



**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 6a**  
TAC Meeting  
October 5, 2023

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DATE: September 27, 2023  
TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
FROM: Beth Burks, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: **2024 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 2024 RTIP and return for further review at the November 2, 2023 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. The 2024 STIP cycle includes Fiscal Years 2024-25 through 2028-29.

This item is an action item to discuss which projects will be included in the 2024 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 total target for the Humboldt for the 2024 STIP cycle is \$9,297,000. This target includes Planning, Programming, and Monitoring funds which come to HCAOG, and funds set aside in the 2022 STIP cycle that will be used for Caltrans 101 Eureka/Arcata Corridor mitigation, leaving \$8,712,000 remaining for programming projects.

<b>Available Funds for Projects</b>	
Total 2024 RIP Target	\$9,297,000
Planning, Programming, and Monitoring	(285,000)
Caltrans 101 Eureka/Arcata Corridor Mitigation	(300,000)
<b>Remaining Funds Available for Projects:</b>	<b>\$8,712,000</b>

The CTC also provides every region a maximum target for new programming capacity through the end of the share period in 2031-32. For Humboldt this estimate is **\$34,882,000**. This represents the maximum amount that the CTC may program in a county. The CTC can fund between the target and maximum shares when other regions do not program to their target. Any funds programmed above the target come out of future shares.

**Requests for Funding**

HCAOG issued a call for projects and received 8 requests from 5 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.

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Total</b>
Arcata	US 101& Sunset Ave Interchange Project	\$ 1,900,000
Fortuna	Kenmar Interchange Improvement Project	\$ 3,000,000
Eureka	Bay to Zoo Trail	\$ 1,582,000
County	Hubbard Lane Surface Rehabilitation	\$ 800,000
County	Central Avenue Surface Rehab and Overlay	\$ 1,189,000
County	Redwood Drive Surface Rehabilitation	\$ 841,000
Eureka	Myrtle Avenue Improvement 5th to ...	\$ 600,000
Trinidad	Main Street Patricks Point Dr. and Westhaven Pavement Rehabilitation	\$ 800,000
		\$ 10,712,000

The requests exceed the target available for projects by \$2,141,000.

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 2024 RTIP. One potential option to increase available funds is to program above the target. Anything programmed above the target would come out of future year’s shares.

**Project Priority**

Each RTIP must be based on the regional transportation plan (VROOM 2022) and a region wide assessment of transportation needs and deficiencies.

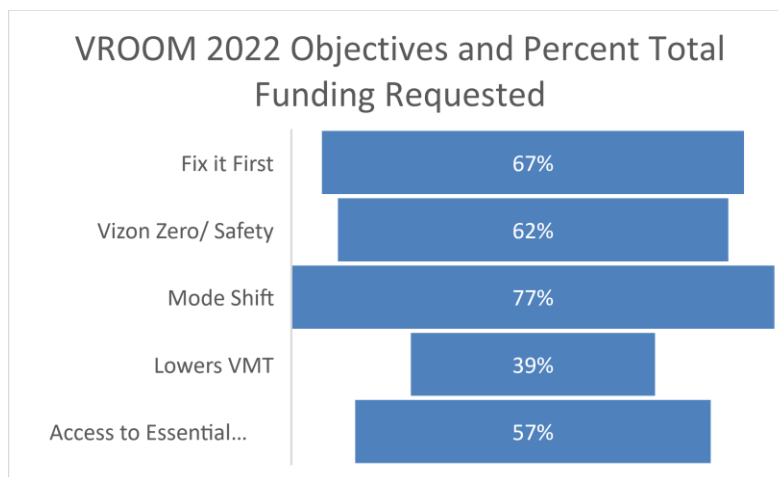
VROOM 2022 includes a list of regionally significant capital projects (presented in Table *Streets-4 Complete Steets Projects for Cities, County, Tribes, Short-Term & Long-Term*). This table is developed by collaborating with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Each TAC member submits a list of regionally significant projects within their jurisdiction that they would like to advance in the next 20 years. Short term (1-5 years) and long-term (5-20 years) projects that are constrained (known funding source) and unconstrained (unknown funding source) are included. Each entity indicates which objectives of the RTP the project supports.

The objectives include:

- Mode shift to active transportation;
- Lowering vehicle miles traveled (VMT) from cars and trucks;
- Access to essential destinations by walking, biking, and/or public transportation;
- Vision Zero, the goal to eliminate all traffic deaths and severe injuries; and/or
- Fix-It-First priority for keeping existing investments in a “state of good repair” over building new infrastructure.

VROOM 2022 states that *“Generally speaking, we expect that projects that will meet the most objectives/targets will be the top priorities.”*

The chart below summarizes the percent of the total funding requested that benefits each objective. For the purposes of this chart the entirety of the project funding request was used for calculating each objective. Because most projects benefit multiple objectives the total of all categories exceeds 100%.



Of the projects submitted, most are included in VROOM 2022. The exception is the rehabilitation project on Hubbard Lane submitted by the County. Although this project was not included in VROOM 2022 this project is consistent with the fix it first priority. To include this project in the RTIP, VROOM 2022 would need to be amended.

### **Safe and Sustainable Transportation Targets**

There is a Safe and Sustainable Transportation Target to:

- i) Increase by 10% by 2023, and by 25% by 2028, regional discretionary funding set aside for permanent infrastructure, pop-ups, pilots, or other projects for active transportation.

The STIP is the largest source of discretionary funding that HCAOG is responsible for programming. From 2008-2022 forty-three percent (43%) of STIP funds were spent on projects that included significant complete street improvements that supported active transportation. This round, 77% of the funds requested are for projects that benefit mode shift to active transportation.

It is more difficult to gather baseline data on prior STIP projects in terms of the dollar amount that was devoted to active transportation components of the project. For this round we requested this information as part of the project request package. A total of 45% of the funds requested would be directly used for the active transportation components of the projects.

### **Action Requested**

Staff requests that the TAC discuss and provide direction on which projects or portions of projects to include in the 2024 RTIP.