



HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority
Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies
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AGENDA ITEM 8d
TAC Meeting
October 7, 2021

DATE: September 30, 2021
TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
FROM: Beth Burks, Executive Director
SUBJECT: 2022 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding and project selection for the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)

STAFF REPORT

Contents:

- Staff's Recommended Action
- Staff Summary
- Available Funds and Allocation Requests Spreadsheet
- Project Funding Requests

Staff's Recommended Action:

1. Introduce the item as an action item;
2. Allow staff to present the item;
3. Receive public comment;
4. Discuss item and consider making the motion:
"I move that the TAC direct staff to include candidate projects, as discussed, in the 2022 RTIP and return for further review at the November 4 meeting."

Staff Summary:

The STIP is a biennial five-year plan adopted by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for future allocations of state transportation funds for road and transit improvements. Each new STIP adds two new years to the prior programming commitments. The STIP is composed of two sub elements: the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP). Each Regional Transportation Planning Agency, including HCAOG is required to submit an RTIP to the CTC by December 15 of every odd numbered year for inclusion in the STIP.

This item is an action item to discuss which projects will be included in the 2022 RTIP. Once staff receives direction on which projects to include, next month the entire RTIP will be presented to the TAC for consideration of a recommendation to the Board.

Funding availability

The 2022 STIP fund estimate indicates that Humboldt's draft estimate for the Total Target is \$4,478,000 for program capacity available through 2026-2027. Of this, \$314,000 is the limit HCAOG can program for Planning, Programming and Monitoring (PPM) funds for the last three years of the STIP (2024-2025, 2025-26, and 2026-27).

This leaves **\$4,164,000** available for programming street and road projects. The CTC also provides every region a maximum target for new programming capacity through the end of the county share period in 2027-2028. For Humboldt this estimate is **\$6,140,000**. This represents a maximum amount that the CTC may program in a county, other than advancing future shares.

The STIP fund estimate identifies net new capacity only in years 2025-26 and 2025-27. It is possible to program STIP funds in earlier years but projects may get delayed due to lack of funds available.

In addition to the STIP fund estimate, \$1,271,043 of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) Mid-Cycle STIP funds are available. These funds must be programmed no later than August 2023.

The TAC and Board have already agreed to account for up to \$300,000 for the Caltrans Highway 101 Eureka Arcata Safety Corridor mitigation project. These funds will not be needed until 2024 and it is recommended that they be programmed in 2024-2025.

Available Funds		
CRRSAA		1,271,043
2022 STIP		4,164,000
Total		\$ 5,435,043
Caltrans 101 Eureka/Arcata		(300,000)
Remaining Funds Available:		\$ 5,135,043

Requests for Funding

HCAOG issued a call for projects and received 12 requests from 6 jurisdictions. The attached Available Funds and Allocation Requests spreadsheet summarizes the funding requests. A compilation of the project request forms and accompanying Project Study Reports is also attached.

Blue Lake has submitted two options for their request to fund the Blue Lake Truck Route Complete Streets Project, option one is a request for the full project and option two would fund only certain phases of the project.

	Project Description & Allocation Requests:	Total Request
1)	City of Fortuna:	
	12th Street US 101 Interchange Modernization (PA&ED)	1,000,000
2)	City of Trinidad	
	Main St, Trinity St, Patricks Point Dr Pavement Rehab	475,000
3)	City of Rio Dell	
	Rio Dell Neighborhood Connectivity Improvement Project	907,000
4)	Humboldt County	
	a. Myrtle Ave: Rehabilitation, Overlay, and Bicycle Improvements	2,205,000
	b. Redwood Drive Surface Rehabilitation	841,000
	c. Hubbard Lane Surface and Rehabilitation	800,000
	d. McK Central Ave Surface Rehabilitation and Overlay	1,189,000
5)	City of Arcata	
	a. K Street/Alliance Road Rehabilitation Project	550,000
	b. Improvements to Sunset Ave/Lakewood Rd and Sunset/US 101 North	450,000
	c. West End Road Rehabilitation Project	350,000
6)	City of Blue Lake	
	Blue Lake Truck Route- Greenwood Ave Complete Streets Phase I	
	Construction (Option 1)	4,600,000
	Construction (Option 2)	1,675,000
	Total with Blue Lake Option 1	13,367,000
	Total with Blue Lake Option 2	10,442,000

The requests received far exceed the funding available. With Blue Lake option one the program is oversubscribed by more than \$8 million. If Blue Lake option two is considered, it is still oversubscribed by more than \$5 million.

Note that each project component proposed (environmental studies & permits, plans, specifications & estimates, right of way, and construction) must be fully funded to be considered. However, not all project components need to be proposed. For example, The STIP may fully fund the environmental studies on permits component of a project, but not fund additional components.

The TAC will need to recommend which projects or portions of projects to include in the 2022 RTIP. One potential option to increase available funds is to program to the maximum rather than the target. This would add another \$1,976,000 that could be programmed in 2027-2028.

Project Priority

Each RTIP must be based on the regional transportation plan (RTP) and a region wide assessment of transportation needs and deficiencies. Per the STIP Guidelines programming in the RTIP should not be based on a formula distribution of county share among agencies or geographic areas.

Caltrans can nominate or recommend State highway improvement projects for inclusion in the RTIP for programming through the County share. HCAOG staff has only received the request for increased funding for the Highway 101 Eureka Arcata Safety Corridor mitigation project. No other projects have been proposed by Caltrans.

Staff has reviewed the submitted projects; all appear to be eligible uses and included in the 2017 RTP with the exception of the project submitted by Rio Dell. Rio Dell's project is consistent with the complete streets policies of the RTP but the project is not included in the project list. The RTP will need to be amended to make it eligible for inclusion in the RTIP.

As a way to further prioritize projects the TAC may consider the performance measures in the Safety and Sustainability Targets included as part of the RTP update. This is not required since these performance measures have not been officially adopted, but future STIP cycles may require projects to meet these performance measures to be considered for funding. Safety and Sustainability Target performance measures related to STIP funding include: percent mode shift, reduced vehicle miles travelled by car, Vision Zero, and invest in complete streets.

Action Requested

Staff requests that the TAC discuss and provide direction on which projects or portions of projects to include in the 2022 RTIP.