



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 7b
TAC Meeting
August 3, 2023

DATE: July 28, 2023
TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
FROM: Beth Burks, Executive Director
SUBJECT: **Carbon Reduction Program**

STAFF REPORT

Contents:

- Staff's Recommended Action
- Staff Summary
- Carbon Reduction Program Eligible Project List

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:
"The TAC directs staff to proceed with the Carbon Reduction Program consistent with TAC recommendations."

Staff Summary:

In November 2021, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), was passed into law. With the passage of IIJA, the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) was created. The purpose of the CRP is to provide federal funding to projects that decrease transportation emissions, which are defined as the carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions that result from on-road, highway sources.

Allowable Projects

IJA requires Caltrans to develop a Carbon Reduction Strategy to outline how California will spend its CRP dollars on reducing transportation carbon emissions. California's draft Carbon Reduction Strategy focuses on **"Three Pillars": zero-emission vehicles and infrastructure, active transportation, and rail and transit**. All CRP funds must be spent in support of the Three Pillars. Although the draft Carbon Reduction Strategy is still open for public comment (through August 18, 2023), the focus on the Three Pillars is not expected to change. The final Carbon Reduction Strategy must be approved no later than November 2023. A full list of allowable projects is attached.

Available Funding and Deadlines

California receives annual apportionments of CRP over five years. The apportionments are split, with 65% as Local CRP and 35% as State CRP. Cycles 1 and 2 are available now. The remaining 3 cycles are projected to be the same amount as Cycle 2.

Eligible recipients include the Cities, County, Federally Recognized Tribes, and HCAOG.

Funds Per Cycle

Cycle 1 (2022)	Cycle 2 (2023)	Total Cycle 1&2	Projected Cycle 3 (2024)	Projected Cycle 4 (2025)	Projected Cycle 5 (2026)	Total 5- year projection
\$247,068	\$252,009	\$499,077	\$252,009	\$252,009	\$252,009	\$1,255,104

The CRP funds are available three FFYs after the FFY of the CRP programming cycle. Any amounts not unobligated at the end of this period shall lapse.

Project Deadlines – Per Project Appropriation Year

Federal Fiscal Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Obligation (E76) Deadline	09/30/2025	9/30/2026	TBD	TBD	TBD
Expenditure Deadline	9/30/2030	9/30/2031	TBD	TBD	TBD

There is a match requirement. For most projects it will be a 11.47% local match but could be up to 20% depending on the project. This match must be cash, it cannot be in kind contributions. HCAOG will work with Caltrans to determine the exact match for specific projects.

Project Selection

Caltrans requires RTPAs to have a written Project Selection Strategy. The strategy is not prescriptive. It can be tailored to the needs of each region so long as it explains how the selected project(s) advance the Three Pillars and is consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan.

Staff are seeking guidance on how the TAC would like to proceed with the project selection strategy.