

**Heather Adamson, Vice Chair**Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments  
(831) 264-5086**Aaron Hoyt, Chair**Nevada County Transportation Commission  
(530) 265-3202**Michael Zeller, Secretary**Transportation Agency for Monterey County  
(831) 775-0903

## Draft Minutes

January 23, 2026

12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

### Agenda:

- **Welcome and Introductions**

- Aaron Hoyt welcomed participants and asked for new participants to introduce themselves.
- New attendees included: Shalini Chandra and Danielle Elledge from Caltrans.

- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

- September meeting minutes approved by consensus. Motion made by John Clerici and Mike Woodman

- **Information Sharing and Topics of Significance**

- No topics were brought up for discussion.

- **Presentations**

- **Low Carbon Transit Operations Program – Erik Reitz**

- Background

- Erik Reitz shared the changes to the LCTOP program resulting from SB 840. SB 840 restructured Cap and Trade (now Cap and Invest) and extends it through 2045. LCTOP moves from Tier 1 to Tier 3 funding priority, meaning it is funded only after Tiers 1–2.
- Full annual funding of \$200M occurs only if auction proceeds exceed \$4.2B, which has happened only twice in 13 years. Typical proceeds (~\$3.5B) yield approximately \$132M.
- FY 2025/26 Allocations will occur in two calls for projects. The first to be released in February. The allocation is anticipated to be approximately 65% of prior FY funding (~\$122M). The second call for projects will occur in July/August allocation and is estimated \$55–70M depending on auction sales.
- Draft guidelines released January 23<sup>rd</sup> with a 30-day review period and two virtual workshops.

- Input & Discussion:
    - John Clerici asked whether the program is “effectively eliminated” because Tier 3 funding is unlikely. Erik clarified that proportional funding continues, but at significantly reduced levels.
  - Follow-Up Actions:
    - Aaron Hoyt to email RCTF members LCTOP presentation and Q&A from December 2025 LCTOP Workshops.
- **Caltrans Community Engagement Playbook (Sara Rosen, Caltrans)**
  - Background
    - Sara Rosen shared the Community Engagement Playbook that is in development. The Playbook provides a statewide framework for community engagement from planning through delivery, including guidance on working with diverse stakeholder groups.
    - Sara provided an overview of the chapters of the Playbook and focused on Chapter 4 that details engagement methods for different groups. Sara indicated that Caltrans has a survey open through February 11 to gain feedback.
  - Input & Discussion:
    - Aaron Hoyt shared how Caltrans District 3 used the Caltrans Engagement Portal on a project in Nevada County.
    - Mike Woodman shared how NCTC staff participates in Project Development Team meetings with Caltrans District 3 staff on projects to ensure coordination and communication. Mike also noted that Annual District Coordination meetings with Caltrans District 3, NCTC, and local agencies have been informative and helps to address any issues.
    - Woody Deloria shared that in El Dorado County they meet with Caltrans District 3 to understand annual maintenance schedules to avoid conflicts with the annual Apple Hill Harvest that attracts visitors to the Highway 50 Corridor. Woody also shared that EDCTC conducts biannual Commissioner briefings with Caltrans on Project Delivery.
  - Follow-Up Actions:
    - Aaron Hoyt to email the RCTF members with a link to the Survey on the Community Engagement Playbook.
- **CTC Updates**
  - **Legislative Updates (Vincent Ma)**
    - AB 1421 (Road Usage Charge) is under review; amendments anticipated.

- February 20<sup>th</sup> deadline for bill introductions; May revise expected; June 15<sup>th</sup> constitutional budget deadline.
- No major transportation impacts identified in the proposed state budget.
- **Active Transportation Program (Anja Aulenbacher)**
  - Anja Aulenbacher indicated that the guidelines development has concluded after nine workshops.
  - The January CTC Agenda contains a tracked changes version of the draft ATP Guidelines. There are no substantive changes to the guidelines. However, the QuickBuild pilot is ending due to slow delivery and declining interest. Additionally, language SB 1216 restrictions on Class 3 bikeways added to guidelines. An unscored question will be added to the application to understand if Class 3 bikeways and sharrows are part of the project.
  - Timeline: Draft guidelines Jan 29, Adoption March 19–20, Applications due June 22.
  - Evaluator call will follow March meeting.
  - Cycle 8 fund estimate: \$619.32M over four fiscal years.
  - Input & Discussion:
    - Ivan Garcia asked if there is a potential for the fund estimate to change? Keith Duncan indicated that he has not heard of anything at this time that would change the fund estimate.
- **Senate Bill 1 Programs (Beverley Newman-Burkhard)**
  - Beverley Newman-Burkhard provided an overview of the SB 1 competitive program that include: Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP), Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP), Local Partnership Program (LPP).
  - First round of guidelines workshops completed; office hours begin February.
  - Workshop materials will be posted to the website within a week.
  - Timeline: Draft guidelines June, Approval August, Applications due November 2026.
  - For more information on each project, reach out to Naveen Habib for SCCP, Leishara Ward for LPP, and Beverley Newman-Burkhard for TCEP.
  - Input & Discussion:
    - Erik Reitz asked about the timing of each program. Beverly indicated that Draft guidelines will be available in June, approval of the guidelines will occur in August, and applications will be due November 2026.

- **Local Streets and Roads (Alicia Sequeira)**
  - Alicia shared that FY 24–25 expenditures were approximately ~\$1.5B, highest ever. 4,600 total projects were reported on with 2,200 in progress; 1,300 completed.
  - There are only two outstanding reports requiring minor edits on the expenditure report.
  - Technical training for new cycle begins early April.
  - Input & Discussion:
    - No discussion on this item.
- **State Transportation Improvement Program (Laurie Waters)**
  - Laurie Waters announced two upcoming SHOPP Hearings. The South Hearing will occur on February 5<sup>th</sup> at SANDAG at 10 AM and the North Hearing will occur at SJCOG at 12 PM.
  - Laurie announced that Shelia Ennes will be acting as the STIP Program Manager.
  - Shelia Ennes noted that the North STIP hearing will occur on January 28<sup>th</sup> at SACOG at 10 AM. The South STIP hearing will occur on February 5<sup>th</sup> at SANDAG at 1 PM.
  - The 2026 staff recommendations for the STIP will be published on February 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Input & Discussion:
    - No discussion on this item.
- **State and Local Transportation System Assessment (Frances Dea-Sanchez)**
  - Frances Dea-Sanchez shared that the CTC will begin reviewing the extended fiscal needs survey submitted in 2025 and will be revisiting how the survey questions were categorized for the next needs assessment. Frances indicated that the CTC would like to coordinate with MPOs and RTPAs on the survey questions and categorization.
  - Input & Discussion:
    - No discussion on this item.
- **Caltrans Updates**
  - **Local Assistance (Zhongren Wang, Danielle Elledge)**
    - Danielle Elledge announced that Caltrans is piloting a new Preliminary Environmental Study (PES) form. The form will be on the Caltrans website and a workshop will be conducted on February 9<sup>th</sup> during the monthly Federal Aid Series and Environmental Training.

- Danielle also mentioned that they host open office hours about the pilot PES that occurs the first Wednesday of every month. The link is <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/2b46d133-4af9-4790-89bb-69b5d2576ff6@621b0a64-1740-43cc-8d88-4540d3487556>
  - Input & Discussion:
    - No discussion on this item.
- **Obligation Authority Status (Misty Bradshaw & Abhijit Bagde)**
  - Abhijit Bagde noted that the FFY 2026 (Cycle 27) Obligation Plans are due March 16<sup>th</sup>. The Obligations Plans will identify those federally funded projects that are anticipated to be obligated between April 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> 2026.
    - Districts will be hosting Obligation Plan meetings between May and August.
    - Obligation milestones include:
      - E 76s due mid June
      - FTA transfers mid June
      - RSTP exchange March/April 2026
  - Input & Discussion:
    - No discussion on this item.
- **Local Highway Safety Improvement Program (Zhongren Wang)**
  - Zhongren Wang shared information about the HSIP Cycle 13 call for projects that will occur in May/June 2026.
    - Awards expected early 2027.
    - Emphasis on Safe System Approach coordinated with on system projects.
  - Zhongren also shared that Caltrans is working with FHWA on new agreements tied to competitive funding programs.
  - Input & Discussion:
    - Aaron Hoyt asked about the status of the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) loan/exchange guidelines. Zhongren indicated that Caltrans should have information in a month. Bob Baca noted that Caltrans will host a CRP workshop scheduled for February 18<sup>th</sup>.
    - Ivan Garcia asked about CRP estimates that BCAG programmed versus the obligation amounts and possible over delivery. Zhongren suggested to reach out to him and his staff to discuss further. Bob

Baca indicated that some MPOs and RTPAs did over obligate and will need to discuss repayment of funds over obligated.

○ **State and Federal Budget Update (Keith Duncan)**

- Keith Duncan indicated that there are no new updates on the State budget at this time.
  - Keith shared that FHWA redistributed TIFIA apportions and approximately \$16 million was for the Transportation Alternatives Program that California applied to the ATP.
- Keith also shared that the Federal continuing resolution expires at the end of January and Caltrans is hearing that there is an attempt to get a full years appropriation in the works.
  - IJA expires at end of FFY 2026; uncertainty remains regarding reauthorization or rescinding of unused apportionment
- Keith shared that California was penalized \$158M for CDL non-compliance and Caltrans does not know how the penalty will be assessed. Details pending.
- Input & Discussion:
  - No discussion on this item.

○ **Planning (Erin Thompson & Brenda Caruso)**

- Erin Thompson noted that the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants are anticipated to be released in May.
  - The next Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Cycle (27–28) workshops will occur this summer; legislative approval required.
  - Erin confirmed that the balance of RPA Excess Funds was approximately \$41,000 total with \$17,000 for the Carl scholarship. The balance of \$24,000 will be rolled to next FY.
- Brenda Caruso shared milestone dates on upcoming OWPs.
  - Draft OWPs are due February 27<sup>th</sup> and Final OWPs are due June 1<sup>st</sup>. Notify your local District Liaison if unable to meet deadlines.
  - Caltrans has been hosting OWP meetings with RTPAs and have met with 10 agencies. Benda noted that the meetings have been helpful for Caltrans staff to understand the roles and activities of each agency.
  - Invitations are open for other agencies needing OWP assistance.

● **Miscellaneous**

- Aaron Hoyt shared the upcoming meeting schedule. Erin Thompson asked about any upcoming in-person meetings. Aaron noted that an in-person meeting may be scheduled in conjunction with the RCTF Administrative Support Manual. More details to come.
- **Adjournment**
  - The meeting was adjourned at 2:07 PM.