



**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 8b**  
TAC Meeting  
February 2, 2023

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DATE: January 25, 2023  
TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
FROM: Oona Smith, Senior Regional Planner  
SUBJECT: **Application for Caltrans’ Sustainable Communities Grant (FY 2023-24):  
Partnerships & Potential Cash or In-Kind Contributions** *[continued from  
Nov., Dec.]*

### **INFORMATIONAL STAFF REPORT**

#### **Staff Summary:**

HCAOG staff is preparing the Sustainable Communities Grant application for the deadline on March 9, 2023. The grant is part of Caltrans’ Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program. The program objectives are: sustainability, preservation, accessibility, safety, innovation, economy, health, and social equity. Grant funds are intended to support efforts to achieve the State’s greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets.<sup>1</sup>

The grant requires a 11.47% match (minimum) in local cash or in-kind contributions. The grant maximum is \$700,000 (required match of \$80,290). We have not yet calculated the final budget. Under our current proposed scope of work, we expect the required match will be in the range of \$50,000 to \$60,000.

HCAOG intends that this grant will directly benefit all TAC member agencies during the three-year grant timeframe (circa fall 2023 to winter-summer 2026). Some members have already indicated that they would be able to contribute in-kind, such as by conducting speed studies.

#### **For Discussion:**

We would like to propose that all TAC member agencies contribute to the match, in the range of \$500 to \$2,000 per year (x 3 years), based on their means. HCAOG would ask that members provide a letter of support, which would state the dollar value of in-kind and/or cash commitments. The following table lists common ways to contribute either in-kind or cash.

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<sup>1</sup> GHG emissions targets: 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030; 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

Sustainable Communities Project Task	Cash or In-Kind Contributions
1. Level-of-traffic-stress (LTS) study for pedestrians & bicyclists (Greater Humboldt Bay/Jaroujiji Area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile and provide existing data on existing conditions.</li> <li>• Speed study/studies.</li> </ul>
2. <i>[To be performed by consultants]</i> Prepare spatial analysis/visual information (maps) for the LTS findings and land use overlays.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile and provide shape files for consultant.</li> </ul>
3. Planning for sustainable communities: integrating housing, land use, and transportation for low-traffic-stress neighborhoods <i>The project team will actively assist and facilitate the respective jurisdictions to use the LTS analysis findings to augment community dialogue around planning walkable, bikeable, active-travel neighborhoods.</i> Note: For jurisdictions that won't have LTS analysis yet, similar assistance is available under Task 7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff time to plan, host, attend own community workshop/meeting(s).</li> <li>• Workshop materials.</li> <li>• Advertising.</li> <li>• Workshop room rental.</li> </ul>
4. <i>[TBD, City of Arcata interested]</i> Safe routes to school (SRTS) Pilot/ Pop-up	<i>TBD</i>
5. Feasibility assessment for funding a Regional SRTS Director position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff participation on ad-hoc focus group or interviews.</li> </ul>
6. Training series on building high-performing streets & vibrant communities (smart mobility & smart growth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to cost for speakers/training (instead of charging registration fees).</li> <li>• Staff attendance at workshop; travel expenses.</li> <li>• Workshop room rental.</li> <li>• Facilitate/host follow-up workshop/meeting(s) in your own community/jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
7. Community/stakeholder engagement, outreach, & input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bilingual interpretation or translation services.</li> <li>• Staff participation on ad-hoc advisory groups.</li> <li>• Help craft, distribute, or collect surveys.</li> <li>• Workshop room rental</li> <li>• Light refreshments for public workshops (subject to Caltrans approval).</li> </ul>
HCAOG's RFP/bid process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff time scoring proposals.</li> </ul>