



**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 7c**

**TAC Meeting**

**September 4, 2025**

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**DATE:** August 28, 2025  
**TO:** Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
**FROM:** Oona Smith, Regional Senior Planner  
**SUBJECT:** **Training Series for Multimodal and Vibrant Neighborhoods Planning**

**STAFF REPORT**

**Contents:**

- Staff Summary
- Blue Zones scope of work

**Discussion Item:**

1. Introduce the item as a discussion item;
2. Allow staff to present the item;
3. Receive public comment;
4. Discuss item and direct staff as needed.

**Summary:**

The Humboldt Multimodal and Vibrant Neighborhoods Planning project, funded by a 2023/24 Sustainable Communities grant has several substantial tasks. We have already achieved most of the work on the SRTS Pop-Up and Pilot for Fuente Nueva Charter School in Arcata and developed the level of traffic stress (LTS) methodology and GIS-based application.

We are now planning for the “training series on building high-performing streets & vibrant communities.” As described in the grant application:

This training series will help participants understand the basic principles of smart growth/smart mobility. The intended outcome is to expand the knowledge base of the causes and effects of auto-centric and multimodal design approaches. Community members can learn a holistic approach and practical applications that they could adopt to promote compact, walkable communities that encourage investment in existing neighborhoods while preserving open space, forest land, and agricultural land. The trainings will be open to the entire community and targeted to reach both agency staff and residents who are interested in a particular project, planning effort, or neighborhood or street/road corridor.

Partners who have already committed to help plan, share costs, and/or attend, include local and regional governmental agencies, CBOs, and businesses, including but not limited to: City of Arcata, City of Blue Lake, City of Eureka, City of Fortuna, Humboldt Area Foundation-Wild Rivers Foundation, Humboldt Bay Bicycle Commuters Association, Coalition for Responsible Transportation Planning, Kash Boodjeh Architect, Northern California Section of California American Planning Association (APA), and Redwood Coast Energy Authority.

The consultant team for this task consists of Civic Well, Blue Zones, and Dover, Kohl & Partners. The in-person trainings/workshops are being scheduled for the first week of December. Additionally, HCAOG will be planning supplementary materials, including offering pre-training webinar videos.

The project team will be sending a survey to TAC members, among others, to find out your training goals/objectives, as well as areas of interest and need for your respective communities in the context of public discourse and education on “smart growth” concepts, pros and cons, benefits and limitations.

The consultants will hold an “all communities” workshop (charrette-style), plus are available to provide up to three more specific community meetings:

The project team will facilitate agencies (e.g. planning and building departments, public works/engineering department, economic development, commissioners or elected officials) and other interested stakeholders to plan follow-up meetings or workshops that are smaller and targeted to a project, area, or street route/corridor in their jurisdictions. Individual jurisdictions/agencies who choose to do so will facilitate and host a follow-up community meeting(s) to continue work on projects or planning that they started at the charrette-style event. Individual agencies would be the lead for their own jurisdictions. HCAOG’s project team would assist, as requested; for example, HCAOG could assist in planning the meetings, advertising, and attending to help facilitate.

The TAC is asked to share their preliminary interest, ideas, content requests, and questions at the TAC meeting, to begin giving guidance to the project consultants for planning content.