

# Trade Corridor Enhancement Program Cycle 3 Guidelines Development Workshop



Monday, January 31, 2022

# Agenda

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- Equity meeting re-cap
- CEQA/NEPA follow-up
- Nomination Form
- Target Methodology



# December Equity Meeting

# Recap - December 16 Equity Workshop

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## What we heard:

- Involve Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and community participation early in the process.
- Integrate equity in multiple places.
- Prioritize community visions before planning a project.
- Keep it simple.
- Add community support as a criterion.

# Recap – December 16 Equity Workshop

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## Challenges of incorporating equity include:

- Funding constraints to properly address the depth of issues.
- Localizing equity indicators within a region.
- Lack of historical data for rural or small communities.
- Inability to fund CBO participation.
- Obtaining political and general support.
- The suburbs and rural areas' inability to compete with urban areas.
- Duplication of efforts by multiple agencies in the same geographic area.



# CEQA/NEPA Follow-Up

# Completing Environmental

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What does it mean to “complete a project level environmental process” as required in the guidelines?

You must:

- Have filed your Notice of Determination
- Have had your board approve the environmental document

# Existing TCEP CEQA Language

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## Section 12 Eligible Components

Trade Corridor Enhancement Program funds may be used for any project component (project approval and environmental document; plans, specifications, and estimates; right-of-way; and construction), however, right of way and construction capital costs will only be programmed if the project has completed a project level environmental process in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), within six months of program adoption. If the project level environmental document is not filed within six months, the project will be deleted from the program.



# Existing TCEP NEPA Language

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## Section 23 Allocation Requests

As a matter of policy, the Commission will not allocate funds for plans, specifications, and estimate; right-of-way; or construction of a federally funded project prior to documentation of environmental clearance under the NEPA. Exceptions to this policy may be made in instances where federal law allows for the acquisition of right-of-way prior to completion of NEPA review.

# Clarifying Language

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## **12. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Requirements and National Environmental Policy Act**

**Design**, right of way, and construction capital costs will only be programmed if the project has completed a project level environmental process in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), at the time of program adoption.

If the project requires National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance, then design, right of way, and construction capital costs will only be programmed if the project has completed a project level environmental process in accordance with the NEPA, within six months of program adoption.

If these requirements are not met, the project will be deleted from the program.

# Changes to Existing Requirements

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- Keep the CEQA requirements the same (6-month deadline).
- Change the NEPA deadline to 6 months after program adoption.



# Questions



# Nomination Form

# MPO Letter Instructions

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MPOs must submit a letter signed by their Executive Director that includes the following information:

- A list of all project nominations received.
- Any priority they wish to assign.
- A confirmation that all projects are consistent with an adopted Regional Transportation Plan and if applicable, its Sustainable Communities Strategies and adopted regional freight plan. If there are any projects that are not consistent, the letter should also state that.

# General Submission Instructions

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- Submit by the deadline
- Submit electronically to: [TCEP@catc.ca.gov](mailto:TCEP@catc.ca.gov).
- Limit application to 35 pages not counting the attachments.
- Follow the lettering convention in the instructions.

# A. Cover Letter

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- A cover letter must be submitted with the application.
- The cover letter must be addressed to the California Transportation Commission's Executive Director.
- Clearly identify the nominating agency or agencies.
- Signature requirements



## B. Fact Sheet

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A one-page fact sheet describing the project scope, cost, schedule, and benefits (outputs/outcomes).

The fact sheet will be posted on the Commission's website and therefore must meet the latest state and federal web accessibility laws. Information about California website accessibility laws can be found here: <https://webstandards.ca.gov/accessibility/>

Example fact sheets should be available here: <https://catc.ca.gov/programs/sb1/trade-corridor-enhancement-program> in the "workshops" section.

# C. General Information

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- **Overview:** Include a brief, one to three paragraph, non-technical description of the project.
- **Map:** A map (or maps) of the project location
- **Priority:** Project priority (if submitting multiple nominations)
- **Scope:** A relatively brief (no longer than 2-3 paragraphs) description of the project scope, including a list of outputs for the project. Make sure the outputs included here match the outputs submitted in the Project Programming Request (PPR).
- **Independent Utility:** Projects must have independent utility. If proposing a project segment, discuss why the project is being segmented and why it has independent utility in no more than 2 paragraphs.
- **Consistency with RTP/SCS:** Confirm the proposed nomination is consistent with the current approved Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategies. This can be a single sentence.

# C. General Information (Continued)

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- **Nominating Agency/Implementing Agency Agreement:** If the project will be implemented by an agency other than the nominator, confirm that there is or will be a written agreement in place between the project nominator and implementing agency. This can be a single sentence stating this fact.

# D. Screening Criteria

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**Eligible Projects:** Explain how the project is consistent with the projects described in Section 11 (the eligible projects section) of the guidelines. To explain this, choose one or more of the types of eligible projects listed in section 11 of the guidelines and explain how the project fits under the category/categories selected. Either limit the discussion to one or two paragraphs or present the information in the form of a short table.

# E. Project Delivery

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You will be asked to provide information on the following:

- Delivery Method
- Contracts
- Schedule Risks
- Rail Company Coordination
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)/National Environmental Policy Act Status

# F. Evaluation Criteria

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- Performance Metrics
- Freight System Factors
  - Throughput
  - Velocity
  - Reliability
- Transportation System Factors
  - Safety
  - Congestion Reduction
  - Bottleneck Relief
  - Multi-Modal Strategy
  - Interregional Benefits
  - Advanced Technology
  - New – Zero-emission infrastructure

# F. Evaluation Criteria (continued)

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- Community Impact Factors
  - Air Quality
  - Economic Impact
  - New – equity
- Other
  - Addresses urgent needs
  - Leveraging funds
  - Project readiness
  - Commitment of multiple partners
  - Other

# G. Other Project Information Areas

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Applicants will be asked to provide information on the following (this language is still being finalized):

- **Accessibility** – Project improves access to jobs or key destinations, improves access for specific populations, or improves transportation options.
- **Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation** – Project identifies and includes project features or strategies to mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- **Protection of Natural and Working Lands, and Enhancement of the Built Environment** – Does the project minimize the impact on natural and working lands (e.g., forests, rangelands, farms, urban green spaces, wetlands, and soils) or incorporate natural and green infrastructure?
- **Public Health** - Project reduces exposure to criteria air pollutants and/or supports active modes of travel such as walking and bicycling.





# H. Funding and Deliverability

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- Funding table
- Make sure required match is clear
- Include total project cost

Phase	Fiscal Year of Allocation	Amount	Funding Source	Committed or Uncommitted

# H. Funding and Deliverability (cont.)

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- **Cost Overruns:** Describe the ability to absorb any cost overruns and deliver the proposed project with no additional funding from this program, except as noted in Section 22 of these guidelines.
- **Contracts:** If more than one contract is needed for the same phase, and as a result two separate allocations will be needed for the same phase, note that in this section.
- **Preconstruction Requests:** If proposing to fund only preconstruction project components, explain how future construction will be funded.
- **Federal Grants:** Identify any discretionary federal funds (a.k.a. grants) that have been committed as of the application due date. Proof of the commitment should be provided in the form of a letter or public announcement issued by the authorizing federal agency.
- **Ineligible Elements:** Identify any ineligible elements of a project and confirm that those ineligible elements will not be funded with Trade Corridor Enhancement Program funds.

# I. Other

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**Public/Private Benefits:** If the project includes significant benefits to private infrastructure or a private company, then please include the following analysis.

- Include a list of public benefits and a list of private benefits of the project. If there is overlap in some benefits that's ok but please be as specific as possible.
- Based on the total project cost, provide an estimate of what percent of the funds will directly benefit private infrastructure or a private company, and what percent will directly benefit the public.
- Explain who will own the asset once the project is completed.
- In light of the private benefits, explain why the public benefits of the project warrant the investment of public funds and why the share of public benefit is commensurate with the share of public funding.

# I. Other (continued)

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- **Interagency Cooperation:** For projects in the state highway system, evidence must be provided of cooperation between the nominating agency and Caltrans. This statement only needs to be a few sentences that explain your cooperation.
- **Bulk Coal:** Confirmation that any new terminal project will not have significant environmental impacts, as described in related environmental documents as a result of the storage, handling, or transport of coal in bulk pursuant to Government Code Section 14525.3. In evaluating each new terminal, if related environmental documents are not yet complete, the Commission shall base their review on written confirmation from the project applicant. This can be a single sentence statement.
- **Reversible Lanes:** Confirmation that any capacity-increasing project or a major street or highway lane realignment project was considered for reversible lanes pursuant to Streets and Highways Code Section 100.15. This does not need to be longer than a few sentences.



# Questions



# Target Methodology

# Cycle 3 Targets

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- Bay Area/Central Valley – 29% (2% increase)
- Central Coast – 2.5% (.5% increase)
- LA\_Inland – 56% (2% decrease)
- Other – 2.5% (.5% increase)
- San Diego – 10% (1% decrease)



Questions?



# Thank You

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## More Information

[www.catc.ca.gov](http://www.catc.ca.gov)

Email: [ctc@catc.ca.gov](mailto:ctc@catc.ca.gov)

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