

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**30 DAY COMMENT PERIOD & PUBLIC HEARING - REVISED**

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 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) every four years. The purpose of the FTIP is to identify all transportation-related projects that require federal funding or other approval by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The FTIP identifies all non-federal, regionally significant projects for information and air quality emissions modeling purposes. 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. The purpose of the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) is to establish regional goals, identify present and future needs, deficiencies, and constraints, analyze potential solutions, estimate available funding, and propose investments over a 20-year minimum horizon. The long range RTP/SCS and short-range FTIP are required to be consistent with each other.

The 2025 FTIP has been prepared and is available for public review. In addition, Amendment #3 to the 2020 RTP/SCS has been prepared to ensure consistency between the FTIP and RTP/SCS. These actions include a new Air Quality Emissions Analysis and Conformity Determination for both the 2025 FTIP and 2020 RTP/SCS.

The draft 2025 FTIP is available at each public library, the BCAG offices and posted on-line at: <https://www.bcag.org/PlansProgramsModel/FTIP/index.html>. The draft Air Quality Emissions Analysis and Conformity Determination is included as Appendix 1 to the 2025 FTIP and is also posted at: <https://www.bcag.org/PlansProgramsModel/Regional-Transportation-Air-Quality-Planning/index.html>.

Update to the Air Quality Emissions Analysis and Conformity Determination is described below:

**EXISTING EXEMPT PROJECT:**

- 1. Caltrans - Grouped Projects for Safety Improvements - SHOPP Collision Reduction Program.**  
This amendment updates the current Grouped Project listing to add a project on State Route 191 near Paradise from 0.25 mile north of Durham Pentz Road to 0.25 mile south of Durham Pentz Road (PM 3.278 / 3.778). The scope of the project is to improve the existing intersection/roundabout to address collision patterns. The project is exempt from a regional emissions analysis per the Environmental Protection Agency's Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.127 Exempt from Regional Emissions Analysis, Table 3 – Projects Exempt From Regional Emissions Analyses indicating that intersection channelization projects are exempt. This project was not previously included in Caltrans' Grouped Listing and therefore amendment is required.

## **NEW EXEMPT PROJECT: (REVISION TO INCLUDE)**

- 2. Butte County – Lumpkin Rd Rehabilitation Project** – This amendment adds the Lumpkin Rd Rehabilitation project. The scope of this project is to rehabilitate Lumpkin Rd damaged as a result of the Bear Fire (North Complex West) and the subsequent disaster recovery work from near Forbestown Rd to the end of pavement near CalFire State 51. A total of \$4 million in Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed funds and \$459,000 in local match is programmed. The project is exempt from a regional emissions analysis per the Environmental Protection Agency’s Transportation Conformity Rule Section 93.126 Exempt from Regional Emissions Analysis, Table 2 Safety – Projects Exempt From Regional Emissions Analyses indicating that pavement resurfacing and/or rehabilitation are exempt.

## **NEW NON-EXEMPT PROJECT:**

- 3. Town of Paradise – Roe Rd Extension for Phase 2 Project**. This amendment updates the project description to increase the scope to include a new 3 lane road with bicycle and pedestrian facilities from South Libby Rd to State Route 191/ Clark Rd. to address emergency evacuation needs highlighted by the 2018 Paradise Camp Fire. This project is funded with Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds, Local Transportation Climate Adaptation Program (LTCAP) and Local funds for a total of \$41,000,000.

The results from the 2025 FTIP and 2020 RTP emissions analysis show that current and future emissions of the ozone precursors ROG and NO<sub>x</sub> will be no greater than the 2011 and 2017 base year emissions levels. Thus, Butte County, in accordance with the Transportation Conformity Rule requirements applicable to Butte County (§51.464 and §51.436 – 51.440), has satisfied the “no-greater-than-2011” test for the 2008 8-hour federal ozone NAAQS and the “no-greater-than-2017” test for the 2015 8-hour federal ozone NAAQS. Based on this analysis, the 2020 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and 2025 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) conforms to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) and all applicable sections of the EPA’s Transportation Conformity Rule.

An Interagency Consultation Review (ICR) Group meeting has been scheduled for Monday, August 19, 2024, from 10-11 a.m. This meeting will take place via zoom. An agenda, including copies of the PM 2.5 Hot-Spot Conformity Assessment and draft 2025 FTIP Air Quality Emissions Analysis will be posted by August 2, 2024. A zoom link will be posted at: <https://www.bcag.org/PlansProgramsModel/Regional-Transportation-Air-Quality-Planning/index.html>.

**Amendment #3 to the 2020 RTP/SCS and adoption of the 2025 FTIP is scheduled to be approved by the BCAG Board of Directors on September 26, 2024, upon conclusion of the public hearing.**

Information is also available for review at the Butte County Association of Governments office located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico CA 95928. Questions can be directed to Ivan Garcia, Programming Director at BCAG at 530-809-4616 or by e-mail at [igarcia@bcag.org](mailto:igarcia@bcag.org).