#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

DATE: AUGUST 4, 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"). On September 2, 2021, EDCTC awarded the contract to DKS and Associates after completing an extensive procurement process. EDCTC staff, DKS, and Caltrans held the grant kickoff meeting on October 22. The initial work on this effort has begun including user analysis and data collection along SR 49. The consultant team has completed on-site data collection and assessments. The project website has launched and can be found here: <a href="https://www.americanriverat49.com/">https://www.americanriverat49.com/</a>. The second stakeholder meeting and public workshop were both well attended and held on July 14 at Northside School. The project team is wrapping up the public workshop summary and planning the next public workshop to be held in mid-September at the same location and time.

#### 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 wildfire plan will deliver an evacuation strategy for the Greater Placerville area in El Dorado County. The project area includes the US Highway 50 corridor from Pollock Pines through the City of Placerville and the principal and minor arterials and major and minor collectors in the project area just north and south of US 50. The Notice to Proceed was received from Caltrans on September 22, 2021. The consulting contract was awarded to DKS at the March 3, 2022, EDCTC Board meeting. 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 that is anticipated to be ready by the end of September.

# 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 "Trip to Green" project. EDCTC and the City of Placerville have collaborated with AIM Consulting Co. to develop a slogan, logo, website, extensive contact list, and video in anticipation of the "Trip to Green" Proof of Concept Pilot. Due to the Caldor Fire, the "Trip to Green" was rescheduled to fall of 2022. Three weekends have been selected for the access control proof of concept: the first weekend of August, September, and October. This Trip to Green will be implemented beginning August 6 and 7 and will run from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm both days. Extensive outreach and local stakeholder engagement has been ongoing over the past three weeks. Information is available on the website link below as well as posted on the City of Placerville website, EDCTC website, Caltrans, and other partner agencies. All detour, signage, and other information is available here: <u>https://www.edctc.org/trip-to-green</u>.

## CITY OF PLACERVILLE AND EL DORADO COUNTY

## 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. Both Class II bike lanes and Class IV bikeways on Placerville Drive in the project area will be evaluated during preliminary engineering. In June 2016, EDCTC programmed \$1.1 million of CMAQ funds to the project to fund PA&ED and PS&E. The city awarded the consulting contract to Drake Haglan and Associates at the July 10, 2018, City Council meeting. At the March 7 meeting, EDCTC programmed \$680,303 in CMAQ to the project. Those funds were added to the PA&ED/PS&E and ROW phases in SACTrak via an administrative amendment. On April 15, 2021, the SACOG Board of Directors awarded \$1.22 million in Regional ATP Cycle 5 funding to the project. The city submitted an Active Transportation Program Cycle 6 application on June 15, 2022, for construction funding of the entire Placerville Drive segment of the project.

## Placerville Station II

The project area is the gravel lot adjacent to the existing Placerville Station (Mosquito Park and Ride) north of US 50. In March 2019, EDCTC programmed \$645,000 in CMAQ funds to the project. The project includes:

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

Recently the City Council awarded the Construction Management and Inspection Services contract to Coastland Civil Engineering, Inc. at the January 26, 2021, City Council meeting. The project is anticipated to go out to bid in late summer of 2022, followed by construction in fall of 2022.

## Broadway Maintenance and 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 city expanded the project to include maintenance of the pavement on Broadway between the same project limits as the sidewalks project. The city received HSIP funds to construct the sidewalk and pedestrian elements of the project. The maintenance project is funded by Measures H and L funds and the City has requested \$1 million in STBG funds from EDCTC to fully fund the maintenance element. The \$1 million in STBG funds were programmed at the May 5, 2022, EDCTC Board meeting. The sidewalk project is completing 100% design and ROW, but due to delays in receiving a ROW cert from Caltrans, the project will need to request an extension of the HSIP funding. Previously, the project schedule was to go out to bid in January 2022 and begin construction in spring 2022. However, pending receipt of the ROW cert in spring 2022, the combined sidewalk and maintenance project will go out to bid in summer or fall 2022, and begin construction in fall 2022 or spring 2023.

## Pony Express Trail Active Transportation

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 is experiencing some delays and cost increases as a result of COVID-19 and the Caldor fire. EDCTC is also working with county staff to prepare grant applications for the ATP Cycle 6 regional funding round.

# State Transportation Block Grant Program Funds

EDCTC is coordinating with partner agencies to program the current available STBGP balance of funds to eligible projects. EDCTC released a Call for Projects for STBG funding on May 5, making available approximately \$4.4 million in future funding. Applications were due on Monday, August 1, 2022. EDCTC staff will be reviewing applications for programming consideration by the EDCTC in September.

## EL DORADO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

## TRANSIT SERVICE

El Dorado Transit continues to experience ridership deficits compared to pre-pandemic levels, but ridership has started to increase on most services. Increased gas prices may have also had a positive impact on ridership. Systemwide passenger trips in April were up 15.7% compared to the previous year. Although still down from pre-pandemic, day-to-day ridership in April on ADA Paratransit demand increased 74.4%, and M.O.R.E. ridership was up 293.6% compared to the previous year. Local Fixed Route ridership was down 5.6% in April due to decreased services on the 50 Express and Saturday routes due to staffing shortages, but commuter service ridership, including the Sacramento commuters and the Tahoe service, increased by 159.4% in April compared to the previous year. In June, Demand Response ridership increased by 9.6%, Local Fixed Route ridership increased by 12.9%, Sacramento Commuter ridership increased by 65.8% (1,101 in June 2021 vs. 1,826 in June 2022), and the Sacramento/Tahoe Connector route increased 31% from May 2022 (601 passengers) to June 2022 (786 passengers).

## EDCTC AND EL DORADO TRANSIT MEETING COORDINATION

EDCTC has begun to coordinate with El Dorado Transit to begin training on the County Board Chambers meeting facilities and technology. This effort is necessary for both agencies to again meet in person or through a hybrid approach. The first in person meeting of both agencies is planned for October 6, 2022.

# SACOG

## REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP EFFORTS

EDCTC has worked to support SACOG with the development of the Sacramento Region Parks and Trails Strategic Development Plan. A kick-off event for the Regional Trails Plan was held along the El Dorado Trail on Friday May 20. EDCTC staff participated in the online livestream event along with City Councilmember Jackie Neau and Ginny McCormick, a representative of the Friends of El Dorado Trail Organization. EDCTC is also working with SACOG, El Dorado County and the City of Placerville to kick off the next update of the MTP/SCS. EDCTC staff participated in a working group with SACOG to help support the development of a performance measurement-based Project Evaluation Process. EDCTC staff is working with SACOG to release Cycle 6 of the Regional Active Transportation Program, as well as collaborating on Green Means Go planning and funding activities.

## Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Corrective Action

EDCTC staff continues to work with SACOG and the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency to develop a proposed response to the FHWA corrective action imposed upon Caltrans for CMAQ and STBGP funding. This proposal will allow for EDCTC to retain a primary role in project selection and programming for these two fund sources. Once a draft of this proposal is developed it will be presented to the EDCTC for consideration.

## 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. Work continues on the Lower Carson Road undercrossing, roundabout and other local road improvements. No work will be done during the weekends over the coming months with anticipated increased harvest season traffic.

## STATE TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

## State Transportation Funding

On May 13, 2022, Governor Newsom released the FY 2022/23 "May Revise" budget totaling \$300.7 billion, which is a record high. The State has experienced significant growth in tax revenues, much higher than anticipated, and now has a discretionary surplus projected to reach \$97.5 billion after billions more are programmed to schools, pension liabilities, and other reserves. The final budget is being worked on now with adoption anticipated in the coming weeks.

The Governor's 2022/23 budget includes nearly \$22 billion for transportation both through the general fund and selected bond funds. This accounts for 7.6% of the overall budget proposal. The transportation investments outlined in the budget proposal aligns with the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), released in July 2021, which details how the state proposes to invest billions of dollars to combat and adapt to climate change while supporting public health, safety, and equity. Within the CAPTI framework the budget specifically addresses the following seven focus areas called out directly in the proposed budget summary:

- Reduce millions of metric tons of carbon dioxide from the environment.
- Advance projects statewide to improve rail and transit connectivity between state and local/regional services—including advancement of the nation's first truly high-speed rail project.
- Enhance safety and access for bicyclists and pedestrians and target critical highway/rail grade separations and grade crossing improvements on key corridors throughout the state to reduce fatalities and injuries on the transportation system.
- Support climate resiliency and reduce risks from climate impacts.
- Remove barriers and connect disadvantaged communities, increasing access to opportunity.
- Deliver transportation projects that support the development of compact or infill housing to help California meet its housing goals.
- Move the state away from fossil fuel-based technologies and toward cleaner transportation technologies, including zero-emission vehicles and clean infrastructure.

More detail on the Governor's 2022-23 Budget can be found here: https://www.ebudget.ca.gov/budget/2022-23MR/#/BudgetSummary

## State Transportation Legislation

Some of the California legislative bills that EDCTC staff is tracking include:

<u>AB 1001</u> (Garcia, Cristina, D) Environment: Mitigation measures for air quality impacts: Environmental justice. This bill would require mitigation measures, identified in an environmental impact report, or mitigated negative declaration to mitigate the adverse effects of a project on air quality of a disadvantaged community, to include measures for avoiding, minimizing, or otherwise mitigating for the adverse effects on that community. The bill would require mitigation measures to include measures conducted at the project site that avoid or minimize to less than significant the adverse effects on the air quality of a disadvantaged community or measures conducted in the affected disadvantaged community that directly mitigate those effects.

<u>AB 1445</u> (Levine D) Planning and zoning: regional housing need allocation: climate change impacts. This bill would, commencing January 1, 2025, require that a council of governments, a delegate subregion, or the Department of Housing and Community

Development, as applicable, additionally consider among these factors emergency evacuation route capacity, wildfire risk, sea level rise, and other impacts caused by climate change.

<u>AB 1626</u> (Nguyen R) Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law: limitation on adjustment. Existing law, the Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law, administered by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, imposes a tax upon each gallon of motor vehicle fuel removed from a refinery or terminal rack in this state, entered into this state, or sold in this state, at a specified rate per gallon. Existing law requires the department to annually adjust the tax imposed by increasing the rates based on the California Consumer Price Index, as specified. This bill would limit the above-described annual adjustment to a maximum of 2% for rate adjustments made on or after July 1, 2023. This bill contains other related provisions.

<u>AB 1638</u> (Kiley R) Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law: suspension of tax. This bill would suspend the imposition of the tax on motor vehicle fuels for 6 months. The bill would direct the Controller to transfer a specified amount from the General Fund to the Motor Vehicle Fuel Account in the Transportation Tax Fund. By transferring General Fund moneys to a continuously appropriated account, this bill would make an appropriation.

<u>AB 1909</u> (<u>Friedman</u> D) Vehicles: bicycle omnibus bill. Current law prohibits the operation of a motorized bicycle or a class 3 electric bicycle on a bicycle path or trail, bikeway, bicycle lane, equestrian trail, or hiking or recreational trail, as specified. Current law authorizes a local authority to additionally prohibit the operation of class 1 and class 2 electric bicycles on these facilities. This bill would remove the prohibition of class 3 electric bicycles on these facilities and would remove the authority of a local jurisdiction to prohibit class 1 and class 2 electric bicycles on these facilities. The bill would instead authorize a local authority to prohibit the operation of a class 3 electric bicycle at a motor-assisted speed greater than 20 miles per hour. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

<u>AB 1944</u> (Lee D) Local government: open public meetings. The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act allows for meetings to occur via teleconferencing subject to certain requirements, particularly that the legislative body notice each teleconference location of each member that will be participating in the public meeting, that each teleconference location be accessible to the public, that members of the public be allowed to address the legislative body at each teleconference location, that the legislative body post an agenda at each teleconference location, and that at least a quorum of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the local agency's jurisdiction. The act provides an exemption to the jurisdictional requirement for health authorities, as defined. This bill would require the agenda to identify any member of the legislative body that will participate in the meeting remotely.

<u>AB 2075</u> (<u>Ting</u> D) Energy: electric vehicle charging standards. Current law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to prescribe, by regulation, among other things, lighting, insulation, climate control system, and other building design and construction standards, energy and water conservation design standards, and appliance efficiency standards to reduce the wasteful, uneconomic, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy and to manage energy loads to help maintain electrical grid reliability, as specified. This bill would require the commission to additionally adopt, by regulation, electric vehicle charging standards to be incorporated into other building design and construction standards, as specified.

<u>AB 2147</u> (Ting D) Pedestrians. Current law prohibits pedestrians from entering roadways and crosswalks, except under specified circumstances. Under existing law, a violation of these provisions is an infraction. Current law establishes procedures for peace officers to make arrests for violations of the Vehicle Code without a warrant for offenses committed in their presence, as specified. This bill would prohibit a peace officer, as defined, from stopping a

pedestrian for specified traffic infractions unless a reasonably careful person would realize there is an immediate danger of collision with a moving vehicle or other device moving exclusively by human power.

<u>AB 2197</u> (Mullin D) Caltrain electrification project: funding. Would appropriate \$260,000,000 from the General Fund to the Transportation Agency for allocation to the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board for the purpose of completing the Caltrain Electrification Project.

<u>AB 2237</u> (Friedman D) Regional transportation plan: Active Transportation Program. Current law requires the Strategic Growth Council, by January 31, 2022, to complete an overview of the California Transportation Plan and all sustainable communities strategies and alternative planning strategies, an assessment of how implementation of the California Transportation Plan, sustainable communities strategies, and alternative planning strategies will influence the configuration of the statewide integrated multimodal transportation system, and a review of the potential impacts and opportunities for coordination of specified funding programs. This bill would require the council to convene key state agencies, metropolitan planning agencies, regional transportation agencies, and local governments to assist the council in completing the report.

<u>AB 2344</u> (Friedman D) Wildlife connectivity: transportation projects. Would require the Department of Fish and Wildlife to investigate, study, and identify those areas in the state that are essential to wildlife movement and habitat connectivity and that are threatened by specified factors. The bill would require DFW, in coordination with Caltrans, to establish a wildlife connectivity action plan on or before January 1, 2024, and to update the plan at least once every 5 years thereafter. The bill would require the plan to include, among other things, maps that identify the locations of certain areas, including connectivity areas and natural landscape areas, as defined.

<u>AB 2346</u> (Gabriel D) Outdoor recreation: Equitable access grant program. Would require the Natural Resources Agency to develop the Equitable Access Grants Program to provide financial and technical assistance to local governments and nonprofit organizations to implement community access projects, as defined, that improve the use, equitable admittance, and engagement with the public in stewardship of outdoor recreation areas or facilities located within the state.

<u>AB 2419</u> (Bryan D) Environmental justice: federal IIJA: Justice40 Oversight Committee. The federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act provides additional federal funds to rebuild the nation's infrastructures. This bill would require a minimum of 40% of funds received by the state under the federal act to be allocated to projects that provide direct benefits to disadvantaged communities and a minimum of an additional 10% be allocated for projects that provide direct benefits to low-income households and low-income communities. The bill would establish the Justice40 Oversight Committee in the Office of Planning and Research to perform various actions related to the expenditure of those federal funds. The bill would require the committee, by December 31, 2024, to provide an interim report, and by December 31, 2027, to provide a final report, to various entities, including the Legislature, on various subjects related to the expenditure of the federal funds.

<u>AB 2428</u> (Ramos D) Mitigation Fee Act: fees for improvements: timeline for expenditure. The Mitigation Fee Act, requires a local agency that establishes, increases, or imposes a fee as a condition of approval of a development project to, among other things, determine a reasonable relationship between the fee's use and the type of development project on which the fee is imposed. The Mitigation Fee Act also imposes additional requirements for fees imposed to provide for an improvement to be constructed to serve a development project, or which is a fee for public improvements, as specified, including that the fees be deposited in a separate capital facilities account or fund. This bill would require a local agency that requires a qualified applicant, as described, to deposit fees for improvements, as described, into an escrow account as a condition for receiving a conditional use permit or equivalent development permit to expend the fees within 5 years of the deposit.

<u>AB 2438</u> (Friedman D) Transportation funding: alignment with state plans and greenhouse gas emissions reduction standards. Current law provides for the funding of projects on the state highway system and other transportation improvements, including under the state transportation improvement program, the state highway operation and protection program, the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, and the program within the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program commonly known as the Local Partnership Program. This bill would require the agencies that administer those programs to revise the guidelines or plans applicable to those programs to ensure that projects included in the applicable program align with the California Transportation Plan, the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure adopted by the Transportation Agency, and specified greenhouse gas emissions reduction standards.

AB 2449 (Rubio, Blanca D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences. The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act contains specified provisions regarding the timelines for posting an agenda and providing for the ability of the public to observe and provide comment. The act allows for meetings to occur via teleconferencing subject to certain requirements, particularly that the legislative body notice each teleconference location of each member that will be participating in the public meeting, that each teleconference location be accessible to the public, that members of the public be allowed to address the legislative body at each teleconference location, that the legislative body post an agenda at each teleconference location, and that at least a quorum of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the local agency's jurisdiction. The act provides an exemption to the jurisdictional requirement for health authorities, as defined. This bill would revise and recast those teleconferencing provisions and, until January 1, 2028, would authorize a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements that each teleconference location be identified in the notice and agenda and that each teleconference location be accessible to the public if at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the local agency's jurisdiction.

## AB 2514 (Dahle, Megan R) Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account:

**apportionment of funds: underserved rural communities.** Current law continuously appropriates \$200,000,000 annually from the State-Local Partnership Program Account for allocation by the California Transportation Commission for a program commonly known as the Local Partnership Program to local or regional transportation agencies that have sought and received voter approval of taxes or that have imposed certain fees, which taxes or fees are dedicated solely for road maintenance and rehabilitation and other transportation improvement projects. Current law requires the commission, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation planning agencies, county transportation commissions, and other local agencies, to develop guidelines for the allocation of those moneys. This bill would provide for the allocation by the commission under the Local Partnership Program to underserved rural communities, as defined, regardless of whether they have sought and received voter approval of taxes or that have imposed certain fees, which taxes or fees are dedicated solely for road maintenance and rehabilitation and other transportation improvement provide for the allocation by the commission under the Local Partnership Program to underserved rural communities, as defined, regardless of whether they have sought and received voter approval of taxes or that have imposed certain fees, which taxes or fees are dedicated solely for road maintenance and rehabilitation and other transportation improvement projects.

**AB 2647** (Levine D) Local government: open meetings. Current law makes agendas of public meetings and other writings distributed to the members of the governing board disclosable public records, with certain exceptions. Current law requires a local agency to make those writings distributed to the members of the governing board less than 72 hours

before a meeting available for public inspection, as specified, at a public office or location that the agency designates. Current law also requires the local agency to list the address of the office or location on the agenda for all meetings of the legislative body of the agency. Current law authorizes a local agency to post the writings on the local agency's internet website in a position and manner that makes it clear that the writing relates to an agenda item for an upcoming meeting. This bill would instead require a local agency to make those writings distributed to the members of the governing board available for public inspection at a public office or location that the agency designates and list the address of the office or location on the agenda for all meetings of the legislative body of the agency unless the local agency meets certain requirements, including the local agency immediately posts the writings on the local agency's internet website in a position and manner that makes it clear that the writing relates to an agenda item for an upcoming meeting.

**SB 1019** (**Dodd** D) **Transportation Resilience Program.** This bill would establish the Transportation Resilience Program in the Department of Transportation, to be funded in the annual Budget Act from 15% of the available federal National Highway Performance Program funds and 100% of the available federal Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation program funds. The bill would provide for funds to be allocated by the California Transportation Commission for climate adaptation planning and resilience improvements, as defined, that address or mitigate the risk of recurring damage to, or closures of, the state highway system, other federal-aid roads, public transit facilities, and other surface transportation assets from extreme weather events, sea level rise, or other climate change-fueled natural hazards. The bill would establish specified eligibility criteria for projects to receive funding under the program and would require the commission to prioritize projects that meet certain criteria.

SB 1050 (Dodd D) State Route 37 Toll Bridge Act. The California Toll Bridge Authority Act makes the California Transportation Commission, together with the Department of Transportation, responsible for building and acquiring toll facilities and related transportation facilities. This bill would create the SR-37 Toll Authority as a public instrumentality of the state, which would be governed by the same board as that governing the Bay Area Infrastructure Financing Authority. The bill would require the authority to operate and maintain tolling infrastructure, including by installing toll facilities, and collect tolls for the use of the Sonoma Creek Bridge, and would authorize the authority to design and construct improvements on the bridge and a specified segment of State Route 37 in accordance with programming and scheduling requirements adopted by the authority. The bill would authorize the authority to issue bonds payable from the revenues derived from those tolls. The bill would authorize revenues from the toll bridge to be used for specified purposes, including capital improvements to repair or rehabilitate the toll bridge, to expand toll bridge capacity, to improve toll bridge or corridor operations, to reduce the demand for travel in the corridor, and to increase public transit, carpool, vanpool, and nonmotorized options on the toll bridge or in the segment of State Route 37, as specified.

**SB 1121 (Gonzalez** D) **State and local transportation system: needs assessment.** This bill would require the California Transportation Commission to prepare a needs assessment of the cost to operate, maintain, and provide for the necessary future growth of the state and local transportation system for the next 10 years, as provided. As part of the needs assessment, the bill would require the commission to forecast the expected revenue, including federal, state, and local revenues, to pay for the cost identified in the needs assessment, any shortfall in revenue to cover the cost, and recommendations on how any shortfall should be addressed. The bill would require the commission to submit the needs assessment to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2024, and biennially thereafter.

**SB 1156 (Grove** R) **Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax: Diesel Fuel Tax: inflation adjustment.** Current law, the Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law and Diesel Fuel Tax Law, impose a tax upon each gallon of motor vehicle fuel or diesel fuel removed from a refinery or terminal rack in this state, entered into this state, or sold in this state, at a specified rate per gallon. Current law annually adjusts the rates of the taxes imposed by those laws based on inflation. This bill would remove the requirement for future inflation adjustments of those taxes.

**SB 1356 (Grove** R) **Gross vehicle weight.** Current state and federal law sets limits on the total gross weight imposed on the highway by a vehicle or vehicle combination with any group of 2 or more consecutive axles, not to exceed 80,000 pounds, as specified. Current law authorizes vehicles or vehicle combinations in certain circumstances to carry a gross vehicle weight in excess of 80,000 pounds, such as vehicles transporting logs. Current law authorizes the Department of Transportation or local authorities to issue a special permit authorizing an applicant to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles on a highway of a weight exceeding that maximum. This bill would increase the maximum gross weight for a vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting a load composed solely of a petroleum-based fuel to 88,000 pounds.

# FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION LEGISLATION AND FUNDING

On November 15, 2021, President Biden signed into law a \$1.1 trillion infrastructure bill known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), enacting the 2,701-page bill into law following bipartisan votes in both the U.S. House of Representatives in November and Senate in August. The IIJA replaces and nearly doubles the investment made by the FAST Act which was the last five-year surface transportation bill passed in 2017, expired in 2020, and was extended for one year. The IIJA also included a new five-year surface transportation reauthorization giving the Highway Trust Fund contract authority for highways, roads, and bridges for FY 2022 through FY 2026. The IIJA provides \$973 billion over five years beginning in 2022. This includes \$552 billion in new investments for infrastructure related to transportation, water, power and energy, remediation, public lands, broadband, and resilience. Nearly all of the existing transportation funding programs received significant increases. For example, these existing programs received the following increases in funding:

- Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) 32%
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) 10%
- Transportation Alternatives Program (ATP in California) 76%
- Transit State of Good Repair 70%
- Low-No Emission Buses 525%

While these increases are significant, the biggest change in this transportation bill is the increase in discretionary grant program funding, increased by 400%. There are twelve new competitive transportation funding programs included in this new investment plan with a focus on climate and equity, electrification, greenhouse gas reduction, and resilience. Discretionary programs span a wide array of focus areas. Some of those that are more applicable to the needs of the EDCTC region are listed below and include the amounts available under the IIJA nationwide.

- BUILD/RAISE Grants \$7.5 billion
- Bridge Grant Program \$12.5 billion
- Rural Grant Program \$2 billion (for high-cost rural projects)
- Protect Grant Program "Resiliency" \$1.4 billion
- Electric Vehicle Charging \$2.5 billion
- Broadband to States \$42 billion
- Broadband Middle Mile Grants \$1 billion

California is expected to receive \$40 billion of formula-based transportation funding over the five years of the bill, and billions more through competitive programs. EDCTC and partner agencies will be able to access these transportation funds through the following means.

- 1. Competitively through federal grants such as RAISE, INFRA, and state grants such as the ATP
- 2. Suballocations directly to jurisdictions based on population, similar to STBGP
- 3. Federal formula allocations directly to transit operators and airports

The first rollout of funding is anticipated to be the formula programs which already have mechanisms and guidance in place to distribute funds to the states, cities, and counties. This will likely be followed by existing competitive grant programs, such as the ATP, BUILD/RAISE, and Highway Safety Improvement Programs. Finally, sometime likely later in 2022, the new competitive programs will be rolled out once new guidance is developed.

EDCTC has already started to discuss all of these programs with City, County, and Transit staff to prepare projects to be submitted. While we maintain an ongoing priority project list consistent with the adopted Regional Transportation Plan, it is critical that we revisit those projects as new programs, such as the IIJA, become available. As these programs are rolled out, EDCTC staff will be briefing the Commission on opportunities to apply for and secure transportation funding. One thing to keep in mind is that the IIJA is not a stimulus package but a long-standing surface transportation bill. Therefore, the strategy is to identify a suite of projects that can take advantage of the funding throughout the life of this bill.

**EVENTS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED** (since the last Commission meeting June 2, 2022)

6/3/22	Camino Safety Bi-Monthly Project Status Meeting
6/6/22	Phone Call with Caltrans – A. Benipal
6/6/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
6/6/22	ATP Adoption by the County Meeting
6/6/22	SACOG/PCTPA/EDCTC Tribal Engagement Meeting
6/7/22	RCTF Transition Discussion with N. Barrett
6/9/22	Camino Weekly Update - Caltrans
6/9/22	SB 743 Implementation Working Group
6/10/22	Appointment with RTS for VPN Install
6/13/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
6/13/22	SS4A Webinar
6/13/22	CALCOG Legislative Committee Meeting
6/14/22	BOS Agenda Review with R. Martinez
6/14/22	SACOG Webinar: City and County Staff – Venture with Purpose
6/14/22	SR 49 Confluence Check-in with DKS – J. Damkowitch
6/16/22	SHSP Steering Committee Meeting
6/16/22	Camino Weekly Update - Caltrans
6/16/22	SACOG Board of Directors Meeting
6/16/22	El Dorado County Conservative Voices Discussion
6/16/22	EDCTC/EDC Coordination Meeting
6/20/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
6/20/22	Sustainable Rural Transportation Solutions Summit
6/20/22	Local OA Utilization Strategy Meeting
6/21/22	Folsom Connector Meeting with EDC Transportation Department
6/21/22	IIJA Safety Sub Working Group Meeting
6/21/22	Phone Call with Caltrans – S. Takhar
6/23/22	Camino Weekly Update – Caltrans
6/23/22	Trip to Green FSP Conversation with Caltrans – L. Davies
6/23/22	OA Best Management Practices Committee Meeting
6/24/22	CalSTA IIJA Working Group Meeting
6/27/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
6/27/22	SACOG/SCAG Meeting Regarding Corrective Action
6/28/22	ATP Application Evaluations
6/28/22	SR 49 Confluence Check-in with DKS – J. Damkowitch

6/29-6/30/22	CTC Meeting
6/30/22	Camino Weekly Update - Caltrans
6/30/22	CalSTA/FHWA IIJA Bridge Investment Program Webinar
7/1/22	Camino Safety Bi-Monthly Project Status Meeting
7/5/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
7/5/22	CFPG Meeting with Caltrans
7/7/22	Camino Weekly Update – Caltrans
7/8/22	AB 1113 Splits Discussion with D. Melko and N. Haven
7/11/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
7/12/22	GovInvest Public Finance Consultation
7/12/22	Phone Call with EDC Regarding Social Media Policy – C. Hass
7/12/22	SR 49 Stakeholder Meeting
7/13/22	Social Media Policy Discussion with Legal Counsel – D. Gillick
7/13/22	SACOG Interview – Transit to Tahoe with EDCTA – B. James
7/13/22	Safe Streets and Roads for All Competitive Meeting
7/13/22	EDCTC/PCTPA/SACOG Safe Streets for All Discussion
7/14/22	Camino Weekly Update – Caltrans
7/14/22	CMAQ Call for Projects Discussion with EDC
7/14/22	Summer 2022 CFAC Meeting
7/14/22	SR 49 Workshop #2
7/15/22	RCTF Meeting
7/18/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
7/18/22	Caltrans Liaison Introduction Meeting – J. Matsumoto
7/18/22	EDCTC RTP Amendment Meeting
7/19/22	Phone Call with Caltrans – S. Takhar
7/20/22	Trip to Green Flyer Distribution
7/20/22	MPO Outreach Meeting: 2023 Safety Targets
7/20/22	Bass Lake Roundabout Discussion with Dudek
7/20/22	SACOG/EDCTC/PCTPA Coordination Meeting
7/21/22	Meeting with City of Placerville – C. Morris
7/21/22	SHSP Committee Meeting
7/21/22	Camino Weekly Update - Caltrans
7/21/22	Phone Call with Supervisor W. Thomas
8/1/22	EDCTC Staff Meeting
8/1/22	SACOG/Caltrans/PCTPA/EDCTC Meeting
8/1/22	STBG/CMAQ Debrief with PCTPA
8/2/22	Agenda Review with Supervisor J. Hidahl
8/2/22	ATP Evaluator Meeting
8/3/22	Agenda Review with Supervisor Turnboo
8/3/22	Placerville Downtown Association – Trip to Green Presentation
8/4/22	Sustainable Rural Transportation Solutions Summit
8/4/22	Camino Weekly Update – Caltrans
8/4/22	SACOG Land Use and Natural Resources Meeting