

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: March 25, 2020

**From:** MITCH WEISS, Executive Director

**Reference Number:** 4.10, Information

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**Subject: Hearing on the 2021 Active Transportation Program Guidelines**

## Summary:

The 2021 Active Transportation Program Guidelines (Guidelines) (included as Attachment B under Reference Number 4.11) describe the policy, standards, criteria, and procedures for the development, adoption, and management of the Active Transportation Program. The Guidelines address legislative requirements, incorporate input received from various stakeholders, and include the California Transportation Commission (Commission) procedures for programming and project delivery.

The Guidelines were prepared in consultation with the Active Transportation Program Workgroup, comprised of representatives from the California Department of Transportation (Department), regional transportation planning agencies, local agencies, and active transportation program stakeholders.

The Guidelines may be amended by the Commission after conducting at least one public hearing. This public hearing is conducted to receive final comments on the proposed Guidelines prior to Commission adoption.

Commission staff held eight public workshops throughout the state to solicit stakeholder input. The draft Guidelines were presented to the Commission at the January 29-30, 2020 meeting. Eleven additional workshops were held throughout the state to receive further stakeholder input.

Revisions to the draft Guidelines since the January 29-30, 2020 Commission meeting are based on stakeholder input received at the subsequent workshops. These revisions include the following:

- Added the Healthy Places Index as one of the core disadvantaged community qualifiers.
- In the scoring rubric for the large infrastructure applications, combined the “scope plan layout consistency” and “cost effectiveness” questions. The scoring rubric for the large, medium and small infrastructure applications took points from the “need” question and assigned them to the “scope plan layout consistency” question.
- Included a notification to 2023 Active Transportation Program applicants that points will be awarded to projects that are included in an adopted active transportation plan or similar plan.
- Clarifying language that addresses cost increases for Department implemented projects.
- Finalized draft language for Appendix D, Guidance for Quick-Build Projects in the Active Transportation Program (Pilot).

**Background:**

On September 26, 2013, the Governor signed legislation creating the Active Transportation Program (Senate Bill 99, Chapter 359 and Assembly Bill 101, Chapter 354). Senate Bill 1 (Chapter 2031, Statutes of 2017) directs additional funding from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account to the Active Transportation Program. Pursuant to statute, the purpose of the program is to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking. The goals of the Active Transportation Program are to:

- Increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking.
- Increase the safety and mobility for nonmotorized users.
- Advance the active transportation efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals as established pursuant to Senate Bill 375 (Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008) and Senate Bill 391 (Chapter 585, Statutes of 2009).
- Enhance public health, including reduction of childhood obesity through the use of programs including, but not limited to, projects eligible for Safe Routes to School Program funding.
- Ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program.
- Provide a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of active transportation users.