Caltrans Releases the Spring Issue of:
The Mile Marker, A Caltrans Performance Report

Caltrans has released the third issue of The Mile Marker, a periodic reporting of areas where the department is excelling and where further improvement is needed.

“As a government department that touches the lives of nearly everyone in the state every day, it is incumbent on us to provide factual information in a narrative that is easily understandable,” Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty wrote in the report’s welcome letter.

The Mile Marker is one of Caltrans’ steps to improve its transparency and accountability by making the department’s work more accessible and understandable to the public. Its intention is also to quantify and measure the department’s performance – what’s working, what’s not and what could be improved – based on consistent markers.

The Mile Marker features an at-a-glance chart showing the department’s progress from the previous report, where it’s reaching its goals and where it needs to improve.

The Mile Marker is distributed to the Legislature, local government agencies and transportation professionals statewide and around the country.

Caltrans also releases 23 statutorily required reports on a periodic basis on subjects including project delivery, finance, fish passage, state rail and highway maintenance.

Copies of this issue of The Mile Marker are available at:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/ctjournal/MileMarker/2015-1/index.html (online)

Copies of the 23 statutorily required reports are located at:
Report Highlights Caltrans’ Commitment to Improve Travel for Non-Motorized Users

Caltrans’ jump into the nation’s top ten bicycle-friendly states and the creation of the nation’s largest active transportation program are just a few of the achievements highlighted in Caltrans’ annual Non-Motorized Transportation Facilities Report.

The report is an in-depth look at Caltrans’ successes that emphasize the department’s mission to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California’s economy and livability.

“California has always been a transportation leader, and this report reinforces that hard-earned reputation,” said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. “Transportation is a vital part of our daily lives, and increasing the diversity of travel options is something the public wants. We are committed to making walking and biking safer.”

The report provides an overview on the state’s Active Transportation Program (ATP), the largest of its kind in the nation. In its first call for projects in May 2014, Caltrans received 771 project applications requesting more than a billion dollars. The California Transportation Commission has adopted the first program of projects for the ATP, which includes 265 projects using $368 million in ATP funds. Of this amount, $311 million is dedicated to 220 projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.

The report also highlights program activities and completed projects, as well as other state and federal partnering programs to establish and improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Among the completed projects highlighted in the report is the Oak Manor Trail in the city of Ukiah. The project improved cross-town connection to schools, shopping centers and employments centers. It also gave pedestrians and cyclists a new off-street travel alternative.

Southern California saw its first “Bicycle Boulevard” in the city of Pasadena—an area with a high concentration of cyclists. The project improved bicycle safety and advanced the vision of commuting in Pasadena without a car.

“Caltrans’ has historically been known as a highways agency, but we are shifting our focus to creating a California transportation system that links communities and is safe for all travelers, including those who choose to travel by biking and walking,” said Dougherty. “We couldn’t accomplish this without our partners at all levels, from the federal government to grassroots organizations and the public.”

The state’s jump in 2014 from 19th to 9th in the nation in The League of American Bicyclists annual report is due to notable progress in legislation, funding and policy that will make it easier to build bike lanes and mandate drivers to give cyclists three-feet of space when they pass.

Also, as part of its effort to streamline construction of multimodal local streets and roads, in April 2014, Caltrans became the third state to endorse National Association of City Transportation Officials guidelines that include innovations such as buffered bike lanes and improved pedestrian walkways.

Caltrans also released its 2010–12 California Household Travel Survey Final Report that showed residents used walking, biking, transit and other non-motorized sources for 23 percent of trips. That was more than double the amount in the 2000 survey. This underscores the rising demand for non-motorized transportation.
May is National Bike Month!

May is National Bike Month! Sponsored by the League of American Bicyclists, this event is celebrated in communities from coast to coast. Established in 1956, National Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling — and encourage more folks to give biking a try.

As a national sponsor, the League provides resources to help plan events and each year the number and diversity of Bike Month celebrations continues to grow, accelerating the momentum around bicycling nationwide.

Bike to Work Day
This year, Bike to Work Day will be observed on May 21, 2015. Most trips Americans make are short: 50 percent are less than three miles, 40 percent are less than two miles, and 28 percent are less than one mile. These distances are ideal for beginning commuters. Bike to Work Day happens throughout California with a diversity of special events and competitions. In Fresno, Caltrans District 6 participates in the Bike to Work Corporate Challenge which is sponsored by iBikeFresno.org. The event is participated by local agencies and businesses within Fresno. District 6 has had a large amount of riders compete in this annual event and has placed first in the large corporation category a number of times. Other fun rides are organized throughout the month of May.

Team Bike Challenge
Gather your friends, colleagues and neighbors to form teams and pedal to win! It’s a fun and easy way to see just how much biking does for your health, budget and the environment.

How the Team Bike Challenge Works:
• Form a team of up to 5 people.
• Sign up your team.
• Earn points for each bike ride you take and your total daily mileage.
• Record your bike trips on the Team Bike Challenge website or mobile site.
• Compete with your friends on your personalized leaderboard.
• At the end of the month, the team with the most points wins.

The Team Bike Challenge competition Kicks Off May 1st, 2015!

For more information on the League of American Bicyclists and Bike to Work Month, please see: http://bikeleague.org/bikemonth

For more information on Bike to Work Day, please see: http://ibikefresno.org/

For more information on the Team Bike Challenge, please see: http://teambikechallenge.com/welcome/about-tbc
On September 26, 2013, Governor Brown signed legislation creating the Active Transportation Program (ATP) in the Department of Transportation (Senate Bill 99, Chapter 359 and Assembly Bill 101, Chapter 354). The ATP consolidates existing federal and state transportation programs, including the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA), and State Safe Routes to School (SR2S), into a single program with a focus to make California a national leader in active transportation. The ATP administered by the Division of Local Assistance, Office of Active Transportation and Special Programs.

The purpose of ATP is to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation by achieving the following goals:

- Increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking,
- Increase safety and mobility for non-motorized users,
- Advance the active transportation efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals,
- Enhance public health,
- Ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program, and
- Provide a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of active transportation users.

ATP Cycle 2 for 2015 has begun! The Call for Projects began in March 2015 and applications are expected to be due June 1, 2015.

Caltrans will be hosting a series of ATP training workshops that began in March and will continue through May, 2015.

1. **ATP Cycle 2 – District Application Workshops (How to Apply for ATP Cycle 2)**

This workshop is intended to assist applicants on how to apply for and complete the ATP Cycle 2 Application. The application workshops will be held in each of the Caltrans Districts (March – April 2015).
2015 Active Transportation Program, Continued

2. Support for Smaller Agencies and Disadvantaged Communities: Developing Effective Active Transportation Projects and Programs

This workshop is intended to provide technical assistance to smaller agencies and disadvantaged communities to support development of impactful active transportation plans, programs, and projects that can successfully compete for ATP funding. The focus will be on the elements that make for a high quality bicycle or pedestrian plan, project, or program.

QUESTIONS AND CONTACTS

For More information on the program, please see:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/index.html

For more information on the planned workshops, please see:
http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/workshops-training-cycle2-2.html

If you have any questions regarding the ATP, please contact the Program Managers:

Teresa McWilliam
(916)653-0328
teresa.mcwilliam@dot.ca.gov

Or

Ted Davini
(916)653-4335
Ted.davini@dot.ca.gov

Please direct any Safe Routes to Schools questions to:

Kevin Atkinson
(916)653-6920
kevin.atkinson@dot.ca.gov

For questions regarding BTA and TE projects prior to ATP, please contact:

Deborah Lynch
(916)653-0036.
UPDATE ON KERN COUNTY PROJECTS


Grapevine Escape Ramp EMS Upgrade: Upgrade distinguishable message signs in Kern County on I-5 northbound. Funding: Minor A. In construction, 95% complete; contractor installing electrical wiring and EMS signs. Paul Pineda, Project Manager, (661) 326-3416.


Mojave Maintenance Station Phase II: Construct crew facility on SR 14 in Mojave at the Mohave Maintenance Station. Funding: Minor A. Ready to list summer 2015; advertise fall 2015; begin construction winter 2015; end construction spring 2016. Minerva Rodriguez, Project Manager, (559) 243-3518.


Freeman Gulch Widening Segment 1: Convert existing 2-lane to 4-lane expressway near Ridgecrest, from 0.5 miles south of the SR 178 West/SR 14 I/C to 1.7 miles north of SR 178 East. Funding: RIP/IIP. Ready to List spring 2016. Minerva Rodriguez, Project Manager, (559) 243-3518.


Wasco SR 43 Landscape Project Phase 2: Phase 2 of Wasco’s Highway Beautification on SR 43 from Fillburn Avenue to Poso Drive. Funding: RIP, TE. Construction complete. Judy Aguilar-Luna, Project Manager, (559) 243-3457.


Kern Wire Theft Repair: Wire theft restoration in Kern County on I-5, 99, 58, and 204 at various locations. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to List summer 2014; complete construc-
UPDATE ON KERN COUNTY PROJECTS, CONTINUED


Rosedale Highway Improvements: Widen SR 58 to 4 or 6 lanes between Allen Road and east of Gibson Street in the City of Bakersfield. Funding: demo, local. Bids opened December 2015; construction expected to start April 2015. PS&E in progress and on schedule. Paul Pineda, Project Manager, (559) 326-3416.


Beltway Operational Improvements: Operational improvements on SR 58 in the City of Bakersfield from the SR 58/SR 99 separation to Cottonwood Road. Funding: Local. In construction. Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3451.


South Bakersfield 8-Lane: Widen SR 99 from 6 to 8 lanes between SR 119 and Wilson Road overcrossing in the City of Bakersfield.
**UPDATE ON KERN COUNTY PROJECTS, CONTINUED**


**Hoskings Road Interchange:** Construct new interchange on SR 99 at Hoskings Road in the City of Bakersfield. Funding: Local. In construction; construction about 15% complete. Paul Pineda, Project Manager, (559) 326-3416.

**Planz Road/California Avenue Pullouts:** Freeway maintenance access in Bakersfield at various locations from the Planz Road overcrossing to north of the California Avenue undercrossing. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to List achieved January 13, 2015; award contract summer 2015. Chris Gardner, Project Manager, (559) 243-3444.

**California Avenue Onramp Improvements:** Relocate the right-turn lane of the southbound on-ramp of SR 99 from westbound California Avenue in the City of Bakersfield. Funding: SHOPP. The project is in construction; construction complete early 2015. Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3451.

**Rosedale Ramp SB:** Widen the SR 99/Rosedale southbound offramp in Bakersfield at the Airport Drive overcrossing and at the Golden State Avenue separation. Funding: Local. Ready to List February 2015; award contract winter 2015. Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3451.

**Kern County Seismic Restoration:** Seismic restoration at the Airport Drive overcrossing and at the Golden State Avenue separation. Funding: SHOPP/Seismic. Ready to List spring 2016. Judy Aguilar-Luna, Project Manager, (559) 243-3457.

**Kern 99 North Widening:** Widen SR 99 from 6 to 8 lanes between the SR 99/ SR 204 overhead to Beardsley Canal in and near the City of Bakersfield. Construction complete. Paul Pineda, Project Manager, (661) 326-3416.

**7th Standard Road:** Modify the SR 99/7th Standard Road interchange near the City of Bakersfield. Funding: RIP, TCRP, demo. In construction; complete construction winter/spring 2014/2015. Minerva Rodriguez, Project Manager, (559) 243-3518.

**McFarland Rumble Strip:** Construct rumble strip on SR 99 near Famosa and south of the City of McFarland between south of the Sherwood Avenue overcrossing to south of the Whisler Road overcrossing. Funding: SHOPP. Construction complete. Chris Gardner, Project Manager, (559) 243-3444.

**Kern Ave POC:** ADA compliance upgrades on SR 99 in Kern County at the Kern Avenue pedestrian overcrossing. Funding: SHOPP. In PS&E/RW; Ready to List spring 2016. Paul Pineda, Project Manager, (661) 326-3416.

**Cherry Avenue Truck Climbing Lanes:** Construct truck climbing lanes in Elk Hills, northeast of the City of Taft. Funding: RIP, STIP. Ready to List fall 2015. Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3451.

**178 Operational Improvements:** Intersection improvements and widening of 24th St (SR 178). Funding: Local, oversight. City of Bakersfield has started PSE...

24th St (SR 178) Widening: Widen 24th Street (SR 178) by one lane in each direction in the City of Bakersfield between east of the Kern River Bridge to west of Golden State Avenue undercrossing. Funding: demo. City has started PSE and right-of-way phase; expect project to be Ready to List spring 2016. Paul Pineda, Project Manager, (661) 326-3416.


The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 6 is headquartered in Fresno. This geographically diverse district is the second largest of the 12 Districts statewide, stretching from the southernmost part of Yosemite National Park in the north to the Mojave Desert. It includes Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Kern counties. Interstate 5 and State Route 99 run the length of District 6, serving as the main north-south arteries for not just the Central Valley, but for the entire state as well.

Visit District 6 on the web at www.dot.ca.gov/dist6/