



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 6d
TAC Meeting
November 6, 2025

DATE: October 30, 2025
TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
FROM: Brendan Byrd, Executive Director
SUBJECT: **Draft 2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)**

STAFF REPORT

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Staff'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 the HCAOG Board amend the Regional Transportation Plan to include the Francis Street Rehabilitation Project and Hawthorn and Humboldt Bike Boulevard Project and adopt the 2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program for submittal to the California Transportation Commission."

Staff Summary:

Each Regional Transportation Planning Agency, including HCAOG is required to submit a Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) by December 15th of every odd numbered year for inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is a biennial five-year plan adopted by

the CTC for future allocations of state transportation funds for road and transit improvements. The CTC provides an estimate of STIP shares for each region.

The Draft 2026 RTIP attached to this staff report reflects the slate of projects recommended at the TAC's October meeting. The draft follows the CTC provided RTIP template and includes all required RTIP elements.

All projects that are funded in the RTIP must be included in the current Regional Transportation Plan (VROOM 2022-2042). Ferndale's Francis Street and Eureka's Hawthorn and Humboldt Bike Boulevard project are not included in the current VROOM document and therefore an amendment would need to be included as part of the RTIP approval.

As the TAC will see, staff are proposing to program all projects in fiscal year 26/27 (year one of the cycle). Although no STIP capacity is projected in years 1-3, CTC staff have indicated that projects should be programmed in the year desired by the local agency, and if capacity is made available those projects could be considered. Otherwise, if no earlier capacity is available the projects would be funded in years four and five, which is when regular STIP capacity is anticipated to be available.

The TAC will need to make a recommendation regarding the prioritization of the projects included in the RTIP. Staff have included draft prioritization for the TAC to review. The CTC will use this priority order in the event funding is insufficient to cover all the requested projects, or if additional unanticipated capacity is available in earlier years. For the projects, staff are proposing to prioritize the construction projects due to increased risk of cost escalation. Construction projects that are 'shovel ready' and include more complete streets elements are given higher priority, projects that would need to go through funded design and environmental work or contain fewer complete streets elements were assigned a lower priority. The two planning projects were assigned the lowest overall priorities. The Planning, Programming and Monitoring funds set aside for HCAOG administration are included with the highest priority ranking consistent with how it applied throughout the state. The TAC may recommend a different priority ranking.

Lastly, at the October HCAOG Board meeting staff presented the draft TAC recommended funding allocations from the October meeting. The Board directed staff to proceed with developing the draft RTIP with the TAC's recommendation but did also ask that the TAC consider the public comment received at the Board meeting. The comments are included as an attachment to the staff report. Staff will bring forward the TAC recommendation on the draft RTIP to the November Board meeting (where approval will be sought), including any potential TAC recommendations as a result of public comment.

Discussion and Decision Points for Draft RTIP

Staff requests that the TAC review the draft RTIP, discuss and advise on a priority ranking, direct staff to incorporate any recommended changes, and recommend that the HCAOG Board adopt the 2026 RTIP for submittal to the CTC.

RTIP Schedule

After the TAC meeting, staff will request a Project Programming Request form (PPR) from jurisdictions for each of the projects included in the STIP. Staff will make any TAC recommended changes to the RTIP and complete the cover page, appendices and cover letter.

The Board will review the RTIP at the November Board meeting. Staff will compile the final RTIP and submit it to the CTC prior to the December 15th deadline. After several hearings, the CTC is scheduled to adopt the STIP in March 2026. Once adopted, the 2026 STIP will be effective starting Fiscal Year 2026/2027.