



HCAOG
*Regional Transportation
Planning Agency*

611 I Street, Suite B
Eureka, CA 95501
707.444.8208
Fax: 707.444.8319
www.hcaog.net

Members:

*City of Arcata
City of Blue Lake
City of Eureka
City of Ferndale
City of Fortuna
City of Rio Dell
City of Trinidad
County of Humboldt*

February 19, 2026

Toks Omishakin, Director
California State Transportation Agency
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 2340
Sacramento, CA 955814

Dear Director Omishakin,

The Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG) is providing a revised SB 125 allocation request (see attached). The updated request includes \$300,000 for transit capital and operations to Fortuna Transit operated by the City of Fortuna. Fortuna Transit recently opened to the general public and as such became an eligible operator for state transit assistance.

Following CalSTA's August 2024 approval of HCAOG's December 2023 allocation request package, HCAOG and our regional transit partners have been engaged in efforts to increase ridership and improve efficiency in order to maintain service and prevent service cuts. The City of Fortuna decided in February 2026 to open Fortuna Transit to the general public. Previously, the on-demand service was limited to seniors and people with disabilities. The City of Fortuna plans to leverage RideCo software piloted by Humboldt Transit Authority (HTA) to operate on demand microtransit within the City of Fortuna. With on demand microtransit available to the general public in Fortuna, HTA plans to streamline its Redwood Transit Service commuter line through Fortuna to improve travel times and increase ridership. Capital funds will be used to purchase two new vehicles while operating funds will go toward purchasing RideCo software and call center dispatch services to enable microtransit.

The funding for the City of Fortuna reduces the HTA TIRCP allocation by \$300,000. While HTA continues to need SB 125 funds to maintain operations, the efficiency and ridership gains from this new arrangement will more than offset the funding shift. The remaining allocations for HTA, Arcata and Mad River Transit System, and the Yurok Tribe Transit Service remain unchanged.

HCAOG appreciates the opportunity to work with CalSTA to maintain our rural transit systems.

Sincerely,

Brendan Byrd, PE
Executive Director
Humboldt County Association of Governments