

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DATE: MAY 7, 2020
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

2020-2040 El 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. The RTP Policy Element has been posted on the Project web page located online here: <https://www.edctc.org/rtp2040>. The consultant team is preparing the Environmental Impact Report for the RTP, it anticipated that the EIR will be released for the 45-day comment period in June 2020. Work is progressing on the RTP Action Element Chapters, which will include the proposed project lists, consistent with the Goals, Objectives and Strategies outlined in the Policy Element Chapters. The Action Element will be made available for review by the RTP Advisory Committee in July and presented to the EDCTC Board in August

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 project team met on March 3 with Caltrans to discuss potential alternatives to be carried forward. Fehr and Peers is now developing the alternatives in conjunction with Caltrans who is developing cost estimates for those alternatives. Alternatives will be presented to the EDCTC and public later in the Summer of 2020.

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 is being 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. EDCTC staff and the consultant team presented the project to the El Dorado Hills Business Park Association members on October 22nd. A site visit was conducted on February 28, 2020. A property and business owner survey has been released to garner input from stakeholders. A project development team meeting was held on March 19, 2020. EDCTC and project team members are working to develop strategies for public engagement under the circumstances of the Coronavirus.

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

EDCTC staff worked very 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 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 awarded the contract to Fehr and Peers at the November 7, 2019 EDCTC meeting. Fehr and Peers is currently working with El Dorado County staff to complete the technical updates to the model.

Pine Hill Preserve Class I Multi-Use Path

EDCTC staff has been coordinating with El Dorado County on the planning of a Class I multi-use path in the Pine Hill Preserve area of Cameron Park and Shingle Springs. This coordinated effort will begin with a feasibility study to determine the appropriate location and mitigation for the path. This area is an environmentally sensitive area and rare plant preserve and will require careful planning and analysis to support a Class I path.

CITY OF PLACERVILLE**Western Placerville Interchanges Phase 2.2**

The City of Placerville was granted a 12-month construction allocation extension of Local Partnership Program funds at the June 26-27 California Transportation Commission meeting. EDCTC staff worked with the City and Caltrans and submitted the funding allocation requests to the CTC for the June meeting. The new project schedule shows the construction contract award in early winter of 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. Tree clearing work began the week of January 27th and has concluded. Construction began during the last week of February due to the prolonged dry and warm weather. Work is currently being done on the sidewalk along upper Broadway as well as the new transit stop near Grocery Outlet.

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.

Main Street/Cedar Ravine/Clay Street Intersection Improvement Project

Due to delay in the schedule, the City has been awarded 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 July of 2020. Once the environmental work is done, the City will complete the final design and prepare to release bid documents in 2022 to begin construction in 2023.

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 7, 2019 meeting EDCTC programmed \$680,303 in CMAQ to the project PA&ED/PS&E and ROW phases. Environmental and cultural studies will be completed in Spring of 2020.

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 is scheduled to go to construction in summer of 2020.

SACOG

EDCTC has been working closely with SACOG on the development of list of regional projects to be considered for another stimulus package which may include infrastructure funding. EDCTC staff worked closely with City of Placerville, El Dorado County, El Dorado Transit, and the El Dorado County Water Agency to pull together a comprehensive list of shovel ready projects. SACOG will be using this list to advocate for State and Federal funding. EDCTC will be using the project list to advocate with David Turch and Associates in Washington DC.

CALTRANS**US Highway 50 Camino Safety Project**

Caltrans is moving forward with the first phase which will be the completion of the median barrier closure from Still Meadows Road to Upper Carson Road and an undercrossing at Lower Carson Road. Caltrans, El Dorado County, and EDCTC are working toward a plan to deliver and fund the remaining elements.

Caltrans opened bids on March 4, 2020 for the construction of Phase 1, the full median barrier and undercrossing at Lower Carson Road. Caltrans is reviewing bids now and will be interviewing contractors in the coming weeks. Caltrans expects to begin construction on Phase 1 in early Summer of 2020. In February 2020, EDCTC applied to the Federal INFRA grant program to secure funding for Phase 2, a partial interchange at upper Carson Road. EDCTC staff is developing an application for the Federal BUILD program.

STATE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING**State Transportation Funding**

On January 10, 2020 Governor Newsom released a \$222.2 billion budget. In summary, the budget aligns with the Governor's recent Executive Order (N-19-19), see attachment, which directs state agencies to focus transportation investments on projects and programs which help meet the State's climate goals. Nearly 80% of the proposed budget is focused on state transportation improvements which help meet the climate goals. These investments are focused on reducing vehicle miles travelled through mode-shift, increased transit ridership, housing production near jobs, and other innovative solutions.

Due to the economic impacts of the Corona Virus, the Governor's May revised budget will likely vary drastically from the January 10, 2020 budget proposal. Furthermore, with the State and Federal tax deadlines being extended to July 15, 2020, the State won't have a clear picture of its revenues until late summer. This will likely mean that the revision will occur in August. Governor Newsom has stated that he is confident the \$20 billion "rainy day fund" has positioned California to weather the likely recession caused by statewide shutdown.

Road Repair and Accountability Act (SB 1)

Some of the statewide transportation grant programs deadlines have been extended due to the shelter in place directives. However, in an attempt to help restart and sustain the economy the CTC is continuing with many of the competitive SB 1 transportation funding programs. EDCTC is working closely with City and County staff to develop a list of projects which are "shovel ready" to compete for these funds.

State Transportation Legislation

The State Legislature has recently been on recess due to COVID-19, and just returned this past Monday. State legislative bills that we have been tracking include the following:

- **AB 352 (Garcia, Eduardo D) Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020**
 - Makes several changes to grant program that expands criteria and identifies priorities. Would also allow applicants from the Counties of Imperial and San Diego to use daytime population numbers in grant applications.
- **AB 1350 (Gonzalez D) Youth Transit Pass Pilot Program**
 - Would create the Youth Transit Pass Pilot Program upon the appropriation of moneys from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund by the Legislature and would require the Department of Transportation to administer the program. The Bill would require the Department to award available moneys to eligible participants, as defined, to provide free transit passes to persons under the age of 25 through new or existing transit pass programs, as specified.
- **AB 1839 (Bonta D) Climate Change: California Green New Deal**
 - Current law establishes various environmental and economic policies. This Bill would create the California Green New Deal Council with a specified membership appointed by the Governor. The Bill would require the California Green New Deal Council to submit a specified report to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2022. The Bill also would make various findings and declarations.
- **AB 1920 (Boerner Horvath D) Climate Change: California Climate Adaptation Center and Regional Support Network**
 - Would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation that would establish the California Climate Adaptation Center and Regional Support Network to provide technical support and information to local governments on adapting to climate change impacts.
- **AB 1964 (Frazier D) Autonomous vehicles**
 - This bill would expand the definition of the term “autonomous vehicle” to also include a remotely operated vehicle, defined as a specified type of vehicle that is capable of being operated by a driver or operator that is not inside of the vehicle.
- **AB 2145 (Ting D) Transportation electrification: vehicle charging stations**
 - Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to reform the electric vehicle charging infrastructure approval process employed by the Public Utilities Commission to help ensure that by 2030, California will safely install enough electric vehicle charging ports to meet the demand for charging infrastructure through public and private investment.
- **AB 2148 (Quirk D) Climate change: adaptation: regional plans**
 - This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would foster regional-scale adaptation, as specified; give regions a time to develop their regional plans, as specified; and consider, among other things, sea level rise and fire vulnerability.
- **AB 2163 (Rivas, Robert D) Rural Broadband and Emergency Infrastructure Grant Act of 2020**
 - Would establish the Rural Broadband and Emergency Infrastructure Grant Act of 2020 to ensure that all California fairgrounds are equipped with adequate broadband and telecommunications infrastructure to support local, regional, and state emergency and disaster response personnel and systems. The bill would, upon appropriation, require the Rural Broadband and Emergency Infrastructure Grant Program to provide each California fairground with grants to support broadband and telecommunications infrastructure deployment.

- **AB 2262 (Berman D) Regional transportation plans: sustainable communities strategies: zero-emission vehicle readiness plan**
 - Current law requires the sustainable communities strategy to, among other things, identify a transportation network to service the transportation needs of the region. This bill would require a zero-emission vehicle readiness plan. By imposing new requirements on local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.
- **AB 2310 (Daly D) Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account: apportionment of funds: accrued interest**
 - Would continuously appropriate interest earnings derived from revenues deposited in the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account to the Department of Transportation for maintenance of the state highway system or for purposes of the State Highway Operation and Protection Program.
- **SB 992 (Beall D) Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017: reporting website**
 - Would require the Transportation Agency to develop a one-stop SB 1 reporting website maintained by the agency. The bill would require the interface to provide timely fiscal information regarding the development and implementation status of each transportation program or project funded, at least in part, by revenues from the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017.
- **SB 1227 (Skinner D) Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program**
 - Current law requires the Department of Transportation and cities and counties receiving funds under the program, to the extent possible and cost effective, and where feasible, to use advanced technologies and material recycling techniques that reduce the cost of maintaining and rehabilitating the streets and highways and that exhibit reduced levels of greenhouse gas emissions through material choice and construction method. This bill would delete the condition in that requirement imposed on the department and those cities and counties to use advanced technologies and material recycling techniques to the extent possible.

FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

No progress has been made toward a new Federal transportation package. However, the two primary grant programs, BUILD and INFRA, have an increased focus on rural America. While they are both highly competitive, they remain the two options to pursue revenue for large capital projects. On Wednesday March 25th, President Trump signed the \$2 trillion stimulus package which includes some critical funding for transportation in general and public transportation operators. Public transit agencies were among the first in the transportation industry to get hit with significant financial impacts from COVID-19. Ridership has dropped sharply over the past three weeks, but many agencies need to keep their services running for essential workers to get to jobs. EDCTC staff was involved in a nationwide advocacy effort to secure \$25 billion, within the stimulus package, for public transit operators. Furthermore, discussions have already begun regarding additional stimulus packages which may have more of a focus on infrastructure to help jump start the economy. EDCTC has worked closely with El Dorado County, the City of Placerville, El Dorado Transit, SACOG, Caltrans, and the El Dorado County Water Agency to develop a list of shovel ready projects which could potentially be funded through another stimulus package. The list is comprised of many road rehabilitation and maintenance projects. Additionally, the capital projects which are included on the list are shovel ready and already underway with some level of environmental and design work completed.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED *(since the last Commission meeting April 2, 2020)*

04/03	City of Placerville – US 50 speed zone
04/03	Commissioner Parlin, Caltrans, and Partners – SR 49 at the Confluence
04/06	CALCOG Board Meeting
04/07	El dorado County re anticipated Stimulus Funds
04/08	CTC Timely Use of funds webinar
04/08	CTC Competitive Program Policy
04/10	ALF Class
04/14	Metro Chamber Transportation Committee
04/15	City of Placerville – Stimulus funds
04/16	SACOG Board meeting
04/16	WPI 2.2 Consultant Team
04/20	WPI 2.2 Team
04/21	Caltrans – Sue Takhar, Sutha Suthahar
04/22	CDAC meeting
04/27	Technical Advisory Committee
04/28	CALCOG CDAC
04/29	CTC/RCTF rural impacts presentation
05/07	Federal DOT BUILD Grant Debrief