

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: August 14-15, 2025

From: TANISHA TAYLOR, Executive Director

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Subject: Active Transportation Resource Center and Active Transportation Program Symposium Update

Summary:

The California Department of Transportation will present to the California Transportation Commission (Commission) an overview of its Active Transportation Resource Center (ATRC) and an update on the 2025 Active Transportation Program Symposium.

Background:

The ATRC was created during the 2015 Active Transportation Program cycle and is fully funded by the Commission's Active Transportation Program. The goal of the ATRC is to provide support to applicants and recipients of the Active Transportation Program. The ATRC focuses their efforts on supporting agencies that are nominating projects that benefit disadvantaged and lower resourced communities. The ATRC utilizes a combination of subject matter experts from state agencies, universities, and consultants to provide technical assistance and training for infrastructure and non-infrastructure (education and encouragement programs) active transportation projects.

Commission staff are collaborating with the ATRC and the University of California, Davis Bicycling*Plus* Research Collaborative to develop the California Active Transportation Benefits Calculator Tool. This tool estimates expected benefits of active transportation projects, such as increases in walking and biking, reduction of bicycle and pedestrian crashes, and reduction of vehicle miles traveled and vehicle emissions. The 2023 Active Transportation Program Benefits Report used Phase 1 of the tool to determine benefits of the 2023 cycle's successful projects. Phase 2 is currently being developed and is expected to improve the tool's accuracy and usability, as well as incorporate the monetization of benefits.

The ATRC and the Commission will be co-hosting the 2025 Active Transportation Program Symposium on October 22-23, 2025, at the University of California, Davis. The Symposium is

a platform used to discuss and learn about current issues and share best practices relating to projects and activities that are eligible for the Active Transportation Program. This is the third symposium and will feature plenaries, workshops, and breakout sessions on topics such as climate and resiliency, impactful non-infrastructure programs, integrating emerging technologies, engaging youth and older adults, rural main streets, building complete bicycle networks, and making accessible pedestrian facilities. Several pre-symposium activities are planned on October 21, 2025, including an introductory course to planning and designing active transportation facilities, a Davis bicycle tour, a Davis walking tour, and a transit tour. Registration for the 2025 Active Transportation Symposium is currently open and will close on October 14, 2025.

The first symposium was held on October 29-30, 2019, in person, at The Ziggurat in West Sacramento. Panel discussion topics consisted of tools for safety measurements, benefits of active transportation, advancing equity and justice, transformative projects, and education and encouragement activities. A total of 181 stakeholders attended the 2019 Active Transportation Program Symposium in person, and 125 attendees participated via webcast. The 2021 Active Transportation Program Symposium was held virtually on October 26-28, 2021, with breakout sessions discussing community partnerships, implementing access to transit, bicycle and pedestrian safety, transforming mobility, and implementing quick, safe, and affordable solutions. Over 600 people registered to attend the second symposium, and an average of 250 people attended each session.