# Interagency Equity Efforts and Coordination Tab 17



#### October 21, 2020 Brigitte Driller, Commission Avital Barnea, California State Transportation Agency Jeanie Ward-Waller, Caltrans

### Commission – CalSTA – Caltrans Equity Coordination

- The Commission, CaISTA, and Caltrans are committed to working together to foster transportation equity, particularly for people of color and underserved communities in California.
- We remain dedicated to educating our workforces.
  - Staff from our three agencies, and other state transportation departments, are participating in the current cohort of the Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity (CCORE).
  - CCORE is a racial equity capacity-building program for California State employees that provides 50 hours of racial equity training over 15 months.
- We continue to build relationships with our stakeholders and the public.
  - Toward this effort, we are jointly developing a series of Community Listening Sessions for 2021.

# Commission: Staff Training and Development

- Racial Equity Training
  - All Commission staff participated in a training series on racial equity in July 2020.
- Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity
  - Commission staff are participating in the Capitol Collaborative on Race and Equity alongside other California State Transportation Agency departments.
- Internal Equity Working Group
  - Staff from all functional areas meet regularly to brainstorm how the Commission might further incorporate equity into our internal policies and practices.

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### Commission: Public Engagement Efforts



- Planning and Program Funding Guidelines
  - The Commission continues to incorporate public engagement guidance into its planning and program funding guidelines.
  - Current Senate Bill 1 Program Guidelines include a new section on Community Impacts, and applicants were asked to provide more detailed information on how stakeholder and resident feedback was incorporated into the project.
- Active Transportation Program (ATP) Engagement Summary
  - Commission staff is finalizing an assessment of engagement efforts in the ATP, and will provide an update to the Commission in March 2021.

### Commission: Equity Advisory Roundtable

- Feedback from Stakeholders
  - We received recommendations for over 150 individuals to participate.
  - Commission staff met with individuals from 20 organizations, including non-profits, regional agencies, and others.
- Next steps:
  - Staff is finalizing top candidates for Roundtable membership and will present membership recommendations for Commission approval at the December Commission Meeting.

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CaISTA: Statement on Racial Equity, Justice and Inclusion in Transportation



June 12, 2020

- "...Far too often, past transportation decisions quite literally put up barriers, divided communities, and amplified racial inequalities, particularly in our Black and Brown neighborhoods."
- "...CalSTA firmly embraces racial equity, inclusion and diversity. These values are foundational to achieving our vision of a cleaner, safer, more accessible and more connected future."
- "...We will be part of the solution. We will promote policies and programs that reflect principles of diversity, equity and inclusion, and will work with stakeholders to identify areas of improvement."

# CalSTA: Capitol Collaborative on Race & Equity



- The California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) team consists of 16 staff from:
  - CalSTA
  - California Highway Patrol
  - Caltrans
  - Department of Motor Vehicles

- High-Speed Rail Authority
- New Motor Vehicle Board
- Office of Traffic Safety

• The CaISTA and Commission team coordinators meet regularly to share information and collaborate on homework assignments.

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#### CalSTA: Addressing Discriminatory Names in Transportation Systems



- Joint effort with California Natural Resources Agency to identify and redress discriminatory names of features attached to State Parks and transportation systems (e.g. roads, bridges, tunnels, interchanges, rest areas, etc.).
- Caltrans will carry out a detailed review of all named assets located on the state transportation system.
- Caltrans and CalSTA will work with the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names to develop uniform criteria to use in identifying assets to be renamed or rescinded.

#### Caltrans: 2018-2019 GARE\* Participation





#### 2018 Learning Year

- HQ employees
- Formed internal workgroup, Caltrans Alliance for Race and Equity Solutions (CARES) team
- Started drafting Race & Equity Action Plan

#### **2019 Implementation**

- Expanded team to include district participation
- Executive presentations, including intro to Equity by Race Forward
- Adopted Race & Equity Action
  Plan December 2019

\*GARE = Government Alliance on Race & Equity Capitol Cohort, now referred to as Capitol Collaborative on Race & Equity (CCORE)

# Caltrans: Office of Race & Equity (CORE)



Established August 2020 to do the following:

- Develop and deliver training and communications on equity
- Improve planning, outreach, and engagement with Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)
- Policy and program review and development
- Native American Liaison and technical assistance for tribal governments

## Caltrans: Current Equity Activities



- Conducting internal trainings and facilitating discussions about equity
- 'Conversations on Equity' with Director Omishakin video series
- Initiating research on equity indicators and transportation history

## Caltrans: Current Equity Activities



Caltrans, the Commission, and CalSTA are partnering on Community Listening Sessions

- Engaging consultant contract to organize
- Sub-contract with community-based organizations
- Facilitate and draft reports on key findings
- Virtual format likely





#### **More Information**

www.catc.ca.gov

Email: ctc@catc.ca.gov





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