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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ADOPTS 148 BIKING AND WALKING PROJECTS IN NEW ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Commission also allocates \$706 million to repair highways and bridges, improve road safety and reduce congestion

LOS ANGELES – The California Transportation Commission (CTC) today adopted 148 biking and walking projects, collectively valued at more than \$430 million, in the state's 2014 Active Transportation Program (ATP), making it the nation's largest. The CTC will allocate nearly \$221 million to the projects at its future meetings.

"We started the Active Transportation Program to establish California as a national leader in developing bike and pedestrian facilities," said California State Transportation Agency Secretary Brian Kelly. "This program adopted today is the nation's largest state commitment to bicycling, walking and other forms of active transportation. This program will increase transportation options for all Californians while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving public health and safety."

"Today's transportation system is more than just highways," said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. "Our Active Transportation Program supports a healthy, active lifestyle that also helps achieve California's safety, mobility and greenhouse gas reduction goals."

Last year, Governor Brown signed legislation ([Senate Bill 99, Chapter 359](#) and [Assembly Bill 101, Chapter 354](#)) creating the ATP. The new program replaced a patchwork of small grant programs with a comprehensive program. Here are some of the significant projects adopted under the new active transportation program:

Palmdale

Avenue R Complete Streets and Safe Routes to School Project - \$5.3 million
Will complete gaps in sidewalk paths, add high visibility crosswalks and bus turnouts, and Class II bike lanes.

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Active Transportation Program Plan - \$595,000

Will form a planning framework in which non-motorized transportation projects can be identified, prioritized, and funded in the future.

Carson

Active Transportation Plan - \$1.48 million

Will fund pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to parks, schools, employment areas, and transit. Also, public education programs will be initiated so travelers will understand how to properly use the new facilities safely and encourage all residents, workers and students to use active modes of transportation for daily trips.

Compton

Wilmington Avenue Safe Streets Pedestrian/Bike Improvements - \$996,000

Will construct pedestrian safety improvements such as high visibility crosswalks, sidewalks and enhanced pedestrian signals and lighting along with bike lanes for improved bicycle visibility and safety.

[Click here](#) to view a list of all 148 adopted ATP projects. Detailed information about the ATP can be found on [Caltrans' website](#). The adopted projects comprise two components: the Statewide Program (\$183.8 million for 126 projects) and the Small Urban/Rural Program (\$37.3 million for 22 projects). Nearly 87 percent (\$191.5 million) of the funds for these components are directed at 130 projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.

“Making it easier and more convenient to walk and bike is a direct investment in our health,” said Mary D. Nichols, Chairman of the California Air Resources Board. “This funding will help cities and counties throughout California take steps to fight air pollution and reduce greenhouse gases.”

Caltrans received approximately 770 applications from cities and counties across California, totaling nearly \$1 billion in project requests, an excess in demand of three-to-one. California’s nine largest Metropolitan Planning Organizations (Bay Area, Fresno, Sacramento, San Diego, Southern California, San Jose, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Kern) are still eligible to recommend projects to the CTC on an additional \$147 million in active transportation funds designated specifically to their regions based on population. The CTC will adopt projects submitted by MPOs in November.

Continuing the drive to rebuild California’s transportation infrastructure, the Commission also allocated nearly \$706 million in funding to 125 transportation projects that will improve and maintain the state’s vital transportation system. More than \$552 million of the funding will pay for “fix it first” projects that will repair bumpy pavement, preserve roads in good condition to prevent them from deteriorating, upgrade aging bridges and make roads safer for all.

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“To get the most bang for the buck for taxpayers, Caltrans targets dollars where they are most effective - pavement preservation,” said Dougherty. “Every \$1 spent on preventive pavement maintenance saves Californians \$8 that would have been spent on expensive pavement repairs.”

The allocations also include nearly \$21 million from Proposition 1B, a transportation bond approved by voters in 2006. To date, more than \$17 billion in Proposition 1B funds have been put to work statewide for transportation purposes.

Here are some of the significant projects that will improve and/or preserve California’s valuable investments in its transportation system that received allocations:

Ventura County Sealed Corridor Grade Crossing Improvement Project

\$7.4 million

This project will improve grade crossings on the Ventura Subdivision in Simi Valley. The crossings will be brought up to Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Metrolink) sealed corridor engineering standards.

Pinon Hills

\$16.9 million

State Route 138 - Improve safety and reduce the number and severity of collisions by constructing passing lanes, widening shoulders, and build median barrier.

Carson

\$5.1 million

Interstate 405 Carson Weigh Station

Rehabilitate and upgrade commercial vehicle enforcement facility by rehabilitating access lanes and parking pavement, constructing replacement building, and installing traffic control lights, changeable message signs, weigh-in-motion scales, and other enforcement equipment.

Please see the attached file for more information about all projects that received allocations at today’s Commission meeting.

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