

Background Information:

Consent Calendar:

2. **Approval of the May 2, 2018 Meeting Minutes.**
3. **Review Caltrans Sustainable Communities Transportation Planning Grant Awards for the Tuolumne Active Transportation Plan and the Promoting Safe Bicycle Travel Opportunities for Bicycle Tourism and Economic Development Plan.**

Caltrans has selected the Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC) for two Sustainable Communities transportation planning grant awards for the 2018-2019 cycle: Tuolumne Active Transportation Plan and Promoting Safe Bicycle Travel Opportunities for Bicycle Tourism and Economic Development Plan. In January 2018, Caltrans made a call for projects for the annual transportation planning grants program. Caltrans received 154 applications for a total of \$42 million and only \$21 million was approved by Caltrans with a total of 77 transportation planning grants awards for year 2018-2019. This cycle saw an increase in funding with the inclusion of additional \$12.5 million in SB 1 dollars funding the transportation planning grants program. As part of the Tuolumne Active Transportation Plan.

There are two programs that applicants may apply for, Strategic Partnerships, which is intended to fund transportation and/or transit planning studies of interregional and statewide significance, in partnership with Caltrans. The other program is the Sustainable Communities which funds studies of multi-modal transportation issues having statewide, interregional, regional or local significance to assist in achieving the Caltrans mission.

Tuolumne Active Transportation Plan

The Tuolumne Active Transportation Plan will be a comprehensive update of the last non-motorized transportation plan adopted in 2004. The Tuolumne Active Transportation (AT) Plan will build upon previous trail and active transportation planning efforts over the years including Tuolumne County Trails Plan, Columbia Circulation Plan, Summerville Trail Plan, Groveland Active Transportation Plan and other planning efforts. The California Transportation Commission has stated for future grant cycles applications submitted in the Active Transportation Program will need to be included in an Active Transportation Plan which is consistent with SB 99. A primary goal of this grant is to increase active transportation infrastructure improvements countywide. Some of the primary objectives for the AT Plan include:

- Increase pedestrian and bicycle trips.
- Reduce Traffic Congestion, Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG's), and Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT'S).
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle safety.
- Implement Complete Streets along local roads and State highways.
- Plan for a regional trail network throughout Tuolumne County.
- Eliminate large gaps in the pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

- Provide opportunities for stakeholders and the community to shape future transportation decisions.
- Identify critical short term improvements and long term active transportation improvements.
- Identify and study new local transportation fees to help pay for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

Promoting Safe Bicycle Travel Opportunities for Bicycle Tourism and Economic Development Plan.

The TCTC collaborated with four neighboring regional transportation planning agencies, Calaveras Council of Governments (CCOG), San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG), Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG), and Alpine County LTC (ACLTC), in partnership with the California Bicycle Coalition Education Fund (CBC) to produce an interregional bicycle plan which will promote safe multimodal travel in our region, and improve and promote bicycle tourism for economic development with an emphasis on improving disadvantaged, low income Rural Communities and Small Cities.

We will identify and analyze priority bicycle routes for enhancing bicycle tourism along rural and scenic state highways and local roads, with an eye to improving travel conditions for all modes. We will deliver a final report and list of recommendations for priority improvements based on a planning process that includes community outreach to diverse area residents, including business and property owners, travel bureaus, local policy makers, bike shops and bicycle clubs, and other stakeholders. We will also identify strategies for promoting the region's bicycle tourism opportunities and encouraging economic development around tourism.

- Create comprehensive plan for improving bicycle tourism opportunities in these five counties, focusing on scenic and rural state highways and local roads.
- Focus on improving and benefiting disadvantaged, low income Rural Communities and Small Cities and focus on the rural and scenic roads that connect communities.
- Identify opportunities for infrastructure improvements, such as shoulder widening, rumble strip installation, sight visibility improvements, and signage, to benefit all road users—including bicycle tourists as well as local residents.
- Promote bicycle tourism as a tool to improve local economic development in Alpine, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne Counties.
- Increase bicycling and walking among residents of these five counties.
- Promote multimodal safety and expanded travel options for area residents.
- Reduce rates of injury and fatality from traffic collisions.
- Improve public health by increasing rates of active transportation, leading to lower rates of obesity and overweight as well as the diseases of inactivity (diabetes and cardiovascular disease).
- Improve air quality and Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions increased bicycling and walking and reduced VMT.

Attachments:

1. *Notice of Proposed Awards for 2018-2019 – Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants*
2. *Active Transportation Plan – Grant Application*
3. *Safe Bicycle Tourism Plan – Grant Application*
4. *Caltrans Grant Award Letter – 5.11.18 – Active Transportation Plan*
5. *Caltrans Grant Award Letter – 5.11.18 – Safe Bicycle Tourism Plan*
6. *Tuolumne Active Transportation Plan Boundary Area Map*

Recommended Action:

Review Caltrans Sustainable Communities Transportation Planning Grant Awards for the Tuolumne Active Transportation Plan and the Promoting Safe Bicycle Travel Opportunities for Bicycle Tourism and Economic Development Plan.

Regular Agenda:

4. **Enter into Collection Agreement with the United States Forest Service for twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to construct the Sonora Community Trail**

This agreement is for the construction of the Sonora Community Trail located at the Library Complex on Greenley Road. This project was previously approved by the Transportation Council and the Board of Supervisors. The funding came through the Sonora Area Foundation.

The Forest Service Trail team has brandished its credentials on projects such as the Dragoon Gulch trail in the City of Sonora. This very popular trail has received many positive reviews by locals and visitors alike. The Forest Service has a Sweco, which is a small trail construction specific tractor that helps the agency keep costs down and create natural surface trails that are attractive and fun.

TCTC staff will work closely with the Forest Service during the construction of the trail to protect and maximize the budget and keep the project on scope.

Legal Counsel has reviewed the document and suggested modifications have been incorporated into the document.

Attachment:

Forest Service Collection Agreement

Recommendation:

Enter into Collection Agreement with the Forest Service to construct the Sonora Community Trail, not to exceed \$25,000 dollars

5. Recommend Approval of a Letter of Support for Caltrans District 10's Active Transportation Program Grant Application for the Groveland Pedestrian and Bike Improvement Project.

The California Transportation Commission announced a call for projects for the Active Transportation Program on May 17th. The deadline to submit projects is by July 31st. This letter of support will help strengthen Caltrans District 10's Active Transportation Program (ATP) Grant Application for the Groveland Pedestrian and Bike Improvement Project.

In early 2017, Caltrans District 10 staff reached out to Tuolumne County and to the Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC) to partner and potentially be the lead agency for the Groveland ATP project. Tuolumne County staff has submitted grant applications for the Groveland ATP Project in two previous Active Transportation Program (ATP) cycles. Caltrans District 10 has the resources to make this application more competitive for the required outreach and preliminary design updates. Tuolumne County staff supported Caltrans District 10 to become the lead agency for this project. This is the first cycle where Caltrans Districts will be submitting ATP grant applications.

The Groveland ATP Project will close several critical gaps of missing infrastructure in the pedestrian and bicycling network for the Groveland community. Some of these missing gaps include sidewalk improvements along Ferretti Road from the Two Pizza Guys Pizza Pies to the intersection of Ferretti and SR 120. Caltrans will be constructed Class II bicycle lanes from Downtown Groveland to Tenaya Elementary School. These new improvements will help students, tourists, and local residents complete bicycle and walking trips from downtown Groveland to Tenaya Elementary School, Pine Mountain Lake subdivision, and Mary Laveroni Park. The cost of the project is estimated at approximately \$2,260,000.

As part of the public outreach, Caltrans held a stakeholders meeting with the TCTC, Tuolumne County, and Big Oak Flat School District. Caltrans also held a public workshop held on October 23rd 2017 at the Groveland Community Hall and presented conceptual designs and a summary of the updated Groveland ATP project at. Public input was received and the community expressed support for the improvements proposed by Caltrans. The TCTC also send comments on how to improve the project and Caltrans incorporated some of these recommendations.

As part of the strong local support and partnership for this project, Tuolumne County is contributing a local funding cash match of \$180,000 for this project. The Groveland Lightning District is supportive of the project. If any new light poles are purchased as part of the project, the Groveland Lighting District agreed to maintain these light poles that are within the District boundaries. The Big-Oak Flat/Groveland Unified School District has expressed support for the project since it will help improve safety for students walking and bicycling to Tenaya Elementary School.

The Groveland Pedestrian and Bike ATP Project has local support in Groveland and is a high priority for the Tuolumne County region. We believe Caltrans District 10 strategic selection of this project; early public outreach, early local agency coordination, and incorporation of public comments into the project could be used as case study for how other Caltrans districts should approach the ATP project selection and outreach.

Attachments:

1. TCTC – Letter of Support – 6.13.18
2. Groveland Pedestrian & Bike Improvement - Project Description & Maps

Recommended Action:

Recommend Approval of a Letter of Support for Caltrans District 10's Active Transportation Program Application Grant for the Groveland Pedestrian and Bike Improvement Project

6. Reports