County ATP applications. The Governor also signed AB 1976 (Wicks), addressing implementation of pedestrian and bicycle facilities and limiting the ability of local governments to halt certain projects once they have advanced through the development process. Overall, the close of the 2026 session continues the state's emphasis on linking transportation funding with regional planning, active transportation, transit access, and project delivery, with SB 1087 representing the key outstanding measure for EDCTC to watch.

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

Congress has enacted a short-term extension of the surface transportation programs authorized under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) through December 11, 2026, avoiding the original September 30 expiration and allowing federal highway and transit funding to continue while lawmakers negotiate a new multi-year authorization. The leading House proposal is the bipartisan BUILD America 250 Act, a five-year reauthorization covering FY 2027–2031 and authorizing approximately \$580 billion for highways, bridges, transit, rail, and safety programs; it was approved by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee 62–2, but Congress has not yet completed a final reauthorization. The extension essentially moves the next decision point to December 11, when Congress will need to enact a longer-term surface transportation bill or approve

another temporary extension. For EDCTC, the extension maintains near-term continuity in federal transportation programs while leaving important longer-term questions, particularly formula funding levels, rural transportation priorities, project-delivery reforms, competitive grant programs, and Highway Trust Fund revenues, to be resolved in the final reauthorization.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED *(since the last Commission meeting on September 3, 2026)*

9/4/26	ArcGIS Discussion with Fehr and Peers
9/4/26	Regional ATP Grant Check-in Meeting – EDC DOT
9/11/26	SACOG REI Working Group
9/15/26	EDCTC and Caltrans Monthly Coordination Meeting
9/16/26	Sonoma Best Practice Workshop
9/17/26	SACOG Board of Director's Meeting
9/18/26	Regional ATP Grant Check-in Meeting – EDC DOT
9/21/26	CARTA TAG Meeting
9/21/26	EDCTC Partner Coordination Meeting
9/25/26	SACOG Mega Region Working Group
9/25/26	Regional ATP Grant Check-in Meeting – EDC DOT
9/25/26	Mosquito Bridge Ribbon Cutting
9/28/26	Placerville Drive ATP/HBP Project Discussion with SACOG and City of Placerville
9/28/26	SACOG/PCTPA/EDCTC Monthly Coordination Meeting
9/29/26	Presentation with Alta
9/29/26	CALCOG Board Meeting
9/30/26	Agenda Review with Supervisor Parlin
9/30/26	Agenda Review with Supervisor Ferrero
9/30/26	Agenda Review with Supervisor Turnboo
9/30/26	CARTA Board Meeting
9/30/26	3 rd Quarter EDCTC and SACOG Meeting
10/1/26	EDCTA Board Meeting