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: http://dot.ca.gov/reports-legislature.htm.
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.

“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 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.


Read more about The League of American Bicyclists report cards at: http://bikeleague.org/content/report-cards.
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://bikemonth](http://bikemonth)

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

For more information on the Team Bike Challenge, please see: [http://teambikechallenge.com/welcome/about-tbc](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 TULARE COUNTY PROJECTS

**Signal Count-Down/Accessible:** Install signal count down heads/accessible pedestrian signs in Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera and Tulare at various locations. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to advertise May 2015; award contract late summer 2015. Curt Hatton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.

**Fre-Tul Sign Panel Upgrade:** Upgrade sign panels in Fresno County on Routes 41, 168, 180, and in Tulare County on Route 198. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list achieved March 2015; project will advertise summer 2015. Emad Abi-Rached, Project Manager, (559) 243-3460.

**Terra Bella Expressway Segment 1:** Widen SR 65 from a 2-lane conventional highway to a 4-lane expressway from Avenue 120 to the SR 190/65 separation, south of the City of Porterville. Funding: RIP, TCRP, Measure. Advertise winter 2015; begin construction spring 2016. Jim Bane, Project Manager, (559) 243-3469.

**Porterville to Cairns Corner CAPM:** Pavement preservation (CAPM) on SR 65 in and near Porterville from the Morton Avenue undercrossing to SR 137 (Road 196). Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list late 2016. Judy Aguilar-Luna, Project Manager, (559) 243-3457.

**Exeter CAPM Overlay:** AC overlay on SR 65 in the City of Exeter from Avenue 236 to SR 198. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list late 2015; advertise early 2016; award contract spring 2016. Judy Aguilar-Luna, Project Manager, (559) 243-3457.


**Tulare Madera VDS:** Install Vehicle Detection systems on SR 99 in Fresno County from PM 18.7 to PM 22.5; in Tulare County from PM 0.1 to PM 28.0; in Madera County from PM 16.4 to PM 26.5. Funding: Minor A. PA&ED Ready to List February 2016; advertise April 2016; award contract summer 2016. Jeannie Wiley, Project Manager, (559) 243-8051.

**Roadside Rest Area Pavement Rehab:** Resurface the truck pavement area parking lot of the Philip S. Raine Rest Area near the City of Tulare on the southbound direction of SR 99. Funding: Minor A. Construction complete. Curt Hatton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.

**Elk Bayou 2R:** Overlay on SR 99 south of the City of Tulare between Elk Bayou Bridge and the Paige Road overcrossing. Funding: SHOPP. In construction. Judy Aguilar-Luna, Project Manager, (559) 243-3457.

**Prosperity to Caldwell - South Segment:** Widen SR 99 in the City of Tulare from a 4-lane freeway to a six lane freeway between Prosperity Avenue to south of the Avenue 280 overcrossing. Funding: RIP, IIP. Ready to list late 2016; advertise early 2017. Jim Bane, Project Manager, (559) 243-3469.

**Cartmill Interchange:** On SR 99. Caltrans providing oversight for City of Tulare Measure R funded project. State Route 99 Bond funds are also funding this project. Project is in construction; complete construction late November 2015. Curt Hatton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.
UPDATE ON TULARE COUNTY PROJECTS

Caldwell - Middle Segment: Widen SR 99 near the City of Visalia from a 4-lane freeway to a six lane freeway between south of the Avenue 280 overcrossing to south of the West Visalia overhead. Funding: RIP, IIP. Ready to list spring 2015; advertise summer 2015. Jim Bane, Project Manager, (559) 243-3469.

Tulare to Goshen North Segment 6-Lane: On SR 99 near the community of Goshen. Funding Prop 1B Bond money. Visalia overhead to N Goshen overhead. Project is currently in construction. Construction is expected to be finished in summer 2015. Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3451.

Betty Drive Interchange: Reconstruct the Betty Drive interchange on SR 99 in the community of Goshen. Caltrans proceeding with Alternative No 4 as the preferred alternative. Funding: RIP, IIP, Measure, local, developer. Ready to list spring 2016; project will advertise summer 2016. Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3451.

Goshen to Kingsburg 6-Lane: Widen SR 99 in and near the City of Kingsburg between the North Goshen overhead to the SR 99/SR 201 interchange. Funding: Prop 1B Bond. Work continues on median barrier, median lanes, and bridge construction. Through Kingsburg, the focus will shift to the outside lane, barrier and soundwall. At the Kings River, traffic has shifted to the new northbound bridge. Portions of the project open to traffic upon completion of ongoing final paving. Jim Bane, Project Manager, (559) 243-3469.

Goshen to Kingsburg Replacement Planting: Replacement and mitigation planting near the City of Kingsburg on SR 99 at various locations from south of the SR 99/Merritt Drive interchange to north of the Bethel Avenue overcrossing. Funding: Prop 1B Bond. In construction with an anticipated completion date of 2016. Jim Bane, Project Manager, (559) 243-3469.

Lairds Corner Roundabout: Improvements at the intersection of SR 190 and Bliss Lane (Road 152) near the community of Tipton. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list spring 2016. Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3451.

Reservation Road Roundabout: Improvements at the intersection of SR 190 and Road 284 near the City of Porterville. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to List achieved March 2015; project advertised March 2015; award contract May 2105. Victor Shaw, Project Manager, (559)243-3441.

Plaza Landscape: Replacement planting on SR 198 in the City of Visalia between SR 99 to Plaza Drive and on Plaza Drive from Airport
UPDATE ON TULARE COUNTY PROJECTS

Drive to Goshen Avenue. Funding: STIP. Project has been awarded and construction will begin in June 2015 to be consistent with drought plans. Curt Hatton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.

Vista Avenue POC: ADA upgrades in the City of Visalia on SR 198 at the Vista Avenue pedestrian overcrossing. Funding: SHOPP ADA. Project in construction. Curt Hatton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.

Farmersville Roundabout 1: Intersection improvement on SR 198 at Farmersville Boulevard and Noble Avenue in the City of Farmersville. Funding: Local. Ready to List summer 2014. Working on Caltrans encroachment permit; City to advertise the project. Curt Hatton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.

Farmersville Roundabout 2: Intersection improvement on SR 198 eastbound ramps at Noble Avenue in the City of Farmersville. Funding: Local. Ready to List summer 2014. Working on Caltrans encroachment permit and advertising the project. Curt Hatton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.

Farmersville Bridge Hit: Repair bridge girders on SR 198 in Tulare County near Farmersville at the County Road 164 undercrossing. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list achieved January 2015; advertise spring 2015; begin construction summer 2015. Curt Hatton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.

Bridge Widening: Replace the rails at the SR 201/Sand Creek Bridge, the SR 201/Friant-Kern Canal Bridge, and the SR 216/Kaweah River Bridge. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to List late 2016. Judy Aguilar-Luna, Project Manager, (559) 243-3457.

Houston Avenue Landscape: Install landscaping on SR 216 in the City of Visalia from Lovers Lane to east of Comstock Street. Funding: STIP. Ready to List achieved June 30, 2014; award contract spring 2015. Victor Shaw, Project Manager, (559) 243-3441.

South Valencia Blvd ADA: Improve pedestrian access and add ADA curb ramps on SR 254 between Deltha Avenue to Bravo Avenue near the City of Woodlake. Funding: Minor A. Ready to List fall 2016; advertise early 2017.

Cottonwood Creek Repair: Construct rock slope protection on SR 245 about 10 miles south of Badger at Cottonwood Creek. Funding: SHOPP. Project is currently in plant establishment until late spring 2015. Judy Aguilar-Luna, Project Manager, (559) 243-3457.

Emad Abi-Rached, Project Manager, (559) 243-3460.

Cottonwood Creek Repair: Construct rock slope protection on SR 245 about 10 miles south of Badger at Cottonwood Creek. Funding: SHOPP. Project is currently in plant establishment until late spring 2015. Judy Aguilar-Luna, Project Manager, (559) 243-3457.
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/