

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2019
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.

TRANSIT PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

Western El Dorado County Short- and Long-Range Transit Plan

On April 11, 2019 LSC provided EDCTC and Transit staff with the Draft List of Service, Capital, and Financial Alternatives for the Short-Range/Long-Range Transit Plan update. Alternatives were developed based on findings in Technical Memo #1, EDCTC, and Transit staff input, and public input. EDCTC and Transit staff provided comments and the alternatives list is being revised by LSC. Technical Memo #2, *Short- and Long-Range Transit Plan Elements*, was provided to EDCTC and El Dorado Transit on Friday, July 26th. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting #2 was held on Tuesday, August 27th at El Dorado Hills Fire Station 85 and Public Meeting #2 was held on Wednesday, August 28th at the El Dorado County Library, Placerville Branch twice: noon to 2:00 pm and 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The draft plan is scheduled to be presented to the EDCTC Board at the November 7th EDCTC Board meeting.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

2020-2040 Dorado County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

RTP Advisory Committee meeting #3 was held on August 7, 2019. Committee members were provided with a presentation and opportunity to discuss the streets and roads project list anticipated for inclusion in the 2020-2040 RTP. The following Chapters of the Draft RTP 2020-2040 were also presented to the Advisory Committee members: Chapter 1, Introduction/Completed Project Lists; Ch. 2, Organizational Setting; Ch. 3, Physical Setting; and Chapter 5, Goals, Objectives, and Strategies. EDCTC staff has started work with the consultant team on the Environmental Impact Report for the RTP. At the October 3, 2019 meeting, EDCTC will consider approving the Draft Policy Element to release for public review.

TRAVEL DEMAND MANAGEMENT

El Dorado County Freeway Service Patrol (FSP)

FSP operates from 6:30 AM to 9:00 AM and from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM Monday through Friday on US 50 from the El Dorado/Sacramento County line extending eastward to Greenstone Road. FSP is funded by the Capital Valley Regional Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways and the Caltrans FSP program; no local funds are required. In September FSP drivers assisted 98 motorists.

Walk to School Day

Walk to School Day was held on October 2, 2019. Northside School in Cool, Sierra and Schnell Schools in Placerville, Blue Oak School in Cameron Park, and Valley View and Oak Meadow Schools in El Dorado Hills participated. Water bottles were donated this year by Rainbow Orchards and Apples were donated by Boa Vista.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

El Dorado County and City of Placerville Active Transportation Plans

An online public engagement tool was launched on April 25th to receive input on routes needing

improvement, barriers to active transportation, and destinations. The Active Transportation Plan Advisory Committee meeting #3 took place on August 15th at the Cameron Park Community Services District. Committee members were given the opportunity to review and comment on maps containing proposed active transportation improvements throughout the west slope of the county. The consultant is currently revising the maps and preparing the Draft Plan. The consultant is also revising maps and developing content to include in the Draft Plans. The Draft Active Transportation Plan will be completed in early October and presented to the EDCTC Board at the November meeting. Two community meetings are scheduled during November to present the draft plan to the general public. Meeting #1 will be held at the Placerville Town Hall on Wednesday, November 13th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Meeting #2 will be held at the El Dorado Hills Community Services District from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Monday, November 18th.

COORDINATION, OUTREACH, AND ADVOCACY

EL DORADO COUNTY

El Dorado Hills Business Park Community Transportation Plan

EDCTC worked with Caltrans to secure \$144,000 in State Planning and Research grant funds to support the El Dorado Hills Business Park Community Transportation Plan. The effort will be closely coordinated with El Dorado County and the El Dorado Hills Business Park Association to look at future traffic and circulation in and around the business park. An initial meeting with property and business owners was held on Tuesday September 10, 2019. Additional data gathering continues and the next phase of outreach will occur over the coming months.

El Dorado County SB 743 Implementation Plan and Travel Demand Model Update

EDCTC staff is working closely with the City of Placerville and El Dorado County DOT staff to finalize the SB 743 Implementation Plan and related technical components. EDCTC released a request for proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals for the update of the County's Travel Demand Model to include the necessary inputs and analytical tools to comply with the requirements of SB 743. EDCTC secured state Rural Planning Assistance funding to support this effort. EDCTC received one proposal by the October 2, 2019 deadline.

CITY OF PLACERVILLE

Western Placerville Interchanges Phase 2

Due to the impacts of re-routed traffic during construction of WPI 2, the project will include a grind and overlay of Fairlane from the Sheriff's Office to Ray Lawyer Drive. Paving is scheduled for October 15-18. The El Dorado Trail was reopened to through use on August 30th and was temporarily closed in late September for striping. Construction is now scheduled to be completed by Thanksgiving. Paving the off-ramp was completed at the end of September. Remaining items of work include:

- Landscaping and irrigation; approximately three weeks of work
- Electrical, including traffic signals and service connections
- Striping of roadway and El Dorado Trail
- Final items of contract work

Western Placerville Interchanges Phase 2.2

On May 16, 2018, the CTC awarded \$1,070,000 in LPP funds to the City of Placerville to advance delivery of the eastbound on-ramp for the Western Placerville Interchanges Phase 2 project. The City released an RFP for Engineering Design and Environmental Consulting Services on January 16, 2019. On March 26, 2019 the City Council awarded the consulting contract to R.E.Y. Engineers, Inc. At the same meeting the City Council also approved a \$400,000 budget appropriation from the Traffic Impact Mitigation Fee Fund to increase the budget for PA&ED.

The City of Placerville was granted a 12-month construction allocation extension of LPP funds at the June 26-27 CTC meeting. The new project schedule shows the construction allocation request approval by the CTC in May 2020 with the construction contract award in November 2020.

Upper Broadway Bike Lanes Project

On October 18, 2017, the California Transportation Commission awarded \$1,886,000 in 2017 ATP Augmentation – Statewide and Small Urban and Rural Components funding for the Upper Broadway Pedestrian Connection Project that will provide strategically located sidewalks and additional pedestrian improvements and new transit stops on Broadway between Schnell School Road and Point View Drive. The CTC allocated the construction funds at their June 26-27 meeting. On September 24th, the City Council awarded the Construction Management contract and authorized the project to go out to bid. The Construction Contract will likely be considered for award at the December 10th City Council meeting.

Broadway Sidewalks Project

The project improves pedestrian safety by constructing new curb, gutter, and sidewalk on four segments of Broadway between the Main Street/Mosquito Road/Broadway intersection and Orchard Lane where there are currently no pedestrian facilities. The project is funded by Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds. The project is being delayed by ROW and utility relocation coordination, and instead of being constructed this fall it is now scheduled to go to construction in summer 2020.

Placerville Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Project

The project will design bicycle facilities and sidewalks along Placerville Drive from west of the US 50 undercrossing to Green Valley Road and sidewalk on the west side of Green Valley Road from Placerville Drive to Mallard Lane. In June 2016 EDCTC programmed \$1.1 million of CMAQ funds to the project. The consulting contract was awarded to Drake Haglan and Associates at the July 10, 2018 City Council meeting. At the March 7th meeting EDCTC programmed \$680,303 in CMAQ to the project PA&ED/PS&E and ROW phases. By the end of October, the consultant will submit 30% draft design to the City of Placerville for approval. Environmental studies will be completed in fall of 2019.

Main Street/Cedar Ravine/Clay Street Intersection Improvement Project

Due to delay in the schedule, the City is seeking a second time extension from FHWA for the Highway Bridge Program funds. The City of Placerville is working on finalizing responses to comments received on the Environmental Document. The City anticipates completing CEQA and NEPA in January and June of 2020 respectively. Once the environmental work is done, the City will complete the final design and prepare to release bid documents in summer of 2021.

Placerville Station II

The project is in the gravel lot adjacent to the existing Placerville Station (Mosquito Park and Ride) north of U.S. 50. In March 2019, EDCTC programmed \$645,000 in CMAQ funds to the project. Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring or summer of 2020. The project includes:

- Construction of a 50-car parking lot with lighting and landscaping
- Replacement of an existing water main and services
- Replacement of sewer connection
- Paving Mosquito Road between the westbound U.S. 50 off-ramp and Clay Street
- Improved connection to El Dorado Transit and Amtrak Bus Service
- Bringing the El Dorado Trail up to current standards
- Bicycle racks and lockers

SACOG

EDCTC is working closely with SACOG on the Advancing Innovative Mobility program. This effort will look at funding pilot projects throughout the SACOG region to explore new and innovative ways to move people and goods. SACOG is seeking a cross section of projects deployed throughout the urban, suburban, and rural communities in the region.

CALTRANS

US Highway 50 Hot Spot Study

On August 28, 2017 EDCTC and City of Placerville staff met with Caltrans to form a plan to identify and analyze improvements to traffic and circulation along the US 50 corridor through Placerville. This effort was formalized through the Caltrans led US 50 Corridor Hot Spot Study. Caltrans is leading this effort to identify issues and opportunities along US 50 from Placerville into the Tahoe Basin. The kickoff meeting was facilitated by Caltrans on October 28, 2018.

The first public workshop was held on July 29th at Town Hall in Placerville. Participants engaged with local stakeholders and the project team to help identify the desired path forward to improve congestion and safety on US 50 through Placerville. In addition to the public workshop, a survey was used to garner more input from those residents and visitors alike unable to attend the workshop. A second workshop will be held later this fall to complete the effort. Based on input received, the project schedule has been extended to account for additional work to be completed. EDCTC is currently working with Caltrans to expand the scope of the study to collect more traffic count data and provide planning level cost estimates for some of the proposed alternatives.

US Highway 50 Camino Safety Project

EDCTC has been working with Caltrans to develop a strategy to continue moving forward with the project. Caltrans has finalized the Project Report to include the first phase which will be the completion of the median barrier closure from Still Meadows Road to Upper Carson Road and a minimum undercrossing at Lower Carson Road. Caltrans, El Dorado County, and EDCTC will be developing a plan to deliver and fund the remaining elements. Caltrans held a public meeting on April 29, 2019 at Camino School to present the phased approach to the community members. EDCTC continues to seek out funding for the ultimate project to include an interchange at upper Carson Road. EDCTC worked with Caltrans and El Dorado County to submit an application for the next round of Federal INFRA grant funding but was unsuccessful in this highly competitive national program. However, in mid-July EDCTC submitted an application for the next round of Federal BUILD grant funding to support the preferred alternative. EDCTC will continue to pursue any and all opportunities to secure funding for the project.

STATE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

Governor Appointments

On September 20, 2019 Governor Newsom made two appointments to the California Transportation Commission, Tamika Butler and Hilary Norton, each of whom are from Los Angeles.

State Transportation Funding

The next cycle of competitive SB 1 transportation funding programs will begin in the fall of 2019. EDCTC is working closely with City and County staff to develop a list of projects which are "shovel ready" to compete for these funds. The next round of Local Partnership Program (LPP), Solutions for Congestion Corridors (SCCP), and Trade Corridor Enhancements (TCEP) funding has just begun the initial phase of developing performance metrics for the competitive funding round.

State Transportation Legislation

Some proposed bills that we are currently tracking include the following.

- **AB 285 (Friedman R) California Transportation Plan.**
 - Would require Caltrans to address in the California Transportation Plan how the state will achieve maximum feasible emissions reductions in order to attain a statewide reduction of greenhouse gas emissions of 40% below 1990 levels by the end of 2030.
 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor 9/12
- **AB 553 (Melendez R) High-speed Rail Bonds: Housing**
 - Stops further bonds sales beyond the Phase 1 system and redirects unspent proceeds.

- **AB 782 (Berman D) CEQA: Exemption: Public Agencies: Land Transfers**
 - Would exempt from CEQA the acquisition, sale, or other transfer of interest in land by a public agency for certain purposes, or the granting or acceptance of funding by a public agency for those purposes.
 - Approved by Governor
- **AB 970 (Salas R) California Department on Aging: Grants for Transportation.**
 - Would require the California Department on Aging to administer a grant program to support transit trips for non-emergency medical trips via zero emission vehicles.
 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor 9/11
- **AB 1243 (Fong R) Traffic Relief and Road Improvement Act.**
 - Would create the Traffic Relief and Road Improvement Program to address specific congestion and deferred maintenance. The Bill would provide for deposits of existing revenue sources into a standalone account.
 - Referred to Assembly Committee on Transportation
- **AB 1413 (Gloria D) Transportation: Local Transportation Authorities: Transactions and Use Taxes.**
 - Authorizes Placer County Transportation Planning Agency to impose a tax applicable to only a portion or sub district of Placer County and that the funds are spent in or to the benefit of that portion of the county. This would serve as a pilot to evaluate this application for other counties.
 - Ordered to third reading as amended
- **SB 127 (Wiener D) Transportation Funding: Active Transportation: Complete Streets.**
 - Would create an Active Transportation Asset Branch within the Transportation Asset Management Office and require the CTC to give high priority to increasing safety for and implementation of active modes.
 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor 9/25
- **SB 137 (Dodd D) Federal Transportation Funds: State Exchange Programs.**
 - Allows federal funds allocated ("exchanged") to local assistance to be exchanged for Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program funds.
 - Ordered to third reading
- **SB 277 (Beall D) Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program: Local Partnership Program.**
 - Currently, \$200 million is appropriated to the Local Partnership Program (LPP), \$100 million directly allocated by formula to self-help counties and cities, and \$100 million awarded through a competitive process to those cities and counties with a uniform developer fee.
 - This bill would appropriate 85%, or \$170 million, to self-help cities and counties; and \$15%, or \$30 million, for award through a competitive process for small counties, 100,000 population or less, and those with a uniform developer fee.
 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor 9/18

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

On July 29, 2019 the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW) released their \$287 billion transportation reauthorization bill for Fiscal Years 2021-2025. On July 30, the EPW committee passed, what they are calling, the "most substantial highway legislation in history" by a vote of 21-0.

The bill includes some focus areas in addition to the general provisions and funding programs. These include:

- Resiliency
- Autonomous vehicles
- New bridge program
- Alternative
- New mobility impacts

The three Senate committees which have jurisdiction over the surface transportation reauthorization (banking committee for mass transit, commerce committee for safety and rail, and finance committee for revenue provisions) will likely act on the various elements of the bill later this year.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED *(since the last Commission meeting September 5, 2019)*

09/10	Metro Chamber Transportation Committee
09/12	American Leadership Foundation Class
09/18	Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program
09/19	SACOG Board Meeting
09/19	Placer County Director, Mike Luken
09/20	American Leadership Foundation Class
09/24	Calcog Directors' meeting (CDAC)
09/25	Camino PDT
09/26	Rural Counties Task Force
09/30	Statewide motorists Aid Committee