

# Memorandum

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To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: June 29-30, 2016

Reference No.: 4.12  
Information

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Subject: **GUIDELINES FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANS AND THE CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

## **SUMMARY:**

During the months of May and June, staff began outreach efforts to State & regional agencies, Tribal Governments, and other stakeholders, to discuss the scope and timeline of the update of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the development of the first ever California Transportation Plan (CTP) Guidelines. A kick-off meeting to convene all interested stakeholders and provide an overview of the process to develop guidelines will be held June 30<sup>th</sup> from 1p.m. – 5p.m. in the Lincoln Plaza, First Floor Auditorium located at 400 P Street, Sacramento, CA. The meeting will also be webcast.

Notice of the kick-off meeting was sent to approximately 4,000 stakeholders including state, regional, and local government entities and private industry. Stakeholders represent a variety of interests including transportation, public health, environmental, and social equity. The meeting will include panel discussions featuring representatives from Federal, State and regional agencies, Tribal Governments, and organizations representing environmental, equity, land-use and business perspectives. The presenters will identify important stakeholder issues for consideration in the development of regional and statewide transportation planning guidance.

Workgroups will be organized to discuss specific policy and technical topics to be addressed in the RTP and CTP Guidelines, including but not limited to freight, public health, active transportation, social equity, modeling, environmental considerations (air quality, climate change mitigation and adaptation, etc.), and other policy areas as needed. The workgroups will be open to all interested stakeholders and will serve as a facilitated, consensus-driven mechanism to undertake changes to the RTP and CTP Guidelines.

Release of initial draft RTP and CTP Guidelines is expected in early July. Stakeholder engagement through workgroup meetings and public comment is anticipated to take place from July through October with informational updates to the Commission at the August and October meetings. It is anticipated the Final RTP and CTP Guidelines will be presented to the Commission for consideration at the December meeting.

**BACKGROUND:**

Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 14512, 14522, and 14524.3, the Commission has requested Caltrans to prepare an update of the 2010 RTP Guidelines and to develop the first ever guidelines for the CTP. The Commission, in partnership with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the Air Resources Board, and other State agencies will undertake a stakeholder-driven process to concurrently update the RTP Guidelines and develop CTP Guidelines for Commission consideration at the end of the calendar year.

**2010 RTP Guidelines Update**

The RTP Guidelines are intended to set forth a uniform, statewide long-range regional transportation planning framework; promote an integrated, multi-modal, and cooperative planning process; and facilitate the efficient delivery of transportation projects that meet local, regional, and state goals. The RTP Guidelines were last updated in 2010 to address new requirements for RTPs resulting from the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 375 (Steinberg, 2008). This update was an inclusive, transparent effort which brought a variety of interested stakeholders together to achieve consensus on complex technical and policy areas related to the development of Senate Bill (SB) 375-compliant RTPs.

Since 2010 there has not been a large-scale change in the requirements for RTPs as was seen through the passage of SB 375. An update to the 2010 RTP Guidelines is necessary in light of changes to State statute resulting from the passage of Assembly Bill 441 (Monning, 2012) which requires the incorporation of best practices for public health into the RTP Guidelines, as well as changes to federal statute resulting from the passage of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015. Additionally, updates to the 2010 RTP Guidelines are needed to reflect advances in the practice of long-range transportation planning including improvements in the areas of modeling, public health and active transportation, goods movement, climate adaptation planning, and performance measurement.

**CTP Guidelines Development**

Pursuant to Federal regulations (23 CFR 450.214) and State statute (Government Code Section 14000.6 and 65071, *et seq.*), Caltrans is required to prepare a statewide long-range transportation plan – the California Transportation Plan (CTP). The CTP serves as the transportation policy plan designed to meet California's mobility needs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the next 20 years. The plan envisions a fully integrated, multi-modal, and sustainable transportation system that supports economic vitality, protects environmental resources, and promotes the health and well-being for all Californians. The CTP provides a common policy framework that will guide Caltrans modal plans and programs as well as inform transportation investments and decisions by all levels of government, the private sector, and key transportation stakeholders.

SB 486 (DeSaulnier, 2013) authorized and encouraged the Commission, in cooperation with Caltrans, to prepare guidelines for the development of the CTP. The CTP Guidelines will be developed concurrently with the update of the RTP Guidelines, through a transparent public process with stakeholder input and in direct consultation with staff from Caltrans, the Air Resources Board, and other state agencies as appropriate.