



**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 7b**

TAC Meeting

September 4, 2025

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DATE: August 28, 2025  
TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)  
FROM: Brendan Byrd, Executive Director  
SUBJECT: **2026 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Call for Projects**

**STAFF REPORT**

**Contents:**

- Staff Summary
- 2026 Final Adopted STIP Guidelines
- 2026 RTIP Project Candidate Form

**Discussion Item:**

1. Introduce the item;
2. Allow staff to present the item;
3. Receive public comment;
4. Discuss and provide direction to staff.

**Staff Summary:**

The STIP is a biennial five-year plan adopted by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for future allocations of state transportation funds for road and transit improvements. Each new STIP adds two new years to the prior programming commitments. The STIP is composed of two sub elements: the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and the Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP). Each Regional Transportation Planning Agency, including HCAOG, is required to submit an RTIP to the CTC by December 15 of every odd numbered year for inclusion in the STIP.

At the August TAC meeting, staff presented the draft STIP schedule, updates on the draft STIP guidelines, the draft STIP fund estimate, and a draft of the project solicitation form. Regarding the Caltrans STIP schedule and guidelines, no changes were proposed from the draft version provided

in August. The schedule is shown again below for information, and the final 2026 STIP Guidelines are included as an attachment to the staff report.

Additional updates on the STIP fund estimate and regional apportionments, and the project solicitation process, are shown below.

### **Caltrans STIP Schedule**

The following schedule lists the major milestones for development and adoption of the 2026 STIP:

CTC adopts Fund Estimate & Guidelines	August 14-15, 2025
Caltrans identifies State highway needs	September 15, 2025
Caltrans submits draft ITIP	October 15, 2025
CTC ITIP hearing, North	October 30, 2025
<b>Regions submit RTIPs</b>	<b>December 15, 2025</b>
Caltrans submits final ITIP	December 15, 2026
CTC STIP hearing, North	January 28, 2026
CTC publishes staff recommendations	February 27, 2026
CTC adopts STIP	March 19-20, 2026

### **STIP Fund Estimate and Regional Allocations**

The regional apportionments for Humboldt are slightly lower than what was presented as part of the draft STIP estimate provided to HCAOG in June. The 2026 STIP fund estimate that was approved at the August CTC meeting indicates that Humboldt's adopted estimate for the Total Target is \$2,523,000 for program capacity available through 2030-2031. This accounts for the regional overprogramming that HCAOG performed during the 2024 STIP cycle of \$1,258,000, which was done to keep as many key regional projects programmed and progressing at that time as directed by the TAC and approved by the Board. Additionally, \$190,000 is the limit HCAOG can program for Planning, Programming and Monitoring (PPM) funds for the last three years of the STIP (2028-2029, 2029-30, and 2030-31). This leaves \$2,333,000 available for target programming.

<b>Available Funds for Projects</b>	
Total 2026 RIP Target (including previous overprogramming)	\$2,523,000
Planning, Programming, and Monitoring	(190,000)
<b>Remaining Funds Available for Projects:</b>	<b>\$2,333,000</b>

The CTC also provides every region a maximum target for new programming capacity through the end of the county share period in 2031-2032. For Humboldt this estimate is **\$5,293,000**. This represents a maximum amount that the CTC may program. The maximum is not guaranteed to be programmed. The CTC can fund between the target and maximum shares when other regions do not program to their target. Any funds programmed above the target come out of future shares.

Staff will note that HCAOG has not been formally furnished with the region's final share determination, however staff expect that the final notifications will come soon. If there are any further updates on the regional apportionments staff will provide those to the TAC immediately.

### **Project Solicitation and Schedule**

Attached to this staff report is the final project solicitation form. To be eligible for consideration of 2026 STIP funding, agencies need to submit this form to HCAOG staff per the timeline below, along with a signed copy of an approved Project Study Report (or equivalent). The form is the same as the 2024 solicitation form, except for the additional question that staff have added regarding uncommitted funding.

The formal call for projects was issued to TAC members on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. HCAOG staff are requesting completed project solicitation form submittals on September 19<sup>th</sup>, and the TAC will review and recommend funding recommendations to the HCAOG Board at the October TAC meeting. Please note that in alignment with the 2026 RTP update, September 19<sup>th</sup> is also when HCAOG staff are requesting the updated Complete Streets Project Tables.

In November staff anticipate presenting to the TAC and the Board the draft RTIP for review and adoption. The final RTIP needs to be submitted to Caltrans by December 15, 2025.