



MCOG Board Orientation

Updated Feb. 2012
Dow & Associates
www.mendocinocog.org

Orientation & Reference Manual

- Contacts & Acronyms
- Calendars
- MCOG Organization - Bylaws, JPA
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Transportation Funding Sources

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Orientation & Reference Manual

...more:

- Transportation Issues
- Statewide Associations & Committees
- Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE)
- Housing Role
- MCOG Newsletter



MCOG Organization

Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) was formed as a joint powers agreement in 1972, as mandated by state law, the Transportation Development Act (TDA).

MCOG is a political subdivision of the State of California.

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MCOG Organization

Two county supervisors, a countywide elected official or at-large public appointee, and one council member from each of the four incorporated cities make up Board membership.

A representative of Caltrans serves on the Policy Advisory Committee with the seven directors.



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MCOG Organization

MCOG serves as the Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE) of Mendocino County, administering the call box program.

MCOG also has a role in housing and economic development.



MCOG Organization

Officers: Chair & Vice Chair

Standing Committees:

- Policy Advisory Committee
- Executive Committee
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Transit Productivity Committee (TPC)
- Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)



MCOG Staffing

3-year contracts with Dow & Associates provide all staff for:

- Administration
- Planning
- SAFE

As an independent consultant, Dow provides a “turn-key” operation with employees, offices and equipment.

Current contract is FY 2011/12 through 2013/14.



Dow & Associates Priorities for MCOG FY 2011/12 – 2013/14

- Continue Transportation Liaison Relationship Between Local Governments and State and Federal Government
- Implement Priority Transportation Improvements
- Complete Call Box Installations, Develop Long Term Maintenance Strategy
- Strengthen Interregional Partnerships
- Provide Local Assistance to Expedite Project Delivery, Fill the Gap
- Develop a Shelf of Projects Ready for Construction Funding
- Seek Additional Funding for Transportation
- Complete Regional Blueprint Planning, Move to Implementation Phase
- Support Continued Use of Caltrans Planning Grant Programs
- Continue to Develop and Improve Administrative Procedures
- Plan for Succession



Roles & Responsibilities

- Administration of Transportation Development Act (TDA)
- Transportation Planning
- STIP Planning, Programming & Monitoring (State/Regional Trans. Improvement Program)
- Interagency Relations (Caltrans, CTC, others)
- Local Agency Support (Cities & County)



Administrative Responsibilities

Phil Dow, Executive Director:

- Implement Policies, Direct & Manage Staff
- Coordinate with City and County
- Represent Interests in Sacramento
- Work with State & Federal Elected Officials
- Participate in CALCOG, Statewide Committees, i.e.
Rural Counties Task Force
- Oversee Transportation Planning
- Advance Priority Projects



Administrative Responsibilities

Janet Orth, Deputy Director for Admin.:

- Prepare Board, Exec. Comm. Agendas, Minutes
- Prepare Annual Budget, Process Claims
- Oversee Audits - Fiscal and Performance
- Manage Federal & State Fund Agreements, Consultant Contracts
- Support Transit Productivity Committee and Unmet Transit Needs Process
- Community Relations - Publicity, Website
- Manage Database, Files, and Manuals
- Represent MCOG at Meetings as Needed



Planning Responsibilities

Loretta Ellard, Assistant Exec. Director/ Deputy Director for Planning:

- Act in Executive Director's Place as Needed
- Develop and Manage Annual Work Program
- Manage Grants and Consultant Projects
- Support Technical Advisory Committee
- Act as Liaison to Mendocino Transit Authority and North Coast Rail Authority
- Conduct Local Bike & Ped. Program
- Mentor Associate Planners



Planning Responsibilities

Nephele Barrett, Senior Planner:

- Manage Regional/State Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP and STIP)
- Coordinate Trans. Enhancement (TE) Program
- Monitor Projects - STIP, TE, Pavement Management
- Assist MCOG Member Local Agencies
- Develop Regional Transportation Plan, Regional Bikeway Plan
- Coordinate FTA Sec. 5310 Grant Program
- Manage Special Projects, e.g. Blueprint, Bike Plan



Planning Responsibilities

Terri Persons, Associate Planner:

(Assisting when MCOG and Lake APC duties coincide)

- Manage Grant Programs
- Coordinate Transit Programs
- Develop and Monitor Special Projects



SAFE & GIS Responsibilities

Alexis Pedrotti, Call Box Coordinator:

- Coordinate and Monitor Motorist Aid System
- Liaise with CHP, Caltrans, Stakeholders
- Represent Mendocino SAFE at CalSAFE Association
- Maintain Call Boxes
- Support Geographic Information System (GIS)



Local Assistance Responsibilities

James Sookne, Regional Project Manager:

- Work with MCOG member agencies
- Assist with project delivery

This is a newly created position that resulted from MCOG Board of Directors' strategic planning in 2010.



Major Programs & Funding

- Transportation Development Act (TDA)
- Planning Overall Work Program (OWP)
- State and Regional Transportation Improvement Programs (STIP, RTIP)
- Regional Surface Trans. Program (RSTP)
- Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program
- Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- Federal Reauthorization



Transportation Development Act (TDA)

- California enacted in 1972 to fund transportation planning and public transit
- Authorized Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs), e.g. MCOG
- Funded by local quarter-cent sales tax (Local Transportation Fund-LTF) and State Transit Assistance (STA)
- MCOG allocates to Admin., Planning, Bike & Ped, and MTA



Planning Overall Work Program (OWP)

- Annual program funded by LTF, also State and Federal grants
- Projects are consistent with goals of Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- Eligible participants are MCOG member Cities and County Planning & DOT, also MTA
- Technical Advisory Committee reviews and recommends, Caltrans approves, Council adopts



Overall Work Program FY 2011/12

- Current Planning
- Long Range Planning
- City of Fort Bragg – Hwy. 1 Safety Project/Traffic Model
- County DOT - Road System Traffic Safety Review
- MCOG – Rails With Trails Corridor Plan
- County DOT - Special Studies
- MCOG - STIP Planning, Programming & Monitoring
- City of Ukiah – Safe Routes to School Plan
- City of Ukiah – Bike & Pedestrian Master Plan Update
- MTA – Short Range Transit Development Plan
- MCOG - Countywide Traffic Model & Capital Improvement Program
- MCOG – 2011 Regional Bikeway Plan

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Overall Work Program FY 2011/12

...more:

- County DOT – Mitchell Creek Area Second Connection
- Training
- MCOG - Regional Transportation Plan- Phase 2
- MCOG – Regional Blueprint, Phases 3 & 4
- Westport Area - Multi-Use Coastal Trail
- Fort Bragg – Chestnut Corridor Conceptual Plan
- Round Valley Non-Motorized Needs Technical Study
- City of Ukiah – Speed Zone Reports
- Pacific Coast Bike Route Engineered Feasibility Study
- SR-162 Covelo Non-Motorized Engineered Feasibility
- MCOG – Gualala Downtown Plan Implementation
- Brooktrails Second Access Feasibility Study



State & Regional Transportation Improvement Programs (STIP, RTIP)

- Capital program funded by gas tax, truck weight fees
- California Trans. Commission (CTC) oversees
- Since SB 45 in 1997, regions program 75%, Caltrans programs 25%
- Intended primarily for state highways, however regional needs such as street & road maintenance have been allowed
- 5-year cycles funded every other year



MCOG's Regional Improvement Policies & Priorities

Current policy as of 2010 RTIP:

- Willits Bypass Phase 1 and Phase 2
- Other State Highway Projects
- Major Local Streets & Roads (federal classification) *
- Transit Capital Projects
- Non-Motorized Transportation Projects
- Planning, Programming & Monitoring

* **Note:** Rehabilitation projects on local streets and roads will not be eligible for RIP funding.



Transportation Enhancements (TE) Program

- Federal program through States to Regions
- Eligible projects enhance surface transportation system (beyond required mitigations) - 12 categories
- Includes bicycle & pedestrian trails, scenic & historic preservation, landscaping & beautification, wildlife habitat connectivity



Regional Transportation Plan

- Long-range plan that guides policies, priorities
- Required by State law
- Developed by Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (e.g. MCOG)
- Coordinates stakeholder vision, goals, needs
- Last adopted in 2011
- Next due in 2015



Questions?

Thanks for your attention!

