

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: January 29-30, 2026

From: TANISHA TAYLOR, Executive Director

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Subject: Innovations in Transportation: Caltrans Sustainable Pavement Program

Summary:

Ms. Tigi Thomas, Deputy Division Chief of Maintenance at the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), will present an overview of the Sustainable Pavement Program. The presentation will highlight how Caltrans is incorporating sustainability into pavement design, construction, and maintenance to improve long-term performance and advance statewide climate and resilience goals.

Background:

[Caltrans' Sustainable Pavement Program](#) promotes pavement practices that reduce environmental impacts while ensuring safe, durable, and long-lasting roadways. Implementing sustainability best practices requires a comprehensive approach that considers every stage of the pavement life cycle – from materials selection and production through construction, use, maintenance, preservation, and end-of-life recycling. Caltrans prioritizes the use of materials and practices that lower greenhouse gas emissions, conserve natural resources, and improve long-term pavement performance. Current efforts include pilot deployment of rubberized asphalt concrete, reclaimed asphalt pavement, and supplementary cementitious materials, along with expanded pavement condition monitoring to guide treatment selection. Caltrans also collaborates with research partners, including the University of California Pavement Research Center, to evaluate new materials and construction methods that enhance pavement resilience and reduce lifecycle emissions. These activities inform pavement management decisions, reduce maintenance backlogs, and extend asset life.