Memorandum

To: EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS EAC Business Meeting:

October 15, 2025

From: STATE AGENCIES' EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

Reference Number: Tab 6, Information

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Subject: Interagency Updates

Summary

Interagency staff will share brief verbal updates about past and upcoming advisory opportunities for Committee members.

Background

The Interagency Equity Advisory Committee (Committee) was established in 2022 and is a priority for the California Transportation Commission (Commission), the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA). The Committee is intended to elevate diverse and historically marginalized voices to advise agencies on how to achieve meaningful outcomes in transportation equity, environmental justice, and equitable economic opportunities, especially as related to transportation planning and programming.

Interagency Updates

1) Application Period for the 2026 – 2028 Term of the Interagency Equity Advisory Committee Closes October 19, 2025

The Commission, Caltrans, and CalSTA opened the application period on September 8 for individuals interested in serving a two-year term as a member of the Committee. New terms begin in February 2026.

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Interested applicants must reside in California and meet one of the following criteria to be considered:

- Clearly demonstrate a history of equity-centered personal or professional experience or community leadership.
- Be actively engaged in transportation equity policy, programming, advocacy, or related fields such as health, air quality, climate, housing justice, or community and/or socioeconomic development.

The online application portal will close on Sunday, October 19, 2025, at 11:59 pm. Interested individuals can apply online at: https://forms.office.com/g/qJ4QktySmr.

Visit the Commission website to learn more about the Committee and its activities: catc.ca.gov/programs/interagency-equity-advisory-committee

2) 2026 Meeting Calendar

- March 4, 2026 Business Meeting, Sacramento
- May 13, 2026 Executive and Business Meeting, San Francisco Bay Area
- August 19, 2026 Business Meeting, San Diego
- October 8, 2026 Business Meeting, Redding
- December 2, 2026 Executive Meeting, Los Angeles

3) Advisory Opportunities

Since its official launch in March 2023, members of the Committee have supported and advised on numerous interagency initiatives outlined in the Committee Scope and Interagency Committee Work Plan. These efforts continue to shape programs, policies, and processes for the Commission, Caltrans, and CalSTA. The following reflects a summary of advisory work for each agency, including upcoming, in progress, and recently concluded opportunities.

Commission

Active Transportation Program Technical Advisory Committee

• The Active Transportation Program (ATP) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is an action-oriented body that supports the Commission's and Caltrans' management and delivery of the ATP. Its mission is to maximize the program's effectiveness in meeting statutory goals, which include increasing walking and biking trips, improving safety and mobility for non-motorized users, advancing greenhouse gas reduction goals, enhancing public health, and ensuring disadvantaged communities fully benefit from the program. At the October 15, 2025, Committee meeting, staff will bring forward a recommendation for a Committee representative to serve on the ATP TAC for a two-year term, with member selection delegated to staff.

Active Transportation Program Guidelines Briefings for Committee Members

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- The Active Transportation Program (ATP) has started updating the program Guidelines for the 2027 ATP, which will be Cycle 8 of the program. Commission staff will seek member advisory support via focused briefings to provide feedback on the guidelines. Briefings will occur in November 2025, and staff anticipate that members will be asked to commit 1-3 hours to this effort.
- Staff will share the opportunity with members via email in October 2025.

Vehicle Weight Safety Study Task Force

- The next meeting of the Vehicle Weight Safety Study Task Force will take place virtually on Wednesday, October 29th beginning at 11:00 am. Committee members and members of the public are welcome to attend. In response to the legislative requirements of Assembly Bill (AB) 251, which directs the Task Force to consider the costs and benefits of imposing a passenger vehicle weight fee, Commission staff and the University of California at Berkeley research team will present how a vehicle weight fee might impact consumer behavior, how revenues generated by a weight fee could be directed, how a passenger vehicle weight fee may change driver behavior, and other considerations for feedback from the Task Force and members of the public.
- After the Task Force finalizes its findings in November 2025, Commission staff will present an informational update to Committee members summarizing the Task Force findings at the December 2025 Committee Executive Meeting and solicit additional feedback from Committee members. Commission staff will engage with Committee members while drafting the Commission's report to the Legislature and will return to the Committee with the full draft in early 2026, with additional opportunities for Committee members to provide feedback.

Caltrans

Statewide Community Engagement Playbook

- The Statewide Community Engagement Playbook (Statewide Playbook) is an action item from the 2021 Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI). The Statewide Playbook will document best practices for Caltrans' planning and project development to support institutionalizing meaningful community engagement practices within the department. Based on the Statewide Playbook, Caltrans Districts will develop District-specific Community Engagement Playbooks to address the unique needs and organization of each District.
- The Community Engagement Policies and Practices Subcommittee received a
 presentation on the Statewide Playbook at the June 2025 subcommittee meeting and a
 presentation specifically focused on Chapter 4 of the Playbook: "How We Work
 Together" at the August 2025 subcommittee meeting. Chapter 4 covers recommended
 strategies and best practices for building working relationships, as well as platforms and
 methods for conducting engagement. Subcommittee members were asked to provide

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feedback that will inform the final version of the Statewide Playbook, anticipated for completion in the spring of 2026.

Caltrans staff anticipate returning to the full Committee in the spring of 2026 to review
the feedback received from Committee members and other external partners and
discuss what feedback was incorporated into the final Statewide Playbook.

Equity Index Use Case Development

- The Data Implementation Subcommittee received an introductory presentation on the Caltrans Equity Index (EQI) at the June 2025 subcommittee meeting and a technical presentation on the EQI at the August 2025 subcommittee meeting.
- Subcommittee members have been asked to inform the implementation of the EQI, including the development and review of both internal and external use cases. The EQI is expected to improve Caltrans' analysis of project impacts and improve project planning, development, and design. The tool can also be applied externally to planning and decision-making processes for other transportation agencies and community partners.
- Caltrans staff will return to the Data Implementation Subcommittee in November with opportunities to inform use case development. Collaboration with the subcommittee will continue into 2026.

Director's Policy on Public Transit

- The Transportation Planning and Program Guidance Subcommittee received a
 presentation at the August 2025 subcommittee meeting on the Director's Policy on
 Public Transit (Transit Policy). The subcommittee will receive a follow-up presentation at
 the November 2025 subcommittee meeting about opportunities to provide input on the
 Transit Policy Implementation Plan.
- The Transit Policy will provide high-level, long-range direction to Caltrans on transitrelated activities, including improvements to transit facilities on the State Highway System, enhanced state collaboration in transit planning, and modernization of transit data and technology.

Federal Transit Administration 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

• The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5310 – Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program is intended to improve the mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the transportation options available to meet this specialized transportation need. Caltrans released the FTA 5310 "Call for Projects" on June 30, 2025. Eligible projects include Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible vehicles, related support equipment, Operating Assistance, and Mobility Management funding.

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 Caltrans assembled a State Review Committee (SRC) consisting of advocates, users of 5310 services, and other interested parties to review the project applications. Caltrans extended an invitation to Committee members to participate in the SRC for the 2025 grant cycle. Five Committee members signed up to serve on the SRC. The scoring took place in late September.

CaISTA

Transit Transformation Task Force (TTTF, or Task Force)

Senate Bill (SB) 125 established and convened the Transit Transformation Task Force (TTTF, or Task Force) in 2024 to establish a structured, coordinated process for engagement of all parties to develop policy recommendations, grow transit ridership, and improve the transit experience for all users of those services. SB 125 requires CalSTA, in consultation with the Task Force, to prepare and submit a report of findings and policy recommendations to the Legislature. This report includes identifying where statutory changes would be needed to implement recommendations based on the Task Force's efforts, and the financial and technical feasibility of those recommendations.

The Task Force is finalizing draft recommendations after having met in August and September 2025. Their final report will be submitted to the Legislature at the end of October 2025. CalSTA staff hope to provide an update on the final report and recommendations at the Transportation Planning and Program Guidance Subcommittee in November 2025. Additional information on the Task Force, agendas, and related documents can be found here: SB 125 Transit Program CalSTA - https://calsta.ca.gov/subject-areas/sb125-transit-program.

4) September Meeting Recap

In addition to the Meeting Minutes found in Book Item 3, the Committee received a summary of the September 2025 Committee Business Meeting, found in Attachment A.

5) Crosswalk

Interagency staff continue to track member requested information, discussion items, and policy development activities, found in Attachment B.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: September 2025 Equity Advisory Committee Business Meeting Recap
- Attachment B: "Crosswalk": Member Requested Information, Discussion Items, and Policy Development Activities Update

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ATTACHMENT A

September 2025 Equity Advisory Committee Business Meeting Recap

The Committee gathered virtually with strong participation from members and agency leadership.

Opening remarks came from CalSTA Undersecretary James Hacker, CTC Chief Deputy Director Paul Golaszewski, and Caltrans Director Dina El-Tawansy, who emphasized their commitment to continuing equity work in partnership with the EAC. Chair Martha Armas-Kelly encouraged members to keep sharing local insights with agency leaders.

Land acknowledgments were shared by Vice Chair Ana Gonzalez, Members Keri Akemi-Hernandez and Randy Torres-Van Vleck, and Chair Armas-Kelly, who also recognized California Native American Day. The Committee also reflected on September as Deaf Awareness Month and Latino Heritage Month.

Major Milestone: Vision, Mission & Foundational Principles Adopted

One of the key outcomes of the meeting was the approval of the Committee's Vision, Mission, and Foundational Principles for Transportation Equity.

Members refined the draft statements to:

- Acknowledge historical harms, including incarceration, internment, and systemic disinvestment.
- Prioritize safety for all ages and abilities, with attention to shared mobility, zero-emission and clean energy, and responsible resource use.
- Support economic opportunity with proactive, adaptable approaches.
- Empower systemic change by linking equity to land use, housing, and community wellbeing.

With this approval, the Committee took an important step toward operationalizing a shared vision for equity across state transportation programs.

Subcommittee & Member Updates

Subcommittee chairs reported on summer work, including the Transit Transformation Task Force, Caltrans' Statewide Community Engagement Playbook, the Equity Index, and regional equity initiatives. Members shared updates on local transit access, wildfire resilience, housing affordability, and equity in infrastructure projects.

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Next Steps

- Staff will integrate visuals into the adopted Vision, Mission, and Foundational Principles.
 - o Visuals must be submitted by September 26, 2025.
 - o Final product will be presented in December 2025.
- CTC's Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) team will connect with EAC reviewers for optional debriefs.
- Subcommittees will continue meeting this fall to advise on planning, data, and engagement initiatives.
- Members are encouraged to keep sharing local perspectives to inform statewide efforts.

Apply Now: Join the Interagency Equity Advisory Committee

Applications are now open to serve on the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC). The deadline to apply is Sunday, October 19th.

The EAC advises Caltrans, CalSTA, and the California Transportation Commission on how to achieve meaningful outcomes in transportation equity, environmental justice, and equitable economic opportunities, especially in planning and funding programs.

Eligibility: Applicants must reside in California and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Demonstrate a history of equity-centered personal or professional experience, or community leadership.
- Be actively engaged in transportation equity policy, programming, advocacy, or related fields (e.g., health, air quality, climate, housing justice, or socio-economic development).

Apply here

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"Crosswalk": Member Requested Information, Discussion Items, and Policy Development Activities Update

| tem | Туре | Agency | | Date Introduced | Date Completed | Status | Notes |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---|----------------------------|
| 6B 1 Community Engagement Review | Advisory opportunity | стс | SMEs | March 2025 | Ongoing | Members supported the evaluation of the community engagement narrative sections of all | |
| | | | | | | 2025 SB 1 program funding applications. Awardees announced at the June 2025 CTC | |
| | | | | | | meeting. Participating members are offering program staff feedback on the process via 1:1 | |
| | | | | | | briefings. Members will be asked to support | |
| | | | | | | upcoming SB 1 guidelines update process, and a presentation will be offered in Fall 2025. | |
| CAPTI 2.0 | Advisory opportunity | CalSTA | Subcommittee | March 2025 | | Members provided recommendations for | |
| | | | | | | updates to CAPTI 2.0 in 2024. Ongoing status updates will be provided by staff. | |
| Fransit Transformation Task Force | Advisory opportunity | CalSTA | Subcommittee | March 2025 | June 2025 | Members received a presentation at the Transportation Planning and Program Guidance | |
| | | | | | | (TPPG) Subcommittee meeting in June 2025. | |
| FTA 5310 - Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and People with Disabilities Program | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | SMEs | March 2025 | | 5 members served on the State Review Committee to support the assessment of funding applications. | |
| Caltrans Director's Policy on External Engagement | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | Subcommittee | March 2025 | | Engagement planned with the Community | |
| | | | | | | Engagement Policies and Practices Subcommittee for 2026. | |
| Caltrans Statewide Community Engagement Playbook | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | Subcommittee | March 2025 | | Informational presentation provided at the May 2025 Committee meeting. Engagement is | |
| | | | | | | underway with the Community Engagement Policies and Practices Subcommittee. | |
| | | | | | | Presentation and discussion held during the June and August 2025 subcommittee meetings. | |
| | | | | | | Engagement will continue into 2026. | |
| Caltrans Director's Policy on Public Transit | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | Subcommittee | March 2025 | | Presentation on the Director's Transit Policy was provided to the Transportation Planning and | |
| | | | | | | Program Guidance Subcommittee in August 2025. A discussion is planned with the | |
| | | | | | | subcommittee members in November to provide input on the implementation plan for the policy. | |
| State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) | Advisory opportunity | стс | SMEs | March 2025 | June 2025 | Members were invited to participate in staff | |
| | | | | | | briefings and provide recommendations to guidelines in Spring 2025. A glossary of terms | |
| Equity Index (EQI) Use Case Development | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | Subcommittee | March 2025 | | was added based on recommendations. Engagement is underway with the Data | |
| | | | | | | Implementation Subcommittee. Presentation and discussion on the tool was provided at the | |
| | | | | | | June and August 2025 subcommittee meetings. The EQI team will return to the subcommittee in | |
| | | | | | | November and engagement will continue into 2026. | |
| Caltrans People and Community First Action Plan | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | Subcommittee | March 2025 | | The People and Community First Action Plan will be presented at the December 2025 meeting. | |
| Caltrans District EAC Framework | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | Subcommittee | March 2025 | | Engagement will begin in 2026 under the Caltrans Equity and Engagement Policy Advisor. | |
| California Transportation Plan | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | Subcommittee | | | Engagement is planned with the Transportation Planning and Program Guidance Subcommittee. | |
| Mission and Vision Statement | Advisory opportunity | Interagency | SMEs | March 2025 | | Draft written statement was approved by | |
| | | | | | | Committee at the September 2025 meeting. | |
| AB 744 | Advisory opportunity | стс | Subcommittee | July 2025 | August 2025 | Members received an informational | |
| | | стс | Subcommittee | | August 2025 | presentation and timeline update at August 2025 Data Implementation (DI) Subcommittee | |
| Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan | Advisory opportunity | CIC | Subcommittee | July 2025 | August 2025 | Members received an informational presentation and timeline update at the | |
| | | | | | | Transportation Planning and Program Guidance (TPPG) Subcommittee meeting in August 2025. | |
| IJA Reauthorization | Informational presentation | CalSTA | Informational presentation | March 2025 | | Ongoing updates from staff | Ongoing |
| Port and Freight Infrastructure | Informational presentation | CalSTA | Informational presentation | March 2025 | | Scheduled for December 2025 | |
| Othering and Belonging Institute | Informational presentation | n/a | Informational presentation | March 2025 | | Potential informational presentation | Outside of Commit |
| CARB EJAC | Informational presentation | n/a | Other | March 2025 | | Potential reception (post-EAC meeting) | Outside of Commit Scope |
| CPUC DACAG | Informational presentation | n/a | Other | March 2025 | | Potential reception (post-EAC meeting) | Outside of Commit Scope |
| Walkability and accessibility | Member request | Interagency | Other | March 2025 | | Included as a priority in the Mission & Vision statement, Caltrans EQI, SB 1, FTA 5310, SB | |
| Fransportation funding and federal updates | Member request | CalSTA | Informational | March 2025 | | 1121, Caltrans Community Engagement Playbook. Ongoing updates provided by staff. | |
| Transportation funding and federal updates Comprehensive roadmap of transportation planning | Member request Member request | CalSTA | presentation Other | March 2025 March 2024 | March 2025 | Ongoing updates provided by staff. Information shared during member briefings at | |
| comprenensive roadmap of transportation planning documents and timelines. | member request | calcians | Care | | | the start of the year. Document included in member reference materials from Caltrans. | |
| California Master Plan for Aging | Member request | CalSTA | Informational presentation | March 2025 | | CalSTA staff are coordinating with the California Department of Aging for an informational | |
| | | | | | | presention to full EAC in Dec 2025. | |
| Safety | Member request | CalSTA | Other | March 2025 | | Safe Systems approach included in Mission & Vision statement. Possible future presentation | |
| Climate resiliency | Member request | CalSTA | Other | March 2025 | | from CaISTA. Included as a priority in the Mission & Vision, Caltrans EQI. SB 1. FTA 5310. SB 1121. Caltrans | |
| High Speed Rail Update | Member request | n/a | Informational | March 2024 | October 2024 | Caltrans EQI, SB 1, FTA 5310, SB 1121, Caltrans Community Engagement Playbook. External presentation provided to the | Outside of Commit |
| State funding / bill updates | Member request | Caltrans | presentation Informational | March 2025 | | Committee at the October 2024 meeting. Scheduled for October 2025. | Scope |
| Air quality and transportation (incl. mitigation for air | Member request | Caltrans | presentation Informational | July 2025 | | Exploring possibility of an informational | |
| quality impacts from construction) | | | presentation | | | presentation. | |
| Rail electrification | Member request | стс | Informational presentation | | June 2025 | Presented at the June 2025 CTC Meeting. Upcoming CTC staff briefing planned with | CTC SB1 funding for |
| Complete Streets | Member request | Caltrans | Informational | March 2025 | 1 | Committee Vice Chair. Presenting at October 2025 Committee meeting. | |
| AB 52 (Aguiar-Curry, 2025) | Member request | n/a | presentation Other | March 2025 | 1 | Exploring possibility of a briefing. | Outside of Commit |
| DEI Changes in Transportation | Member request | CalSTA | Informational | March 2025 | | Ongoing updates provided by staff. | scope |
| Needs Assessment | Member request | стс | presentation Subcommittee | March 2025 | May 2025 | Staff included Committee member | Specific to accessil |
| | | | | | | recommendations in the report to the Legislature. | transporation sect |
| California Freight Mobility Plan | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | Committee | August 2025 | | Presentation planned for the October 2025 | |
| California Freight Mobility Plan | Advisory opportunity | Caltrans | Committee | August 2025 December 2025 | | Presentation planned for the October 2025 Committee meeting. Enagement will continue into 2026. Staff will share Task Force findings in December | |