



**HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**Regional Transportation Planning Agency**  
**Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority**  
**Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies**  
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**AGENDA ITEM 7a**  
**TAC Meeting**  
**June 5, 2025**

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**DATE:** May 29, 2025  
**TO:** Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
**FROM:** Brendan Byrd, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** **Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Local Funding Requests**

**STAFF REPORT**

**Contents:**

- Staff's Recommended Action
- Staff Summary
- Local Agency Funding Requests (HTA, Arcata, Blue Lake, Fortuna)

**TAC's Recommended Action:**

1. Introduce the item as an action item;
2. Allow staff to present the item;
3. Receive public comment;
4. Discuss item and consider making the motion:  
"I move that the TAC recommend that the HCAOG Board approve the Carbon Reduction Program local funding requests as discussed by the TAC."

**Staff Summary:**

At the February meeting the TAC received an update on remaining funds available through the FSTIP Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). The CRP was created by the Infrastructure Investment Jobs Act (IIJA). The purpose of the CRP is to provide federal funding to projects that decrease transportation emissions, which are defined as the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions that result from on-road, highway sources.

IIJA requires Caltrans to develop a Carbon Reduction Strategy to outline how California will spend its CRP dollars on reducing transportation carbon emissions. The draft Carbon Reduction Strategy focuses on "Three Pillars": zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) and infrastructure, active transportation, and rail and transit. All CRP funds must be spent in support of the Three Pillars.

In 2024 with TAC and HCAOG Board approval staff applied for CRP funds to conduct a Regional Zero Emission Vesicle (ZEV) Fleet Transition and Infrastructure Plan. HCAOG recently received funding authorization from Caltrans, and staff anticipate beginning project activities later this summer.

As discussed at the February meeting, the TAC’s previous recommendation to HCAOG staff was to reserve the remaining CRP funds for regional entities to pursue aligned projects that come out of the ZEV Plan. However, due to the uncertain nature of near-term federal funding cuts, Caltrans has advised HCAOG staff to obligate funding to projects as quickly as possible to avoid losing the funding altogether. Caltrans has indicated that obligated funding cannot be cut. With that direction HCAOG staff solicited TAC member agencies for potential projects using the remaining CRP funds on February 1<sup>st</sup>. After discussion at the April TAC meeting, staff extended the deadline for member agency funding requests to May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The CRP funding is portioned into annual allocation amounts over five federal fiscal years. The annual funding amounts per fiscal year are shown in the table below. As shown there is still approximately \$965,000 available for programming.

**Local Fund Apportionment Per Cycle**

	FFY 2022	FFY 2023	FFY 2024	FFY 2025	FFY 2026	Total 5-year projection
	247,068	252,009	244,556	244,556	244,556	\$1,232,745
Allocated:	247,068	20,000				
Balance remaining:	0	232,009	244,556	244,556	244,556	<b>\$965,677</b>

#### **Project Submittals:**

By the updated May 22<sup>nd</sup> submission deadline HCAOG staff received four funding requests from local agencies. Each funding request is summarized below, and the full funding request from each agency is included as an attachment to the staff report. Each local agency has indicated that they are committed to providing the required local match, anticipated to be 11.47%. Additionally, it is anticipated that each project would either qualify for a NEPA categorical exclusion, has existing NEPA coverage, or is expected to have NEPA coverage soon.

- **Humboldt Transit Authority** – requested **\$200,000** to support their Service Bay Maintenance Project, which supports their Hydrogen Bus transition, and **\$765,677** to supplement the budget for their Liquid Hydrogen Fueling Station project.
- **City of Arcata** – requested **\$216,000** in total funding to supplement local funding for their bike share program for a period of 4-years.
- **City of Blue Lake** – requested **\$70,527** for the purchase of two zero emissions maintenance vehicles to replace older diesel vehicles.
- **City of Fortuna** – requested **\$185,000** to install ten vehicle charging stations at the City’s Public Works corporation yard.

As shown above, the four funding requests are seeking a total of \$1,437,204, which is approximately \$472,000 over the available funding amount. Staff is seeking TAC comments and a recommendation on how to allocate the available funding.

After receiving the funding requests HCAOG staff met with Caltrans Local Assistance to confirm the funding requests submitted are eligible through the program. The program guidelines are somewhat vague, and therefore determination from the Federal Department of Transportation is needed for projects that don't fit perfectly into the programs established list of example eligible activities. Additionally, staff have asked Caltrans to confirm match requirements for each project, as they are listed as variable up to 20% in some cases. At the time of publishing the packet staff have yet to hear back from Caltrans but will provide an update to the TAC at the meeting if that information is available.

With TAC direction on funding, staff will work with Caltrans to confirm program eligibility and local match requirements. Additionally, staff will work to develop a funding approach using the four remaining programming years of funding. Once those steps are completed and confirmed staff will take the TAC recommendation to the HCAOG Board for review and approval.