

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK  
GRANT (STBG) AND CONGESTION  
MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ)  
2022 FUNDING CYCLE FRAMEWORK**

Item N

## Background

- PCTPA programs federal STBG and CMAQ funds for projects in Placer County, typically 2-year cycle
- STBG: ~\$4.5-5.0M/yr. Wide-ranging roadway project types
- CMAQ: ~\$3.5-4.0M/yr. For air quality related projects
- PCTPA adopts guidelines each cycle
- Federal and State codes describe how these funds flow from FHWA to Caltrans and the MPOs, and to the individual projects, including who may select projects and how projects are to be selected
- FHWA audit identified noncompliant processes within the state

## Background

- FHWA notified Caltrans, and required corrective actions of Caltrans by October 2022
- Caltrans asked MPOs (SACOG) to respond by February 15, 2022
- Numerous agencies throughout the State are contesting some of FHWA interpretations, currently unresolved.
- PCPTA internal review: some process changes are needed
- Update framework for 2022 funding cycle
  - Framework coordinated with SACOG (and EDCTC)
  - Framework to be incorporated into SACOG's response to Caltrans
- Adopt detailed funding cycle guidelines at a future meeting

## Findings Pertinent to PCTPA

Funding Suballocation: Cannot suballocate funds to “individual jurisdictions” using a formula unless clearly tied to consideration addressed in the metropolitan planning process

- State uses a population formula to identify countywide shares
  - PCTPA has historically programmed our countywide share
  - FHWA interprets code to preclude suballocation to PCTPA using population-based shares. This is subject to some interpretation and agencies are engaging FHWA on this.
  - PCTPA will program countywide shares in 2022 cycle.
  - Future cycles subject to FHWA review outcome. SACOG proposed establishing target ranges for PCTPA in the future.
- Cannot use population to identify City or County DOT funding shares

## Findings Pertinent to PCTPA

Project Selection: Only the State DOT and the MPO have project selection authority

- The SACOG Board must take specific action to select projects
  - PCTPA Board has historically selected projects and the SACOG Board has not taken specific action related to selecting those projects for the funding
  - PCTPA Board would identify the projects for funding and SACOG Board would take action confirming selection, likely with the projects from all 6 SACOG counties

## Other Changes Related to Federal Code

Federal codes states project selection based on priorities in the MTP/SCS and in accordance with the metropolitan planning process

- Detailed Federal guidance on CMAQ Projects
- Very general guidance on STBG
- Strengthen the documentation regarding project performance and selection for CMAQ and STBG projects
  - Additional application responses related to performance
  - Improve records of project selection

## Framework – Funding Levels

- PCTPA to estimate funding levels for 2022 cycle based on state apportionment estimates to Placer County
  - May be different in 2024+, pending FHWA review outcome
- PCTPA to identify any “off the top” amounts for specific projects or programs (i.e. South Placer Transit Project, Freeway Service Patrol)
- Balance of funds identified as available for local agencies to apply for project funding

## Framework – Performance Criteria

- Define performance metrics in program guidelines
- Revise applications to improve performance documentation
- Incorporate SACOG's Project Performance Assessment (PPA) tool output into the applications
  - Quick and easy. Generates uniform performance data from SACOG's database/traffic model
  - Assists in identifying project performance benefits



## Framework – Application and Evaluation Process, and Project Selection

- New application forms
  - Clarify requirements, enhance performance documentation
  - Aid uniformity in performance evaluations
- Evaluation Team
  - 3-5 members
  - 2 PCTPA staff, 1 SACOG staff, maybe 1-2 others
  - Document evaluations
- PCTPA Board would adopt a list of projects for funding, then the SACOG Board would adopt that list for funding, likely in the same action for the 6 county SACOG region

## Next Steps

- SACOG responds to Caltrans by 2/15/22
  - Caltrans responds to FHWA, FHWA reviews Caltrans responses
  - Statewide compliance with FHWA corrective action by October 2022
  - Agencies throughout state continue to work with Caltrans and FHWA to resolve concerns
- Continue coordination with Placer agencies Working Group on funding estimates, guidelines, performance metrics/selection criteria, application forms
- Return to PCTPA Board for approval of funding estimate, guidelines, application form
- Possible addendum to PCTPA/SACOG MOU for revised Framework

## Tentative Placer County Funding Round Schedule

- February 2022: Anticipated fund estimates from State
- March 23, 2022: PCTPA Board approval of fund estimate and guidelines
- March 28, 2022: Release call for projects
- May 16, 2022: Applications due
- May-June 2022: Application review, applicant meetings, project evaluations
- July 2022: Applicant meetings, staff recommendations
- August 24, 2022: PCTPA Board adopts selected projects
- September 1 and 15, 2022: SACOG Transportation Committee recommends, then the SACOG Board adopts the project list

# Questions