BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

2016 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN



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I. Purpose and Background

Purpose

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for Butte County, the Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is required to implement a transportation planning process that is continuous, cooperative, and comprehensive, resulting in plans and programs that consider all transportation modes and supports metropolitan community development and social goals. BCAG is required to include a proactive public participation process that provides complete information, timely public notice, public access to key decisions, and supports early and continuing involvement of the public in developing all transportation plans and improvement programs.

The Public Participation Plan (PPP) includes, but is not limited to, lower income households, minorities, persons with disabilities, representatives from community and service organizations, tribal councils, affordable housing advocates, neighborhood groups, environmental advocates, home builder representatives, broad-based business organizations, landowners, commercial property interests, home owner associations, and other public



agencies. The PPP also assists in identifying and addressing environmental justice and social equity issues. Citizen participation objectives include involvement of interested citizens, stakeholders, and representatives of community organizations.

Broad-based community participation is essential to the success of programs, plans and projects of BCAG. Ideas for public participation include:

- Value public participation and promote broad-based involvement by members of the community;
- Provide varied opportunities for public review and input;
- Treat all members of the public fairly by respecting and considering all citizen input as an important component of the planning and implementation process;
- Promote a culture of dialogue and partnership among residents, property owners, the business community, organizations, other interested citizens, and public officials;
- Use existing community groups and other organizations, as feasible;
- Encourage active public participation at the initial stages of the process, as well as throughout the process;
- Provide communication and agency reports that are clear, timely, and broadly distributed.

Background

In an effort to reach out to the people of Butte County, and in response to the passage of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP 21), BCAG has developed a Public Participation Plan (PPP). This plan serves to formalize and follow public outreach strategies involving the populace in transportation planning decisions. BCAG is providing and implementing this PPP to reflect its current and future public involvement in response to federal and state guidelines and requirements.

The development of this PPP was done in consultation with BCAG's advisory committees. A public workshop was held in Chico. In an effort to educate and inform individuals who are normally not involved in the transportation planning process, BCAG is utilizing social media for both BCAG and Butte Regional Transit. A press release was made to all of its advisory committees, BCAG Board of Directors, BCAG website and local media. Announcement of the workshops and an invitation to provide comments or participate in the development of the PPP were distributed to FHWA's regional state and federal contacts provided to BCAG, major freight carriers, social service agencies, BCAG's website and the local Tribal Governments. BCAG also advertised in the local newspapers and on the B-Line transit fleet. A web page on BCAG's website was also created to post development material. Appendix A identifies BCAG's outreach efforts and publication listing.

II. Compliance with Federal and State Requirements

MAP 21

The Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) was subsequently succeeded by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (Map 21) by Congress in 2012. While the current transportation legislation is the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, there are not any significant changes to the PPP. MAP 21 continued the strong federal emphasis on public participation, requiring that the public participation plans of metropolitan planning processes "be developed in consultation with all interested parties and provide that all interested parties have reasonable opportunities to comment on the contents of the transportation plan".

As outlined in the bill, methods to accommodate these goals, to the maximum extent possible, include:

- Holding any public meetings at convenient and accessible locations and times;
- Employing visualization techniques to describe plans;
- Making public information available in electronically accessible formats and means, such as the World Wide Web, as appropriate, to afford reasonable opportunity for consideration of public information.

Metropolitan public participation or involvement processes shall be coordinated with statewide public involvement processes wherever possible to enhance public consideration of the issues, plans, and programs, and reduce redundancies and costs.

SAFETEA-LU expanded definition of participation by "interested parties" and is carried forward. Broadly defined, BCAG includes as its partners, groups and individuals who are affected by or involved with transportation in Butte County and the surrounding region. Examples include citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of public transportation employees, private providers of transportation, representatives of users of public transportation, representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities, representatives of the disabled, and other interested parties with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the transportation plan.

MAP 21 required that public meetings be held at convenient and accessible times and locations, that all plans and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) be available by website, and that documents be written in easy, understandable language utilizing visual components. These elements are addressed in Section IV of this plan.

<u>Senate Bill 375 – Sustainable Communities Strategy</u>

Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg) prompts regional planning to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from cars and light trucks through coordinated planning for long range transportations plans and regional land use plans and provides emissions-reducing goals for which regions can plan, and provides incentives for local governments and developers to follow new strategically-planned growth patterns.

As required by the legislation, BCAG shall develop a sustainable communities strategy (SCS) and alternative planning strategy (APS), if needed, as an additional element of the regional transportation plan. The legislation includes specific public participation requirements for the development of the SCS and APS, if needed, which have been addressed in the PPP. A summary of these new requirements are listed below.

- Expanded stakeholder groups and consultation with agencies;
- Inclusion of multiple workshops and public hearings to inform the public regarding the development of the RTP and SCS/APS; and
- Broaden visual presentation of the RTP and SCS/APS.

III. Goals, Objectives and Policies

It is important to have an ongoing program to involve citizens through the use of the advisory committees, public workshops, email interest sign ups, press releases and other public outreach activities. The effectiveness of any program and policy plan depends upon its success in meeting the expectations of the public. Further, plans and programs need to be reassessed periodically to determine if the public's evolving needs and expectations are adequately provided for through the plan. In order to ensure that this occurs, the public must be kept informed of activities, and must be given a

meaningful opportunity to participate in the development and review of public policy plans and programs.

Public Participation Goal: The proactive public and agency involvement process for transportation planning shall provide complete information, timely public notice, and public access to key decisions; and shall support early and continuing involvement of the public in developing TIP's.

Objective 1: Public input/consideration shall be an integral part of the BCAG decision-making process.

- Policy 1.1 BCAG shall provide a 45-day comment period on the PPP prior to adoption by the BCAG Board of Directors. BCAG shall distribute the PPP to all member jurisdictions, the media, state and federal agencies, public libraries and other affected agencies within the region. In addition, BCAG will provide a noticed public hearing prior to adoption of the public involvement policies. The PPP will be posted online at BCAG's website.
- Policy 1.2 BCAG shall provide a 30-day comment period prior to adoption of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) and Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Findings. BCAG shall notice the public comment period on internet web media, the BCAG website and other media as available or appropriate. Local groups which may work with Limited English Proficiency residents will be specifically contacted to assist in extending the invitation to comment and participate. Copies of all documents included in the notice shall be available at the BCAG office, website and public libraries during the comment period.

In addition, BCAG shall provide a public hearing prior to adoption of the fore-mentioned plans. These required review periods allow agencies involved in the consultation process and the public to submit written comments to the draft document and supporting material. BCAG will have available bilingual assistance to assist in communication between Limited English Proficient residents.

An opportunity to provide comments in person will be made available with bilingual staff for the development of the FTIP and RTP. Announcements of the opportunity will be distributed on the B-Line Transit fleet which reaches most of the region.

Policy 1.3 BCAG shall document and respond upon request, in writing, to comments received during the comment period provided for the RTP, TIP and the Air Quality Conformity Determination. Copies of all written comments and accompanying responses will be included as an appendix in the appropriate document.

Policy 1.4 BCAG shall provide an additional 30-day comment period in those instances where significant public comment on a draft RTP or TIP requires additional public review. An additional notice on the transit fleet will be posted in Spanish and Hmong in a further attempt to reach Limited English Proficient residents in the region.

Objective 2: Public Access. The public shall be provided timely notice and reasonable access to information about transportation issues and processes.

- Policy 2.1 All BCAG plans and documents shall be made available for the public to review at the BCAG office and website. Copies of the RTP shall be distributed to public libraries in Butte County and, via the Transportation Advisory Committee, to local planning departments and other participating agencies. Access and copies of information shall be provided to the public and member agencies upon request. Individuals may formally make a single request to be placed on an email notification distribution list for information concerning a specific program or project.
- Policy 2.2 Notices and agendas of all BCAG Board meetings shall be available to the public at a minimum of 3 calendar days (72 hours) before, except in cases of emergency meetings when 24 hours is allowed under the Ralph M. Brown Act (the Brown Act). Agendas will be posted at the BCAG office, on the website and at the meeting location where the BCAG Board meetings are scheduled to be held.
- Policy 2.3 BCAG shall provide reasonable access to technical and policy information used in the development of plans, the RTP and the TIP's. Notices in Spanish and Hmong will be posted on the B-Line Fleet. BCAG's website now has Google Translation available to assist residents that may not be proficient in English.
- Policy 2.4 In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals needing special accommodations to participate in meetings should contact BCAG at least three working days prior to the scheduled meeting.
- **Policy 2.5** All meetings and workshops of the BCAG Board and its advisory committees are open to the public, except as allowed by the Brown Act.
- Objective 3: Public outreach. Opportunities shall be created for all segments of the public to learn and become informed, particularly for those who can be expected to be directly affected by the outcome or those with special needs that may not be well-served by the existing transportation system.
- Policy 3.1 Information pertaining to the adoption, revision, or amendment of all BCAG plans and transportation project priorities shall be available 72

hours prior to the date of the final action, unless in the course of an emergency meeting as allowed under the Brown Act.

Policy 3.2 BCAG shall inform the public about issues and proposals under consideration through public workshops, newsletters, maps, electronic simulations, exhibits or other techniques, during the development of each of the transportation plans, program, studies, and projects for which BCAG is responsible. To the extent possible, material will be posted on-line at BCAG's website in which the material can be translated through Google Translation. Should BCAG be contacted directly or if there is an interest by an individual or group that may exist, BCAG will strive to ensure bilingual staff is available to assist and communicate with that person or group.

Objective 4: Public Participation Plan review.

Policy 4.1 BCAG shall annually review the PPP public involvement process as part of the annual certification of BCAG's Overall Work Program & Budget, in cooperation with Caltrans, FHWA, and FTA. BCAG shall also annually review the PPP policies in terms of effectiveness in soliciting broad-based public input and inclusiveness of transportation stakeholders and traditionally underserved groups.

Subsequent revisions to the PPP will be submitted to each of the mentioned agencies for review and comments prior to approval by the BCAG Board of Directors.

IV. Description of Public Participation/Involvement Activities

In order to raise public awareness and educate members of the public regarding BCAG and the issues under consideration, BCAG utilizes the following:

• **Publications** - BCAG produces the BCAG Bulletin, an agency newsletter featuring updates on BCAG projects, programs and staff. The newsletter is circulated to approximately 350 agencies, businesses and individuals. The newsletter is also available upon request and is posted on the BCAG website.

Informational brochures are typically developed to assist in providing general information on a project, as well as comment sheets to provide feedback.

• **Board Meetings** - BCAG holds monthly Board of Directors' meetings the 4th Thursday of each month. The Board meetings are subject to compliance with the Brown Act; agenda's are posted a minimum of 72 hours prior to the meeting and are open to the public. All agenda materials are currently available to the public at the meetings or online.

Members of the public have the opportunity to speak at these meetings during public hearings and/or on agenda items when called upon by the Chair. For items not on the agenda, a public comment period is held during the "Items from the floor" portion of the meeting. Board action items, minutes and resolutions are made available at the BCAG office and on the website.

- **Media Relations** Board agendas are provided to television, newspaper and other media contacts in an effort to keep them informed of upcoming issues and actions reviewed and/or voted on at the monthly Board of Directors meetings. Staff will continue to be responsive to media personnel requests in a timely manner.
- **Website** *BCAG Online* provides an additional means to communicate with member agencies, state/federal agencies and the public. BCAG offers substantial information about the agency, its programs, projects, and events via the Internet, including:

Calendar of Events
Overall Work Program & Budget
Regional Plans/Programs
Demographics/Census Data
Committee agendas
Newsletter, maps & forms
Links to other sites

Board agendas/minutes
Major projects/studies
Transit schedules & information
Weather/road conditions
Traffic counts

BCAG recently started formatting information in an archive section that allows web users to access, view and print many documents. This archive section contains older records such as complete copies of past transportation plans, board minutes/agendas, fiscal and performance audits.

Web sites: www.bcag.org

www.BLineTransit.com www.buttehcp.com

- **Events** BCAG has incidental public outreach events to keep the public informed of current projects. Examples of these events include public educational workshops on how to utilize the transit system, Spare the Air Week, and public outreach workshops for current projects that staff is involved in.
- **Public Notice and Review** In order to inform the public that BCAG is seeking public input, announcements for public meetings, hearings, and/or workshops may be issued to local media including: Chico Enterprise Record, Oroville Mercury Register, Paradise Post, and the Gridley Herald. Advertisements may also be placed on local television channels as appropriate or a press release issued.

When requested or deemed appropriate, BCAG will translate these notices and /or announcements into other languages (as determined by the Environmental Justice

Analysis of the subject or project area). A 30-day public review period and public hearing is required for the Unmet Transit Needs Assessment.

- Public Hearings, Public Workshops, Public Comments Public hearings or workshops are also offered in order to give more attention to a specific item. As in the case of public forums, public hearings and workshops are held at an early stage in the process so that suggestions can be integrated into the final proposal. All significant comments made during these public hearings and workshops will receive due consideration, a formal response, and will be included in the final document. In compliance with the Brown Act, all committee and board meetings include a formal public comment period. Past workshops have included topics such as habitat conservation, the Unmet Transit Needs process, and general transit. Public workshops are also held during the planning process for the RTP, the FTIP, and other plans of special interest including the development of this Public Participation Plan.
- **Written Materials** Written information regarding BCAG activities is available on an ongoing basis. When preparing these documents, it is the goal of staff to make the information understandable to the layperson in the community, make the documents as concise as possible, reduce or eliminate jargon, and explain acronyms.

For staff reports, brief background and discussion sections are included in order to give proper context regarding an issue. Plans and all handouts and other documents for public review include summaries, pictures, graphs, maps and/or other visual aids in an effort to make them understandable and reader-friendly.

• Accommodations - Currently, every effort is made to schedule public events at locations accessible by transit users and all buildings for public events are ADA accessible for wheelchairs. Information regarding bicycle lockers/storage can also be researched upon request. Interpreters or other auxiliary aids will be arranged if requested at least 3 days prior to the meeting. Public meeting times vary between day and evening depending on the actual meeting and/or topic. Some public hearings are held in conjunction with BCAG's monthly Board of Directors meeting.

V. <u>Outreach to Traditionally Underserved Groups, Resource Agencies, and Additional Stakeholders</u>

Federal requirements for public participation plans include a process for seeking out and considering the needs of those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low income and/or minority groups.

Representatives of low income communities have pointed out that these individuals are focused on meeting their survival needs, and public meetings are generally a low priority. However, if a project affects



them directly, they are very interested and every effort should be made to include them in the process.

Executive Order 13166 – Limited English Proficiency

Executive Order 13166 directs federal agencies, recipients and sub-recipients of federal financial assistance to examine the services provided, identify any need for services to those with limited English proficiency (LEP), and develop and implement a system providing services so LEP individuals have meaningful access to these services. As a recipient of federal funds, BCAG offers accommodations to individuals with special needs as appropriate and needed for the specific project or plan.

Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) & Transit Administrative Oversight Committee (TAOC)

BCAG reaches out to low income communities and others traditionally underserved populations through the Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC) and the Transit Administrative Oversight Committee (TAOC). The purpose of these committees is to recommend transit services that should be provided to the transit dependent community, which often includes low income individuals, as well as the elderly and disabled.

The SSTAC and TAOC may advise the BCAG Board of Directors regarding other transit issues, such as the coordination of specialized transportation services. As key plans are being developed, the SSTAC and TAOC are briefed by BCAG staff for input into the planning process. Comments are then presented to the BCAG Board for review. BCAG shall utilize the existing SSTAC required under California's Transportation Development Act (TDA), to identify unmet transportation needs within the planning area.

Tribal Governments

BCAG provides outreach to the following Northern California tribal organizations in Butte County: Mechoopda Indian Tribe of the Chico Rancheria, Berry Creek Rancheria, Enterprise Rancheria, KonKow Valley Band of Maidu Indians and Mooretown Rancheria. Each tribal organization has been invited to participate on BCAG's Transportation Advisory Committee. In addition, BCAG has adopted a separate "Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments." This has been included as Appendix A.

Resource Agencies

BCAG engages resource agencies in plan development, specifically with the RTP, by distributing notifications of preparation for the RTP and the TIP and asking for comments on these documents. These agencies include: state and local agencies, economic development, environmental protection, airport operations, tribal, land use management, natural resources, transportation, freight movement, congestion

management, conservation and historic preservation agencies. The Resource Agency Listing for State and Federal Resource Agencies is maintained by the California State Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Division of Transportation Planning, and is updated periodically. BCAG adds local organizations and contacts to this list and will update as necessary.

Additional Stakeholders

In addition to those groups listed above, BCAG strongly encourages public involvement from individuals and groups of individuals who reside, or do business in a given area that may be affected by transportation decisions. They are the following:

- Private and public providers of transportation services, including, but not limited to, the trucking and rail freight industries, rail passenger industry, transit operators, taxi cab operators and airports.
- Specialized transportation service operators, including school buses and social service agencies providing transportation for seniors, and persons with disabilities.
- Those persons who utilize non-motorized modes of transportation such as bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Affordable housing advocates, neighborhood groups, environmental advocates, home builder representatives, broad-based business organizations, landowners, commercial property interests, and home owner associations.

BCAG shall involve these groups through those methods and activities listed in Section IV of this plan.

VI. Description of Committees Contributing to the Planning Process

Advisory Committees

BCAG has a variety of committees that assist in its planning and decision-making process. As a local government entity operating within the State of California, BCAG is subject to the State's open meeting laws identified in the Ralph M. Brown Act.

All monthly meetings of the BCAG Board of Directors and advisory committees are noticed and open to the public. Each of the committees meet as follows:

- Transportation Advisory Committee 1st Thursday of every month, 10:00 am as needed
- Social Service Transportation Advisory Council As necessary
- Transit Administrative Oversight Committee Quarterly, 3:00 pm
- BCAG Board of Directors 4th Thursday of every month, 9:00 am

The following is a description of the composition and function of each BCAG advisory committee:

The BCAG *Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)* includes representatives from each of the local jurisdiction's public works, planning, city and county technical staff, representatives from the Air District, Caltrans, and other affected agencies that have a technical interest in the BCAG planning process as well as appointed citizens. The TAC is a vital link in the transportation planning process in that the committee provides the technical level analysis and input required in transportation project/program development. The TAC meets on a monthly basis as needed.

The BCAG **Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)** was established under the requirements of the Transportation Development Act (TDA), to ensure that unmet transit needs are identified within Butte County. The SSTAC meets on an as needed basis during the year to review information on possible unmet transit needs within Butte County, as part of the unmet transit needs process. The SSTAC also provides a forum to address other transportation issues facing disabled citizens. The SSTAC is a direct advisory council to the BCAG Board of Directors, and includes representation as directed by statute.

The BCAG *Transit Administrative Oversight Committee (TAOC)* was established as a result of the transit consolidation in Butte County. This committee includes administrative and staff representatives from the county, cities, town and BCAG. This committee meets as necessary to review and provide guidance concerning the B-Line transit service. The committee also provides recommendations to the BCAG Board of Directors on the Annual Transit Service Plan and Budget and other transit issues that may arise during the year that are not included in the plan. All transit policy and financial issues are reviewed with this committee prior to a recommendation being made to the BCAG Board of Directors. The TAOC meets on a quarterly basis.

The BCAG *Board of Directors* includes representatives from each of the local government entities within Butte County. The BCAG Board of Directors specifically includes one council representative from each of Butte County's five incorporated cities and town, and each of the five representatives of the Butte County Board of Supervisors. The BCAG Board of Directors is responsible for all policy decisions under the authority of BCAG, as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization and Regional Transportation Planning Agency.

Ad Hoc Group

The BCAG Coordinated Transportation Working Group includes interested citizens and social services agencies working towards improved coordinated transportation efforts. This group was formed to address gap services needed for individuals with special transportation needs. This group has been meeting in conjunction with the SSTAC.

VII. Public Participation Measures of Effectiveness

The strategies contained in the Public Participation Plan will be reviewed annually to determine if modification of any particular strategy is necessary or if additional strategies need to be incorporated into the plan. Evaluation tools to measure effectiveness in terms of reaching desired demographic groups or attaining stated goals will also be employed. Evaluation strategies may include, but not be limited to:

- Tabulation of media coverage
- Surveys
- Comment/feedback cards
- Website polling
- Periodic review and update of outreach mailing lists

VIII. Regional Transportation Plan

The long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) prioritizes and guides all Butte County transportation development over a 20 year minimum period. The RTP is the comprehensive blueprint for transportation investment (transit, highway, local roads, bicycle and pedestrian projects), and establishes the financial foundation for how the region invests in its surface transportation system by identifying how much money is available to address critical transportation needs and setting the policy on how projected revenues may be spent. The RTP is updated at least once every four years to reflect reaffirmed or new planning priorities and changing projections of growth and travel demand based on a reasonable forecast of future revenues available to the region.

BCAG may prepare two technical companion documents for RTP updates: a program-level Environmental Impact Report per California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, and transportation air quality conformity analyses (to ensure clean air mandates are met) per federal Clean Air Act requirements. Certain revisions to the RTP may warrant a revision or update to these technical documents.

Updating and Revising the Regional Transportation Plan

A complete update of an existing regional transportation plan is required at least once every four years. The RTP may also be revised in between major updates under certain circumstances, as described in the table on page 12 and narrative below:

RTP Update

An RTP update is a complete update of the most current long-range regional transportation plan, which is prepared pursuant to state and federal requirements.

RTP updates include extensive public consultation and participation involving residents, public agency officials and stakeholder groups over many months. BCAG's advisory committees play key roles in providing feedback on the policy and investment strategies contained in the plan.

RTP Amendment

An amendment is a major revision to a long-range RTP, including adding or deleting a project, major changes in project/project phase costs, initiation dates, and/or design concept and scope (e.g., changing project locations or the number of through traffic lanes). Changes to projects that are included in the RTP only for illustrative purposes (such as in the financially unconstrained "vision" element) do not require an amendment. An amendment requires public review and comment, demonstration that the project can be completed based on expected funding, and/or a finding that the change is consistent with federal transportation conformity mandates. Amendments that require an update to the air quality conformity analysis will be subject to the conformity and inter-agency consultation process.

RTP Administrative Modification

This is a minor revision to the RTP for minor changes to project/project phase costs, funding sources, and initiation dates. An administrative modification does *not* require public review and comment, demonstration that the project can be completed based on expected funding, or a finding that the change is consistent with federal transportation conformity requirements. As with an RTP amendment, changes to projects that are included in the RTP's financially unconstrained "vision" element may be changed without going through this process.

Updating and Revising the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

Public Partici	pation for RTP	Update		[Procedure	es may not o	ccur in orde	r shown]
Extensive public participation plan developed and executed over many months to provide early and continuing opportunities to comment Public Outreach and Involvement Program reviewed with advisory committees	Numerous targeted workshops with BCAG advisory committees and stakeholder groups BCAG database is used to notify public of opportunities to participate	Opportunities to participate via the Web Key draft documents posted to the Web for public review and comment and available for viewing at the BCAG offices	Revappon / Cor	ernmental sultation, as propriate view as propriate based Air Quality of formity tocol	Draft plan is released for 3 day public review At least one formal public hearing befor BCAG Board Directors Extend public review period by 5-days if final RTP differs significantly from draft RTP and raises new issues	Directors at a publice of	oard of
After receipt of the me technical report from the coregional targets advisory committee (RTAC), BCAG shall conduct one public workshop within the region. Oregional targets advisory committee be (RTAC), BCAG shall from the conduct one public workshop within the region.	pation for SCS/ yo informational setings for sembers of the ard of supervisors of city/town uncils on the CS/APS. The meeting may conducted if it is ended by cresentatives on the board of pervisors and city uncil members cresenting a cajority of the pulation in the corporated areas. The policy of the peting shall be not to the clerk of the pervisors and to ch city clerk.	Public works to provide the public with	e industrial and arry and of arry and arry and arry arry arry arry arry arry arry arr	Preparation and circulation of a draft SCS and APS, if one is prepared, not	BCAG database is used to notify the public and stakeholders of opportunities to participate. Database is a means for the public and stakeholders to receive notification based on a single request.	Two public hearings on the draft SCS and APS, if one is prepared. To the maximum extent feasible, the hearings shall be in	Adoption by the BCAG Board of Directors at a public meeting.

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Notify public via Notification	Review by BCAG Transpor-	Amendment Category	Public Hearing Requirement	Public Review Period, # of Days	Approval
(e-mail)	tation Advisory Committee	Category 1- Administrative	n/a	n/a	BCAG Exec. Director
	or BCAG Board of Directors Posted in BCAG office	Category 2 - Formal Changes that do not impact the existing conformity determination	No	7	Approval at a public meeting by the BCAG Board of
	Posted on BCAG Web	Category 3 -Formal – Relying on existing conformity determination	No	7	Directors
	Sile	Category 4 -Formal – Requires a new conformity determination	Yes	14	BCAG / FHWA approves conformity

IX. <u>Transportation Improvement Program</u>

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) implements the policy and investment priorities expressed by the public and adopted by BCAG in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). In this way, public comments made as part of the RTP are reflected in the TIP as well. The TIP covers a four- or five-year timeframe, and all projects included in the TIP must be consistent with the RTP, which covers a minimum of 20 years. The TIP is a comprehensive listing of surface transportation projects including transit, highway, local roadway, bicycle and pedestrian investments in Butte County that:

- receive federal funds, or are
- subject to a federally required action, or are
- regionally significant, for federal air quality conformity purposes.

The TIP includes a financial plan that demonstrates there are sufficient revenues to ensure that the funds committed (or "programmed") to the projects are available to implement the projects or project phases. Adoption of the TIP also requires a finding of conformity with federal transportation-air quality conformity mandates.

Individual project listings may be viewed at the BCAG website at: http://www.bcag.org/__planning/index.html. As part of BCAG's commitment to public involvement, many projects in the TIP are mapped to present the online reader with a visual location of the project. Individuals without access to the Internet may view a printed copy of the project listings at the BCAG office at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150 in Chico.

FTA "Program of Projects" and the TIP

Individual FTA funded projects are included in the TIP. The opportunity for public participation for FTA funded projects or grants are therefore included and implied as part of the development of the TIP including applicable amendments. Therefore, public involvement activities and time established for public review and comments on the TIP satisfies the Program of Projects (POP) requirements for the FTA. This language was accepted by the Federal Transit Administration and the FTA Triennial Reviewers.

Updating and Revising the TIP

Federal regulations require that the TIP be updated at least once every four years. From time to time, circumstances dictate that revisions be made to the TIP between updates. BCAG will consider such revisions when the circumstances prompting the change are compelling, and the change will not adversely affect transportation-air quality conformity or negatively impact the financial constraint findings of the TIP.

In addition to a TIP update, revisions to the TIP may occur as TIP Amendments, TIP Administrative Modifications and TIP Technical Corrections. Further explanation about

TIP updates and how the types of amendments are processed are shown in the table on page 19 and narrative that follows.

BCAG maintains a free, subscription-based e-mail distribution list of individuals, transportation officials and staff interested in being informed of TIP-related changes and actions. Pertinent information may be distributed to recipients as needed to alert the individuals of notices and information regarding the development and approval of a new TIP and updates, such as the notice of a TIP update, notice and approval of the TIP amendments, and other information as deemed appropriate. This is a tool to help facilitate public review and comments as well as coordination with transportation and other public agencies. Anyone may sign up for the service by contacting BCAG by phone at 530-809-4616 or by email at www.bcag.org/__about_bcag/contact_us.html.

TIP Update

This is a complete update of the existing TIP, to reflect new or revised transportation investment strategies and priorities. An update of the TIP is required at least once every four years. Because all projects included in the TIP are consistent with the RTP, BCAG's extensive public outreach for development of the RTP is reflected in the TIP as well. The TIP implements, in the short-term, the financially constrained element of the RTP and is responsive to comments received during the development of the RTP. TIP updates will be subject to the conformity and interagency consultation procedures.

TIP Amendment

This is a revision that involves a major change to the TIP, such as the addition or deletion of a project; a major change in project cost or project/project phase initiation date; or a major change in design concept or design scope (e.g., changing project termini or the number of through traffic lanes). An amendment is a revision that requires public review and comment, re-demonstration of fiscal constraint, or an air quality conformity determination. Amendments requiring a transportation-air quality conformity analysis will be subject to the conformity and interagency consultation procedures. TIP amendment procedures are in conformance with the latest available federal guidance. The public review period depends if a new regional emissions analysis is prepared. If so, then a 14 day minimum review period is required. If there is not a new regional emissions analysis, a minimum 7 day public review period is required. In most cases, the effected project has already been included in the RTP which has gone thru a more extensive review period.

TIP Administrative Modification

An administrative modification includes minor changes to a project's costs or to the cost of a project phase; minor changes to funding sources of previously included projects; and minor changes to the initiation date of a project or project phase. An administrative modification does not require public review and comment, re-demonstration of fiscal constraint, or conformity determination. Approved administrative modifications are posted online at BCAG's website.

TIP Technical Correction

Technical corrections may be made by BCAG staff as necessary. Technical corrections are not subject to an administrative modification or an amendment, and may include revisions such as: changes to information and projects that are included only for illustrative purposes; changes to information outside of the TIP period; changes to information not required to be included in the TIP per federal regulations; or changes to correct simple errors and data entry errors. These technical corrections cannot impact the cost, scope, or schedule within the TIP period, nor will they be subject to a public review and comment process, re-demonstration of fiscal constraint, or a conformity determination.

Updating and Revising the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

TIP Update						
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via	BCAG	consultation, as app	ropriate	appropriate	BCAG	BCAG Board
Notification	Transpor-	, ,			Transportation	
(e-mail)	tation	30-day public review	and	BCAG's	Advisory	a public
,	Advisory	comment period		response to	Committee	meeting
Notify public,	Committee	·		significant		
including		Draft TIP at BCAG o	ffice	comments		Approval by
RTP		and mail to public lib	raries	compiled into an		Caltrans
participants,		in Butte County		appendix in the		
via U.S. mail;				final TIP		Approval by
use		Post on BCAG Web	site			Federal
appropriate				Extend public		Highway and
lists within				review period by		Federal
BCAG's				5-days if final		Transit
database				TIP differs		administration
				significantly from		(FHWA/FTA)
				draft TIP and		
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TIP Technical Correction		
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No public review	Corrections by staff	No approval required

X. Annual Listing of Obligated Projects

By federal requirement, BCAG publishes at the end of each calendar year an annual listing of obligated projects, which is a record of project delivery for the previous year. The listing is also intended to increase the awareness of government spending on transportation projects to the public. Copies of this annual listing may be obtained by contacting BCAG.

XI. Comments

To submit comments or for more information about Butte County Association of Governments please visit our website at www.bcag.org, or contact:

Ivan Garcia
Programming Manager
Butte County Association of Governments
326 Huss Drive, Suite 150
Chico, CA 95928

Phone: (530) 809-4616 Fax: (530) 879-2444 Email: igarcia@bcag.org

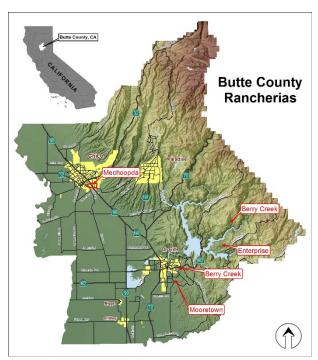
Appendix A

Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

POLICY FOR GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION WITH FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED

NATIVE AMERICAN
TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS



Adopted: September 22, 2016

Prepared by:



326 Huss Drive, Suite 150 Chico, CA 95928 (530) 809-4616 www.bcag.org

Please direct comments/questions to: Iván García, Programming Manager for BCAG at 530-809-4616 or by email at <u>igarcia@bcag.org</u>

Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments

Consultation is the meaningful and timely process of seeking, discussing, and considering carefully the views of others, in a manner that is cognizant of all parties' cultural values, and where feasible, seeking agreement.

Requirement to Consult

The United States Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) Order 5301.1 ensures that programs, policies, and procedures administered by the U.S. DOT are responsive to the needs and concerns of Native American Tribal Governments. This Order provides a very thorough overview of the various federal regulations and Executive Orders on this subject. This Order is available at: http://environment.fhwa.dot.gov/guidebook/vol2/5301.1.pdf

US Code Title 23 Sec 135 (e and f) generally state that Tribal government concerns should be considered in developing planning documents. Specifically, the applicable provisions concerning the documented process from the U.S.DOT joint FHWA/FTA planning regulations at 23 CFR 450.316 state:

- (c) When the MPO includes Indian Tribal lands, the MPO shall appropriately involve the Indian Tribal government(s) in the development of the metropolitan transportation plan and the TIP.
- (e) MPOs shall, to the extent practicable, develop a documented process(es) that outlines roles, responsibilities, and key decision points for consulting with Indian Tribal governments and agencies, ...which may be included in the agreement(s) developed under §450.314.

The reference to the metropolitan transportation plan would be BCAG's long-range Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The reference to the "TIP" would be BCAG's short-range programming document known as the Butte County Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP).

Federally Recognized Tribes

A contact list of California Native American Tribes that are both federally and non-federally recognized is maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission. There are five federally recognized Tribes in Butte County including:

- Mechoopda Indian Tribe of the Chico Rancheria, Chico CA
- Berry Creek Rancheria, Oroville CA
- Enterprise Rancheria, Oroville CA
- KonKow Valley Band of Maidu Indians, Oroville CA

Mooretown Rancheria, Oroville CA

Federal recognition is a legal distinction that applies to a Tribe's right to a government-to-government relationship with the federal government and eligibility for federal programs.

All California Native American Tribes are distinct and independent governmental entities with specific cultural beliefs and traditions and unique connections to areas of California that are their ancestral homelands.

Federal and state law require local agencies to consult with federally recognized Tribal governments prior to making transportation decisions, taking actions, or implementing programs that may impact their communities. This activity is separate from, and precedes the public participation process. Protocol should be flexible and dynamic with respect to initiation of communication and discussion format. More than one Tribe may have an affiliation with the area of consideration. Individual consultation may be necessary if a combined consultation format is not preferred by the Tribal Government. Determining the degree and adequacy of consultation will vary depending on a number of factors including the scope of proposed activities, whether the activity is short-term or long-term, the cultural or political sensitivity of the issue at hand, and the number of potential stakeholders.

The Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) intends to consult with Native American Tribal Governments on activities that may impact their communities. Although consultation is not mandated for non-federally recognized Tribes, this does not preclude the BCAG from consulting with local Tribes when plans or activities might impact cultural values or the community.

Consultation

The Executive Director is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization/Regional Transportation Planning Agency (MPO/RTPA) official with principal responsibility for the agency's implementation of consultation requirements. At the appropriate time in the planning phase, contact shall be initiated directly with the Tribal Chair to inquire as to protocols in place such as cultural resource contacts, procedures, time limits, and restrictions affecting communication. Development of mutually agreed-upon protocols may result in more effective consultation efforts with individual Tribes. Consultation should be done face-to-face whenever possible.

Consultation is a process, not a single event, and communication should continue until the project or plan is complete. Notification of Tribes is not the same as consultation. Sufficient time should be provided in a request for consultation in order to allow the Tribal Council to take official action. Consultation requests should include a clear statement of purpose, explaining the reason for the request and declaring the importance of the tribe's participation in the planning process. The request should specify the location of the area of potential effect

addressed by the proposal. All aspects of the consultation process should be documented, including how the lead agency reaches a final decision.

In 1999 the California Transportation Commission adopted additional guidelines:

The Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy process shall meet the federal and state requirements to consult with and consider the interests of Indian Tribal Governments in the development of transportation plans and programs, including funding and programming of transportation projects accessing tribal lands through state and local transportation programs.

Planning Documents / Planning Studies, Transportation Improvement Programs

- Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP)
- State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)
- Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS)
- Overall Work Program (OWP)

Consult with Tribal Governments in preparation of planning studies and programs affecting the Tribe:

- Initiate consultation by letter from the Executive Director to the Tribal Chair with copies to the CEO, Administrator, and Cultural Department representatives.
- Offer to meet to discuss the Tribe's needs and concerns regarding impacts within their jurisdiction prior to the beginning of preparation of documents. If the Tribal Chair and/or their representatives elect not to meet, send a copy of the draft report for their review.
- Consult with Tribal governments while developing the RTP/SCS, addressing Tribal concerns regarding impacts within their jurisdiction and again prior to adoption of the RTP/SCS.
- Invite representatives of the Tribe to public meetings.

Transit studies, unmet needs hearing, transit needs assessment

Consult with the Tribal Governments on transit needs in their area:

- Initiate consultation and invitation to the unmet needs hearing by letter from the Executive Director to Tribal Chair with copies to the CEO, Administrator, and Cultural Department representatives.
- Offer to meet to discuss the Tribe's transit needs and concerns.
- Outreach to members of the Tribe through local newspapers, Indian newsletters, or trust lands meeting places.

Grant Programs: Transit 5311, Transportation Enhancements, JARC, New Freedom, etc.

Coordinate with the Tribal Governments to provide them information and technical assistance on grant programs administered by the RTPA or others:

- Initiate consultation by letter from the Executive Director to the Tribal Chair with copies to the CEO, Administrator, and Cultural Department representatives.
- Provide notice of each grant and its application deadlines.
- Offer assistance in completing grant applications.
- Invite representatives of the Tribe to any training or public meetings regarding the grants.
- Coordinate between the Tribe and RTPA member agencies.
- Consult with and consider the interests of the Tribal Government.

Indian Reservation Road (IRR) Planning and Programming

Coordinate amongst planners and engineers in local agencies and Tribes:

- Offer to meet to discuss the Tribes needs and concerns when contacted by the Tribal representatives.
- Provide assistance in IRR planning.
- Coordinate with federal entities as requested by the Tribe.

Appendix B

Outreach Efforts & Publications Listing

* Available in hardcopy at the Butte County Association of Governments Office * * Available digitally at http://www.bcag.org/documents/planning/PPP/Appendix_A_1.pdf *

Public Notice

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Notice is hereby given that the BCAG Board of Directors is scheduled to begin the preparation of the 2017 FTIP. Development of these documents will include a new regional emissions analysis for air quality conformity purposes. As information is developed, the BCAG's website will be updated at www.bcag.org. If you are interested in being placed on an email distribution list, please email Mr. Ivan Garcia at igarcia@bcag.org. The 2017 FTIP is scheduled to be adopted on August 25, 2016. The 2016 RTP/SCS is scheduled to be adopted in December 2016. Information can also be reviewed at the Butte County Association of Governments office located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico CA 95928.

Notice is hereby given that BCAG will be updating its Public Participation Plan (PPP) to update legislative references and other minor changes which document how BCAG will notify the public on its planning and programming requirements. In addition, BCAG is addressing Limited English Proficiency federal requirements in the PPP. Lastly, BCAG will be developing a new Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments as a stand-alone document that will also be included as an Appendix in the 2016 PPP. A new 2016 PPP is scheduled for adoption on August 25, 2016 by the BCAG Board of Directors. An open house workshop to review the PPP is scheduled for June 22, 2016 at 3 p.m. at the BCAG conference room located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico.

All information related to the PPP and draft Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments can be found on-line at http://www.bcag.org/Planning/-Public-Participation-Plan-PPP/index.html.

Notice is hereby given that BCAG is currently developing the long range 2016 RTP/SCS. An open house workshop to review the RTP/SCS and the 2017 FTIP is scheduled for July 13, 2016 at 3 p.m. at the BCAG conference room located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico. The RTP/SCS identifies the long-range transportation plans for specific funding programs through the year 2040. Any other BCAG related matters can be discussed.

Adoption of the FTIP, PPP and Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments is scheduled for 9 a.m. on August 25, 2016 at the City of Chico Council Chambers located at 421 Main St, Chico, CA 95928. Once adopted, these documents can be amended at any time by the BCAG Board. Questions regarding these products can be directed to Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager at BCAG at 530-809-4616 or by e-mail at igarcia@bcag.org. Comments are also welcomed by email. Hard copies of the PPP are available at each of the Butte County Public Libraries for review and comment. Please contacted the BCAG offices for translating assistance.



PUBLIC WORKSHOP - OPEN HOUSE

DRAFT - 2016 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

DRAFT - POLICY FOR GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION WITH FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

Wednesday, June 22, 2016 3:00 p.m.

326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico CA 95928

Chico Enterprise-Record

400 E. Park Ave. Chico, Car 95928 530-896-7702 erlegal@chicoer.com

3522070

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS ATTN: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 326 HUSS DR STE 150 **STE 100** CHICO, CA 95928

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF BUTTE

In The Matter Of Public Notice.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA SS. COUNTY OF BUTTE

The undersigned resident of the county of Butte, State of California, says:

That I am, and at all times herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States and not a party to nor interested in the above entitled matter; that I am the principal clerk of the printer and publisher of

The Chico Enterprise-Record The Oroville Mercury-Register

That said newspaper is one of general circulation as defined by Section 6000 Government Code of the State of California, Case No. 26796 by the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Butte; that said newspaper at all times herein mentioned was printed and published daily in the City of Chico and County of Butte; that the notice of which the annexed is a true printed copy, was published in said newspaper on the following days:

06/16/2016

Dated June 16, 2016 at Chico, California

(Signature)

Legal No.

0005754693

Public Notice

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Publish: June 16, 2016

RADISE POST

Paradise, CA 95967 530-877-4413 legals@paradisepost.com 2120598

BUTTE REGIONAL TRANSIT 326 HUSS DRIVE SUITE 150 CHICO, CA 95928

Declaration of Publication

State of California County of Butte

That at all times herein mentioned Declarant is and was a resident of said county of Butte over the age of twenty-one years; not a party to nor interested in the within matter; that Declarant is now and was at all times herein mentioned the Legal Clerk of the Paradise Post, a newspaper published twice a week, which said newspaper was adjudged a newspaper of general circulation on November 12, 1946, by Superior Court Order No. 22262 as entered in Book 30 Page 223 of said Court; and that said newspaper is printed and published every Wednesday and Saturday.

GENERAL LEGAL

06/18/2016

and such publications was made in the regular issues of said paper (and not in any supplemental edition or extra thereof):

06/20/2016

Signature

Legal No.

0005754679

Public Notice

The Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Butte County and its incorporated cities. As the MPO, BCAG is required to prepare a Federal Transportation Improvement program (FTIP) every two years and a long-range Region Transportation Plan (RTP) every four years. The purpose of the FTIP is to identify all transportation-related projects that have federal transportation funding require some type of approval by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). In addition, all nonfederal, regionally significant projects are included. The FTIP indicates the area's short-term plan for use of federal dollars and other resources for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the transportation system and the achievement of federal air quality standards over the next four federal fiscal years.

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Notice is hereby given that BCAG is currently developing the long range 2016 RTP/SCS. An open house workshop to review the RTP/SCS and the 2017 FTIP is scheduled for July 13, 2016 at 3 p.m. at the BCAG conference room located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico. The RTP/SCS identifies the long-range transportation plans for specific funding programs through the year 2040. Any other BCAG related matters can be discussed.

Adoption of the FTIP, PPP and Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments is scheduled for 9 a.m. on August 25, 2016 at the City of Chico Council Chambers located at 421 Main St, Chico, CA 95928. Once adopted, these documents can be amended at any time by the BCAG Board. Questions regarding these products can be directed to Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager at BCAG at 530-809-4616 or by e-mail at igarcia@bcag.org. Comments are also welcomed by email. Hard copies of the PPP are available at each of the Butte County Public Libraries for review and comment. Please contacted the BCAG offices for translating assistance.

Publish: June 18, 2016





326 Huss Drive, Suite 150 Chico, California 95928-8441 (530) 809-4616 FAX (530) 879-2444

June 10, 2016

The Honorable Glenda Nelson, Chairperson Enterprise Rancheria 2133 Monte Vista Ave Oroville, CA 95965

Subject:

- 2017 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Development
- 2016 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy
- BCAG Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments
- BCAG 2016 Public Participation Plan Development

Honorable Chairperson:

The Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the state designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) serving Butte County. BCAG is responsible for developing all state and federal transportation plans and programming documents that are necessary to secure and program transportation funds within the region.

BCAG was formed through a joint powers agreement between the County of Butte and the incorporated Cities of Biggs, Gridley, Oroville, Chico and the Town of Paradise. BCAG is governed by a ten member Board of Directors comprised of the five county Board of Supervisors and one council person from each of the five incorporated cities. I currently serve as the Supervisor for District 1 and as Chair representing BCAG.

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BCAG staff has commenced the development of the 2016 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) for Butte County and is nearing

completion. This is a federally required long-range transportation planning document that is updated every four years. The purpose of this document is to identify Butte County's long-term transportation needs for all travel modes. The RTP/SCS will cover the period between 2016 and 2040. All projects selected for programming into the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) are required to be included in the RTP. An open house workshop has been scheduled to review the RTP/SCS for July 13, 2016 at 3 p.m. at the BCAG conference room located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico. This is another opportunity to come learn about the regional transportation planning process and provide any input or ask any questions you may have.

BCAG is also responsible for preparing, adopting and submitting a Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) to Caltrans, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The FTIP is a programming document that identifies all transportation projects and programs that are funded with federal transportation funds or require some type of approval from the FHWA or FTA in Butte County. This programming document covers a four federal fiscal year cycle and is updated every two years. Projects identified in the FTIP typically include:

- streets and roads
- highways
- transit
- safety
- bridge reconstruction
- active transportation projects (federally funded bike and pedestrian projects)
- other programs that receive federal dollars or require some type of federal approval

Other items BCAG is developing include a formal document required by the FHWA and FTA to document BCAG's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with federally recognized Native American Tribal Governments. Attached to this letter is our draft document for your review and comment.

Honorable Glenda Nelson June 10, 2016 Page 3

PPP. An open house workshop to review the PPP is scheduled for June 22, 2016 at 3 p.m. at the BCAG conference room located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico. All information related to the PPP can be found on-line at http://www.bcag.org/Planning/-Public-Participation-Plan-PPP/index.html. A hard copy of the draft 2016 PPP is also attached along with the public notice we will post in the local newspapers.

As we develop BCAG's RTP/SCS, 2017 FTIP, Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments and its 2016 Public Participation Plan, **we welcome any input you may have**. If you prefer, I can arrange for BCAG staff to provide your Tribe with a workshop on these activities or any other item concerning BCAG at your convenience. For your awareness, BCAG owns and operates Butte Regional Transit as well.

All material concerning these items are posted on the Internet at BCAG's website at: http://www.bcag.org/ as they are developed.

If you have any questions please give me a call or you can contact Mr. Jon Clark, Executive Director of BCAG at 530-809-4616. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Bill Connelly, Chair

Bill Connelly

Butte County Association of Governments

IG

- Draft BCAG Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments
- Draft BCAG 2016 Public Participation Plan
- Public Notice





326 Huss Drive, Suite 150 Chico, California 95928-8441 (530) 809-4616 FAX (530) 879-2444

June 10, 2016

The Honorable James Edwards, Chairperson Berry Creek Rancheria 5 Tyme Way Oroville. CA 95966

Subject:

- 2017 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Development
- 2016 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy
- BCAG Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments
- BCAG 2016 Public Participation Plan Development

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Honorable James Edwards June 10, 2016 Page 3

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Sincerely,

Bill Connelly

Bill Connelly, Chair Butte County Association of Governments

IG

- Draft BCAG Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments
- Draft BCAG 2016 Public Participation Plan
- Public Notice





326 Huss Drive, Suite 150 Chico, California 95928-8441 (530) 809-4616 FAX (530) 879-2444

June 10, 2016

The Honorable Gary Archuleta, Chairperson Mooretown Rancheria #1 Alverda Drive Oroville, CA 95966

Subject:

- 2017 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Development
- 2016 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy
- BCAG Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments
- BCAG 2016 Public Participation Plan Development

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Honorable Gary Archuleta December 10, 2016 Page 3

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Bill Connelly

Bill Connelly, Chair Butte County Association of Governments

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326 Huss Drive, Suite 150 Chico, California 95928-8441 (530) 809-4616 FAX (530) 879-2444

June 10, 2016

The Honorable Dennis Ramirez, Chairperson Mechoopda Indian Tribe of the Chico Rancheria 125 Mission Ranch Blvd. Chico, CA 95926

Subject:

- 2017 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Development
- 2016 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy
- BCAG Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments
- BCAG 2016 Public Participation Plan Development

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Bill Connelly

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326 Huss Drive, Suite 150 Chico, California 95928-8441 (530) 809-4616 FAX (530) 879-2444

June 10, 2016

The Honorable Patsy Seek, Chairperson KonKow Valley Band of Maidu Indians 1185 18th Street Oroville, CA 95965

Subject:

- 2017 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Development
- 2016 Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy
- BCAG Policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments
- BCAG 2016 Public Participation Plan Development

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Bill Connelly, Chair Butte County Association of Governments

IG

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BCAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Item #4 Consent

August 25, 2016

APPROVAL OF THE 2016 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

ISSUE: BCAG's current adopted Public Participation Plan (PPP) has been amended four times since its original adoption in January 2008. Staff is recommending the PPP be updated to coincide with the adoption of the new Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy schedule, every four years.

DISCUSSION: Federal transportation legislation (MAP 21 and the FAST Act) requires BCAG to prepare a Public Participation Plan (PPP) prior to the development of the long range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The PPP serves to formalize and follow public outreach strategies involving the populace in transportation planning decisions.

BCAG is required to document a proactive public participation process that provides complete information, timely public notice, public access to key decisions, and supports early and continuing involvement of the public in developing all transportation plans and improvement programs.

The updated draft 2016 PPP is posted online at: http://www.bcag.org/Planning/-Public-Participation-Plan-PPP/index.html.

Hard copies of the draft 2016 PPP will be available at the Board meeting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Board approve the Public Participation Plan by Resolution #2016/17-11. This resolution also authorizes staff to make any necessary technical corrections/modifications to ensure timely state and federal submittal.

Key staff: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager



BCAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Item #4 Consent

September 22, 2016

APPROVAL OF THE 2016 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

ISSUE: BCAG's current adopted Public Participation Plan (PPP) has been amended four times since its original adoption in January 2008. Staff is recommending the PPP be updated to coincide with the adoption of the new Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy schedule, every four years.

DISCUSSION: Federal transportation legislation (MAP 21 and the FAST Act) requires BCAG to prepare a Public Participation Plan (PPP) prior to the development of the long range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The PPP serves to formalize and follow public outreach strategies involving the populace in transportation planning decisions.

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STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Board approve the Public Participation Plan by Resolution #2016/17-11. This resolution also authorizes staff to make any necessary technical corrections/modifications to ensure timely state and federal submittal.

Key staff: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager



BCAG Transportation Advisory Committee

Item # 9
Information

June 2, 2016

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN AMENDMENT TO ADDRESS TITLE VI

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

ISSUE: BCAG is required to update the Public Participation Plan (PPP) to address current Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Title VI requirements

DISCUSSION: It was brought to BCAG's attention during the FTA Triennial Review that portions of BCAG's PPP were out of date because of newer federal surface transportation legislation references such as MAP 21 instead of SAFETEA-LU. In addition, BCAG had to strengthen the areas which addressed Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requirements to ensure equal opportunity in the transportation planning and programming process. Other minor changes and PPP cleanup may also be proposed.

In addition, the PPP currently requires the noticing of formal FTIP amendments in the local newspapers. This could be costly to BCAG and ineffective in reaching out to the public. Staff would like to have a general discussion on what the local jurisdiction requires and find useful in keeping interested individuals and stakeholders engaged in the process.

Because the PPP will be amended, staff is keeping the committee informed. Specific changes will be presented at the following committee meeting. Attached for your record is the draft public notice BCAG will be publishing in the local newspapers.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for information.

Key staff: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

Draft BCAG Public Participation Plan Amendment

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, BCAG is required to update its Title VI Program every 3 years. In May 2016, BCAG updated its Title VI Program which grants all citizens equal access to BCAG and Butte Regional Transit (BRT) transportation services by providing public transportation in an environment that is free from discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin. All persons, regardless of their citizenship are covered under this regulation. This program includes the Public Participation Plan (PPP) and the Language Assistance Plan.

As a recipient of federal financial assistance, BCAG is required to assess the needs of individuals with limited English language skills. As defined in Executive Order 13166, LEP persons are those who do not speak English as their primary language and have limited ability to read, speak, write or understand English. *The PPP was recently updated to include public participation procedures for persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and to help identify reasonable steps for providing language assistance to LEP persons.* These updates include providing language interpreter services, outreach to local community groups who interact with persons with limited English and translation of vital transit documents such as the bus schedule, ADA paratransit application, Title VI public notice and the BRT website.



BCAG Transportation Advisory Committee

Item # 6
Information

August 4, 2016

DRAFT 2016 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

ISSUE: BCAG has drafted a new 2016 Public Participation Plan (PPP) to coincide with the update to the new 2016 RTP/SCS

DISCUSSION: BCAG was required to update the Public Participation Plan (PPP) to address current Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Title VI requirements. In an effort to keep the PPP current and not keep amending the document, staff has decided to prepare a new 2016 PPP document.

Recently, it was brought to BCAG's attention during the FTA Triennial Review that portions of BCAG's PPP were out of date because of newer federal surface transportation legislation references such as MAP 21 instead of SAFETEA-LU. In addition, BCAG had to strengthen the areas which addressed Limited English Proficiency (LEP) requirements to ensure equal opportunity in the transportation planning and programming process. Other minor changes and PPP cleanup may also be proposed.

In addition, the PPP currently requires the noticing of formal FTIP amendments in the local newspapers. This could be costly to BCAG and ineffective in reaching out to the public. Staff would like to have a general discussion on what the local jurisdiction requires and find useful in keeping interested individuals and stakeholders engaged in the process.

The complete draft PPP has been posted on-line at: http://www.bcag.org/Planning/-Public-Participation-Plan-PPP/index.html. Staff will be presenting the PPP at the August 25, 2016 Board meeting for approval. Any subsequent amendments to the PPP will be for the 2016 document.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for information.

Key staff: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager



BCAG Transportation Advisory Committee

Item # 7
Information

August 4, 2016

DRAFT POLICY FOR GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION WITH FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

PREPARED BY: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

ISSUE: BCAG has been informed of the requirement to develop a stand-alone policy for Government-to-Government Consultation with Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments.

DISCUSSION: As part of BCAG's review of its Overall Work Program and Budget for the 2016/17 fiscal year, the Federal Highway Administration informed BCAG of the requirement for the MPO to develop a stand-alone policy in communicating with the local sovereign Tribal Governments.

As part of the process, BCAG utilized an example provided to develop it's own policy. This draft document was distributed to each of the Tribal Chairperson for each of the local Native American Tribal Governments. This document is posted on-line, alongside BCAG's Public Participation Plan at: http://www.bcag.org/Planning/-Public-Participation-Plan-PPP/index.html. Staff will be presenting the draft policy for approval at the August 25, 2016 Board meeting. A hard copy of the draft policy will be available at the committee meeting.

In addition, as part of the outreach effort, staff extended an invitation to present to each of the local Tribes. BCAG staff did make one general presentation on BCAG to the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of the Chico Rancheria.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented for information.

Key staff: Ivan Garcia, Programming Manager

Appendix C

Comments Received

No comments were received

Appendix D

BCAG Resolution Adopting Public Participation Plan



BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS RESOLUTION NO 2016/2017-11



ADOPTION OF THE 2016 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

WHEREAS, the Butte County Association of Governments is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for Butte County in accordance with 23 USC Section 134(b)(6); and Section 450.306 of the Metropolitan and Statewide Planning Rule;

WHEREAS, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) and the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015 requires the Butte County Association of Governments, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization, to prepare and maintain a Public Participation Plan (PPP);

WHEREAS, the 2008 PPP has been developed in consultation with BCAG's advisory committees including the Transportation Advisory Committee, Social Services Transportation Advisory Council, the ad hoc Coordinated Transportation Working Group, federal and state agencies and the public;

WHEREAS, prior to approval the 2016 PPP has been noticed for a minimum 45-day public review comment period prior to adoption and represents a minor update to the 2008 PPP including legislative references/requirements and noticing requirements;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Butte County Association Governments, as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization, does hereby adopt the Public Participation Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the interest of project delivery, the Butte County Association of Governments authorizes its staff to make minor technical corrections in cooperation with Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration as needed to ensure the timely submittal of the Public Participation Plan.

BCAG Resolution 2016/17-11 Page 3

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Butte County Association of Governments on the 22nd day of September 2016 by the following vote:

AYES:

Connelly, Kirk, Teeter, Wahl, Dahlmeier, Rawlings

NOES:

None

ABSENT:

Lambert, Busch, Fillmer, Borges, Jones

ABSTAIN:

None

APPROVED:

BILL CONNELLY, CHAIR

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

ATTEST:

JON A. CLARK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BUTTE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS