

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DATE: APRIL 4, 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

County Line Multi-Modal Transit Center Study

On January 24, 2018, the project kickoff meeting was held to review project scope and schedule with staff from El Dorado Transit, El Dorado County DOT, Caltrans, EDCTC, and the consultant Fehr & Peers. The draft Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) list was ratified at the February 1, 2018 EDCTC meeting. The first SAC meeting was held on Thursday, April 5th at the El Dorado Hills CSD, and the first PDT was held on Tuesday, April 17 at El Dorado Transit. Public Workshop #1 was held on Thursday, May 17th at the El Dorado Hills CSD Pavilion. The second public workshop was held November 27th from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at Silva Valley Elementary School and provided the public with an opportunity to provide input on potential site evaluations. The open house included information stations with maps and illustrations showing possible site locations, first and last mile access, transit center amenities, as well as other evaluation considerations to ensure that the new transit center will serve the community now and into the future. On March 25th, Transit mailed "Letters of Inquiry" to the owners of four sites being considered for the new transit center. The purpose of the letters is to identify which parcels may be available and to ascertain if there are conditions of sale that could make development of a site cost-prohibitive. After the April 15th deadline for responses from property owners, EDCTC staff will meet with Transit staff to discuss the responses from the owners and the pros and cons of each parcel.

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

On May 11, 2018 Caltrans notified EDCTC that it had been awarded a Strategic Partnership Transit Grant for \$150,000. EDCTC staff distributed the Request for Proposals (RFP) on July 19, 2018. One proposal was received from LSC which was evaluated according to the criteria specified in the RFP by EDCTC staff as well as staff from EDCTC's planning partners, El Dorado County Transit Authority, and El Dorado County Community Development Services Transportation Department. On September 6, 2018 the EDCTC Board awarded the consulting contract to LSC. The project kickoff meeting with LSC, El Dorado Transit, El Dorado County, City of Placerville, EDCTC, and other stakeholders was held at EDCTC on Friday, November 2, 2018 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. LSC distributed on-board surveys on Transit buses during January 2019. The first Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting was scheduled on February 20, 2019 at the El Dorado Hills CSD Pavilion. In March, results of the On Board Surveys were posted to the project website under the link "Survey Results":
<https://www.edctc.org/slrangetransitplan>.

Triennial Performance Audits

EDCTC is statutorily required to designate entities other than itself to conduct a Triennial Performance Audit of the activities of the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and the Transit Operator to whom it allocates Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds, in this case El Dorado Transit. The performance audit generally follows the guidelines established in the Performance Audit Guidebook for Transit Operators and Regional Transportation Planning Entities, published by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Division of Mass Transportation. On November 1, 2018 EDCTC awarded the consulting contract to LSC. LSC will be presenting the draft Audit reports at the May EDCTC meeting.

Connect Card

Connect Card ridership is recorded each time a Connect Card is tapped onto the equipment in one of the vehicles. The number of riders is tracked to evaluate system usage. El Dorado Transit recorded 13,300 taps or 42.4% of all ridership in January 2019. In February 2019 the number of recorded taps dropped to 11,299 but still represented 42.4% of total ridership as that number dropped from 31,340 in January to 26,645 in February.

Route 70 – Dedicated Service to El Dorado Hills

In order to increase bus service throughout El Dorado Hills, the new Route 70 (El Dorado Hills) was launched on January 2, 2019. The New Route 70 has stops that extend from the Safeway Shopping Center at Green Valley Road to the north to the Business Park and Heritage El Dorado Hills to the south. This route change offers El Dorado Hills' residents access to the library, CSD and Oak Ridge High School. In addition, residents will have better access to shopping, restaurants, community events and the movie theater. However, Route 70 had only 80 riders total in January 2019 but El Dorado Transit has did additional marketing in February and March to try and boost ridership. In February ridership dropped to 71 but in March it rose to a total of 168, which is the highest month yet but is still only an average of 8 riders per day.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**2020-2040 Dorado County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**

The Draft RTP Goals, Objectives, and Strategies have been finalized to include comments from previous meetings held with advisory committee members. Collaboration continues between SACOG, EDCTC, City and County staff regarding the lists of short- and long-term projects for the 2020-2040 RTP. EDCTC is working with SACOG to help meet required greenhouse gas reduction targets for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update. SACOG conducted a second model run in early December to include additional El Dorado County projects which were not previously included in the discussion draft scenario. From an air quality standpoint, it appears that all El Dorado County projects will be eligible for inclusion in the preferred MTP scenario. Projects will need to be reviewed for fiscal constraint as financial projections for the RTP and MTP are still being developed. An additional meeting of the RTP Advisory Committee is going to be scheduled in the next three weeks. Work continues on Chapter development for the 2020-2040 RTP, the Introduction, Goals, Objectives and Strategies, Completed Project Lists, Organizational Setting, regional Transportation Issues and Physical Setting, including growth projections prepared by SACOG are currently in draft form.

Senate Bill SB 743 VMT Analysis

EDCTC staff was successful in securing Rural Planning Assistance grant funds to develop an SB 743 Vehicle Miles Travelled requirements analysis for El Dorado County and the City of Placerville. This will provide the City and County with an introductory strategy to update the necessary policies, travel demand modelling tools, and land use analytics in order to comply with SB 743. On March 1, 2018 EDCTC awarded a contract to Fehr & Peers to complete the work. A kickoff meeting was held in late May with the City of Placerville and El Dorado County staff. EDCTC and the project team are now reviewing the draft threshold setting transportation demand tools memos to finalize the analysis. Furthermore, EDCTC is working with the team to determine the necessary updates to the County's Travel Demand Model. EDCTC will be submitting an application for Rural Planning Assistance grant funding to support the update to the County's model.

TRAVEL DEMAND MANAGEMENT

EDCTC staff recently attended a SACOG Travel Demand Management workshop on programs and activities aimed at reducing car trips to improve air quality. Early planning has begun for May is Bike Month activities for 2019. It is anticipated at this point that three schools will hold Bike-to-School Day events, Schnell School in Placerville, Northside School in Cool, and Black Oak School in El Dorado Hills.

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. On February 1, 2019 an Extreme Towing FSP driver was awarded the driver of the year for 2018 for the greater Sacramento region. One recent quote from an FSP-assisted driver was:

"Garren the (ANGEL) was extremely helpful and kind. This is a wonderful service and definitely appreciated and very much needed. Would be great to extend it further up hwy 50 one day."

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**El Dorado County and City of Placerville Active Transportation Plans**

Alta Planning and Design, the consultant under contract to perform the work on the plans, has provided EDCTC with the following deliverables toward development of the Plan: Goals, Objectives and Strategies, Relationship to Other Documents Memo, Sidewalk Audit Methodology, Existing Conditions Report, a comprehensive map set, and web survey content. The web survey content will be included in an online tool which is being developed to garner additional input on routes needing improvement, preferred routes, barriers to active transportation, and destinations.

Members of the Active Transportation Plan Project Development Team are currently reviewing deliverables including an updated map set. The second Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for April 11. The consultant team and EDCTC staff will be holding another non-traditional outreach event at the Placerville Earth Day event on Saturday April 27th. EDCTC is also working with El Dorado County DOT staff and the Adventure Cycling Organization to help define a US50 Bike Route through El Dorado County which will serve as the mapped route for their organization which promotes long distance bicycle tourism.

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. EDCTC will consider awarding the consultant contract at the April 4, 2019 meeting.

Coloma Sustainable Community Mobility Plan

The Coloma Sustainable Community Mobility Plan will address safety, active transportation, and mobility deficiencies in Coloma, specifically on State Route (SR) 49 through Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park (State Park) and Lotus Road near Henningsen-Lotus Park. A contract was awarded to Omni Means, a GHD Company at the June 7, 2018 EDCTC Board meeting. The first Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting was held on September 20th at the Gold Trail Grange and the first public workshop was held on October 4th, also at the Grange. The second SAC meeting was held on November 28th at the Grange. The main focus of the meeting was to gain input from the SAC on potential concepts for mobility improvements in the project area. A third SAC meeting was held on January 30, 2019 to receive comments on layouts and drawings of proposed mobility improvements in advance of the next community workshop was held on February 5, 2019 to receive public comment on layouts and drawings of proposed mobility improvements. Following Community Workshop #2 the project team began developing planning level cost estimates and a draft list of potential projects. EDCTC staff and the consultant met with State Parks staff on March 27th to review the proposed improvements on SR 49 through the State Park to ensure consistency between State

Park's proposals and the Coloma Lotus Mobility Plan. The draft plan is scheduled to be presented to the EDCTC Board in August.

CITY OF PLACERVILLE

Western Placerville Interchanges Phase 2

The allocation request for \$5.542 million in STIP was approved at the August 16-17, 2017 CTC meeting. The City of Placerville awarded the construction management services contract to Drake Haglan and Associates at the October 24, 2017 City Council meeting. At the January 9, 2018 meeting, the Placerville City Council awarded the construction contract to Doug Veerkamp Engineering for a not-to-exceed amount of \$9,064,856. The project began construction at the end of January 2018. On October 24th access to the County Jail was switched over to the newly realigned segment of Forni Road. The remaining segment of Forni Road between Ray Lawyer Drive and the County Jail driveway was closed on October 24th so work on it can commence. The project is currently under winter suspension and no project progress was made during the extremely wet February weather. However, work will continue once the project site had dried out. Even with the wet weather the project remains ahead of schedule and is anticipated to be completed during the spring 2019, pending dry weather. At the March 25th EDCTC TAC meeting the City informed the group that the project will include a grind and overlay of Fairlane from the Sheriff's office to Ray Lawyer Drive. This is required due to the impacts of re-routed traffic during construction.

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. On August 2, 2018 EDCTC programmed \$200,000 in Highway Improvement Program (HIP) funds for construction of the eastbound on-ramp. However, following discussion with CTC staff it was determined that the eastbound on ramp will be constructed as a stand-alone project called WPI Phase 2.2. The City of Placerville is working with EDCTC and Caltrans to secure the remaining funding necessary to construct Phase 2.2 in 2019. On August 28, 2018 the City Council approved a contract with R.E.Y. Engineers, Inc., to obtain design level topographic survey of the eastbound on-ramp area adjacent to Ray Lawyer Drive and the WPI 2 project. R.E.Y. performed the Lidar survey and provided the survey data to Dokken Engineering to develop project layouts. The City released an RFP for Engineering Design and Environmental Consulting Services on January 16, 2019 and proposals were due February 6, 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 (TIM) Fee Fund to increase the budget for PA&ED. The City will request 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 being submitted to the CTC in January 2020 with the construction contract awarded in May 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 environmental document was approved by Caltrans on April 19, 2018. The City recently completed appraisal reviews as well as 65% preliminary plans and estimates. On November 13th the Placerville City Council approved entering into negotiations with property owners for two right-of-way acquisitions and two temporary construction easements. Right-of-way certifications and submittal of the allocation request to the CTC are the two critical path items. The City expects to release the Construction Management RFP and complete 90% Plans, Specifications, and Estimates in April, 2019.

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. On January 23, 2019 the City received an E-76 for \$40,000 of HSIP funding for additional PA&ED work. The project is scheduled to go to construction in August/September 2019.

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. The City placed bike counters at the intersection of Placerville Drive and Green Valley Road on November 26th. Regular PDT's will begin this spring. At the March 7th meeting EDCTC programmed \$680,303 in CMAQ to the project PA&ED/PS&E and ROW phases.

CALTRANS

US Highway 50 Mosquito Road Bridge Undercrossing

Caltrans will begin work on the final phase of the overlay of the bridge deck on US Highway 50 over the Mosquito Road undercrossing. The anticipated start date is April 15, 2019. Caltrans expects the work to take a maximum of 12 days, working around the clock. During construction, one lane in each direction will be closed. The Mosquito Road on and off ramps will also be closed as will the eastbound off-ramp to Broadway. Delays are expected to reach 45 minutes Monday through Thursday and significantly longer eastbound Friday, April 19 and westbound Sunday, April 21. Motorists are encouraged to use alternate state routes during construction. EDCTC is working closely with the City of Placerville and Caltrans to ensure an effective public outreach campaign.

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.

After reviewing the scope of work for the study, EDCTC determined that additional public outreach and engagement would be necessary in the City of Placerville. EDCTC secured \$45,000 in Caltrans grant funding to support this additional work. EDCTC released an RFP on September 10th, and received proposals from AIM consulting and MIG. EDCTC entered into a contract with AIM consulting on November 1, 2018. The next Caltrans Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting will be held on April 10, 2019. The first public workshop will follow this advisory committee meeting. The schedule was delayed slightly due to the weather impacting Caltrans' ability to collect new traffic count data.

US Highway 50 Camino Safety Project

EDCTC has been working with Caltrans to develop a strategy to continue moving forward with the project. Alternative 4.7 costs increased from \$35 to \$56.6 million creating the need to break the project into fundable phases. 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 August 30 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, which was submitted March 4, 2019. This grant is highly competitive with only \$950 million available nationwide. EDCTC will continue to pursue any and all opportunities to secure funding for the project.

STATE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

State Transportation Funding

The next cycle of competitive SB 1 transportation funding programs will begin in early summer 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 funding has just begun the initial phase of developing guidelines for the competitive funding round.

Governor Newsom released his first budget proposal on January 10th which includes \$209 billion, an increase of 4% from Governor Brown's last budget. The Governor emphasized that much of the increase will support one-time expenses on projects such as lump sum payments toward the state's public employee pension liability and grants for statewide programs. The proposal includes significant focus on housing, education, and health care.

State Transportation Legislation

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

- **AB 148 (Quirk-Silva D): Regional Transportation Plans: sustainable communities strategies**
 - Would require the Regional Transportation Plan to identify sites for emergency shelters.
- **AB 172 (Voepel R): Speed limits: rural areas.**
 - Would authorize a person to drive a motortruck or truck tractor having three or more axles, or a motortruck or truck tractor drawing any other vehicle, in rural areas at a speed of up to 65 miles per hour, instead of the current 55 miles per hour limit.
- **AB 252 (Daly D) Department of Transportation: environmental review process: Federal Program.**
 - Existing federal law allows for participating states to assume certain responsibilities for environmental review and clearance of transportation projects that would otherwise be the responsibility of the federal government. This applies to California until the provision expires on January 1, 2020. This bill would extend the operation of these provisions indefinitely.
- **AB 352 (Garcia, Eduardo D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Investment plan: Transformative Climate Communities Program.**
 - Makes several changes to grant programs that expands criteria and identifies priorities. Also allows applicants from the Counties of Imperial and San Diego to use daytime population numbers in grant applications.
- **AB 847 (Grayson D) Housing: transportation-related impact fees grant program.**
 - Transfers miscellaneous revenues used to for transportation debt service to cities and counties that have been certified by HCD to have met their very low income housing goals or low-income housing goals. Also creates similar preferences and bonuses in the ATP and SLP programs.
- **AB 905 (Chen R) Department of Transportation: Highway Design Manual: Fire prone areas.**
 - Requires Caltrans to update the Highway Design Manual to incorporate fire proofing in fire prone areas.
- **AB 1167 (Mathis R) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: High-speed rail.**
 - Would no longer continuously appropriate 25% of the annual proceeds of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for certain components of a specified high-speed rail project.
- **AB 1413 (Gloria D) Transportation: local transportation authorities: transactions and use taxes.**
 - Authorizes local transportation authority to impose a tax applicable to only a portion of its county or city and that the funds are spent in or to the benefit of that portion of the county or city.

- **AB 1568 (McCarty D) Housing law compliance: withholding of transportation funds.**
 - Requires HCD to report on compliance (certify) with housing production goals for each individual city or count to the Controller. Local Streets and Roads funding would be withheld from uncertified local agencies.
- **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.
- **SB 152 (Beall D) Active Transportation Program.**
 - Make the ATP program more local by allowing MPOs and RTPAs to select projects according to state guidelines.

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

Congress did not support the ten year \$1.5 trillion infrastructure proposal presented by the President last year. The new House transportation leader, Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-Ore) plans to release a proposal for infrastructure investment later this summer. While the administration has committed to infrastructure as a priority for 2019, a schedule for when that proposal might be released has not yet been announced. One key point to note is that the recent BUILD and INFRA grant programs, as well as discussions with the administration, have presented a clear emphasis on rural infrastructure needs from the administration. Consequently, EDCTC staff is working closely with our local, regional, and statewide leadership to take advantage of this rural focus and advocate for large transformative transportation projects that will likely rely heavily on significant Federal investment.

On April 3, EDCTC staff met with El Dorado County to discuss a potential partnership to hire an advocacy and legislative strategist firm. With recent discussion of earmarks possibly returning to the federal appropriations process, El Dorado County and EDCTC could partner on an advocacy plan and list of transformative transportation projects. This plan would include significant transportation investments that would likely not be funded through other means or would take decades to deliver with the current funding sources. EDCTC staff will continue the discussion with El Dorado County and will bring an item before the EDCTC in the near future to discuss and consider options.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED *(since the last Commission meeting March 7, 2019)*

03/07	Metropolitan Transportation Plan/SCS meeting, 2020
03/08	Rural Counties Task Force meeting
03/11	SB 743 Implementation Plan meeting
03/11	Recreation Travel Hot Spots status meeting
03/12	Metro Chamber Transportation Committee meeting
03/13-14	Calif Transportation Commission meeting, Los Angeles
03/15-16	CALCOG Conference
03/18	Western Placerville Interchange Phase 2.2 funding
03/25	Caltrans Mosquito Road Project Meeting
03/25	EDCTC Technical Advisory Committee meeting
03/26	El Dorado Transit Executive Director Interview panel
03/28	Transportation Coordination Committee
03/28	Caltrans TMC
04/01	SB 743 Check in meeting
04/01-02	Highway 50 – Bigelow discussion, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
04/03	Transportation meeting, CAO/DOT