



California Transportation Commission

Contact: Laurel Goddard, Public Information Officer
Office: (916) 654-2915
Cell: (916) 203-1512
Laurel.Goddard@catc.ca.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

California Transportation Commission Dedicates Over \$17 Billion for State Highway 'Fix-It-First' Projects

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Today at its regularly scheduled meeting, the California Transportation Commission approved \$17.4 billion for nearly 900 projects contained in the 2020 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP). The SHOPP is a four-year, "fix-it-first" program that funds repair and preservation projects, safety improvements, and some operational improvements on the state highway system.

"The projects in the SHOPP will make roads and bridges safer for California drivers," said Commission Chair Paul Van Konynenburg. "And they will save drivers money by fixing the potholes that can damage vehicles. The Commission recognizes the critical importance of these projects for fulfilling the promises made to Californians to fix their roads, and also for the state's economy and its workforce as the state heads into a recession."

The SHOPP is funded by a mixture of federal and state funds, including the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account created by Senate Bill 1 (Beall, 2017). This legislation requires the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to meet certain performance outcomes by 2027, including that 98% of the pavement on the state highway system be in good or fair condition and that at least an additional 500 highway bridges get fixed. About two thirds of the 2020 SHOPP projects are for pavement and bridges, with the remaining addressing safety, storm damages, and other infrastructure needs on the state highway system.

The Commission's action comes at a time when the state faces serious financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, including an expected drop in gasoline tax revenues due to less driving. The Commission will, in the months to come, be working with Caltrans to estimate the impact reduced revenues will have on its ability to fund all of the projects in the four-year SHOPP. The Commission's priority will be to keep as many projects on schedule as possible, and doing work earlier than planned when possible, to take advantage of the reduced traffic on our roads, provide jobs when we are seeing record levels of unemployment, and provide much needed stimulus to our state's economy.

By continuously repairing and rehabilitating the state's highways, the SHOPP protects the enormous investment that California has made over many decades to create the approximately 50,000 lane-mile system. The system includes state-owned roads, highways (including the interstate system), and bridges, as well as supporting

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infrastructure, such as drainage pipes, ramp meters, safety roadside rest areas, and maintenance stations.

The state system also includes bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, such as sidewalks, on certain portions, like on state-owned roads that run through local communities. At today's meeting, the Commission expressed its support for funding such "complete streets" projects in the SHOPP. The 2020 SHOPP adopted by the Commission includes a \$42 million reservation for complete streets projects, with an expectation that Caltrans will provide changes for Commission approval that increase this reservation to \$100 million at the next Commission meeting on June 24.

For more information on the SHOPP, visit <https://catc.ca.gov/programs/state-highway-operation-and-protection-program>.

The Commission conducted the meeting today via a public teleconference in accordance with Governor Newsom's March 17, 2020 Executive Order N-29-20 addressing the conduct of public meetings during periods when public health officials have imposed or recommended social distancing measures.

The California Transportation Commission is an independent public agency responsible for programming and allocating state and federal transportation funds used in the construction of highway, intercity passenger rail, active transportation, transit, and aeronautic improvements throughout California.

For more information, visit the Commission's website at www.catc.ca.gov. Follow the Commission on Twitter at @California_CTC and Facebook at www.facebook.com/CATransportationCommission.

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