



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: October 10, 2013
District: 9 – Inyo, Mono & Eastern Kern Counties
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

\$359 MILLION IN NEW FUNDING WILL UPGRADE STATE'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND PAVE WAY FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

Bay Area gets \$140 million from high-speed rail bond

BISHOP – The California Transportation Commission (CTC) allocated \$359 million to 36 projects, an investment that will create jobs bolstering the state's economy, reduce traffic congestion, repair highways and bridges, and improve rail service.

"These projects allow millions of dollars to flow into construction and produce enormous economic benefits for California," said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty.

Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) received \$140 million from Proposition 1A, the high-speed rail bond, to purchase 46 new rail cars that will provide new service from the BART/Caltrain Millbrae Station directly to San Francisco International Airport.

The Millbrae facility is one of several key regional connectivity points California's High-Speed Rail Authority has identified that will link BART and high-speed rail, creating a "blended" rail system. To handle additional transferring of passengers at Millbrae from the blended system longer trains will be needed. The \$140 million will help pay to lengthen all three rail storage tracks at the south end of the station, enabling the facility to handle BART's maximum train length of 10 cars and make it possible to run longer trains from the East Bay to the airport.

Today's allocations also included \$44 million from Proposition 1B, a 2006 voter-approved transportation bond. To date, nearly \$17 billion in Proposition 1B funds have been put to work statewide for transportation purposes. The remaining \$175 million in allocations today came from various state and federal transportation accounts.

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Other highlights of the CTC funding allocations include:

\$6,200,000 was allocated for the west Ridgecrest Boulevard four-lane project. The location is in Ridgecrest, on West Ridgecrest Boulevard, from Mahan Street to China Lake Boulevard. The project will rehabilitate 5,400 feet of roadway, realign the roadway to correct geometric deficiencies and provide 7,200 feet of shoulder widening to enhance pedestrian and vehicular safety.

\$1,500,000 was allocated for the Challenger Drive Extension Project. In Tehachapi, on Challenger Drive from its current eastern edge to Dennison Road. The project will improve local traffic circulation and provide direct access to medical facilities from the northern portion of the city.

\$200,000 was allocated to Inyo County Local Transportation Commission for Planning, Programming and Monitoring.

For information about all projects that received allocations today please see the attached file.

