



HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Humboldt County Local Transportation Authority
Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies
611 I Street, Suite B
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 444-8208
www.hcaog.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING RECORD

March 19, 2026, 4:30 p.m.
Eureka City Hall, Council Chambers
531 K Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Present:

Mayor Mike Johnson (Chair)	City of Fortuna
Supervisor Steve Madrone (via Zoom)	County of Humboldt
Mayor Kim Bergel	City of Eureka
Mayor Pro Tem Bryce Kenny	City of Trinidad
Mayor Kimberley White	City of Arcata
Councilmember Skip Jorgensen	City of Ferndale
Councilmember Robert Orr	City of Rio Dell
Mayor John Sawatsky	City of Blue Lake

Policy Advisory Committee Members:

Tatiana Ahlstrand	Caltrans
Natalie Arroyo	Humboldt Transit Authority

Absent:

None

Staff:

Brendan Byrd	Executive Director
Amy Eberwein	Administrative Services Officer
Stevie Luther	Associate Regional Planner
Oona Smith	Senior Regional Planner

1. Call to Order

Chair Johnson called the meeting of March 19, 2026, to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) Public Hearing

A public hearing was conducted regarding an appeal to the adopted HCAOG RHNA methodology for Cycle 7. After discussion the Board directed staff to bring back a written determination denying the appeal by the City of Eureka at the April meeting.

3. Adjournment of the HCAOG Board; Convening of the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)

The PAC convened to include representatives from Caltrans and Humboldt Transit Authority.

4. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** – Julie M: Diesel buses, communication and planning between agencies.

5. **Consent Calendar**

Motion was made (Kenny/Arroyo) to approve the following consent items:

a. Meeting Record – February 19, 2025

b. Award a professional services contract to GHD for “Loleta Safe Routes to School and Connectivity to Tribal Lands” Project and authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute and execute all agreements.

Motion was approved unanimously.

6. **Items Removed from Consent Calendar** – None

7. **Action Items**

a. **McKinleyville Community Services District (MCSD) Request for Membership on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)**

Motion was made (Madrone/Bergel) to approve the MCSD for a voting membership on the TAC and to direct staff to return to the Board with a recommendation for how another CSD seat could be created to represent all other CSDs.

Motion was withdrawn by the motion maker.

Motion was made (Madrone/Sawatzky) to approve the MCSD for an advisory membership on the TAC and to direct staff to return to the Board with a recommendation for how another CSD seat could be created to represent all other CSDs.

Motion was withdrawn by the motion maker.

Motion was made (Madrone/Bergel) to approve the MCSD for a non-voting advisory membership on the TAC.

Motion was approved unanimously.

8. **Discussion Items**

a. **Dial-A-Ride (DAR) Analysis Report**

Associate Planner Stevie Luther provided information on the DAR Analysis Report and requested input from the PAC. The Board directed staff to continue identifying strategies to work towards financial sustainability for the DAR system and bring back items as needed for Board consideration.

b. **2025 HCAOG Highlights**

Executive Director Brendan Byrd shared an overview of HCAOG’s accomplishments in 2025.

9. **Reconvening of the HCAOG Board**

Motion was made (Jorgensen/Kenny) to reconvene as the HCAOG Board and approve the PAC recommendations.

Motion was approved unanimously.

10. **HCAOG Staff and Board/PAC Member Reports**

a. **HCAOG Executive Director’s Report**

Executive Director Brendan Byrd discussed the following:

- There will need to be additional changes made to the SB 125 grant amendment and staff will be bringing this item back to the Board with more revisions.

- NEPA clearance has been received and a grant amendment has been sent to FHWA for the Vision Zero Action Plan project.

Senior Regional Planner Oona Smith shared information about upcoming workshops for the PAACT project and invited Board members to attend.

b. Caltrans Report

Tatiana Ahlstrand shared the following updates:

- Public meeting for the proposed roundabout at SR 255 at New Navy Base Road tonight at 6PM at the Manila Community Center.
- Public meeting to discuss next steps for Fernbridge on Thursday, March 26th at 5:30PM.
- Caltrans District 1 is preparing a proposal for a feasibility study that will explore future multimodal operational and safety improvements for 4th and 5th Streets in Eureka.
- There is a Design Focus Group meeting happening on March 24th from 10:30 noon. Discussion will include transit design standards, potential guidance related to a transit facilities playbook, mobility hub guidance, and bus on shoulder guidance. Outcomes will influence the Transit Implementation Action Plan which provides direction on incorporating transit into the state highway system via agency coordination.

c. Board/PAC Member Reports

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVED