

MINUTES

MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Primary Location

MCOG Office – 525 S. Main St., Ukiah (Upstairs Conference Room)

Teleconference Locations

*City of Fort Bragg – Engineering Office, 416 N. Franklin Street, Fort Bragg
City of Willits – Community Development Dept., 111 E. Commercial St., Willits
Point Arena City Hall, 451 School St., Point Arena
Caltrans District 1 – 1656 Union Street, Eureka, California*

November 19, 2025

Members Present

Chantell O' Neal, City of Fort Bragg
Dusty Duley, City of Willits
Liam Crowley, DPBS
Paul Andersen, City of Point Arena
Jason Wise, MCDOT
Blake Batten, Caltrans
Andrea Trincado, City of Ukiah

Members Absent

Tim Eriksen, City of Ukiah
Jacob King, MTA
Doug Gearhart, AQMD

Staff & Others Present

Nephele Barrett, MCOG Administration
Lisa Davey-Bates, MCOG Planning
Michael Villa, MCOG Administration
James Sookne, MCOG Planning
Charlene Parker, MCOG Planning
Kyle Finger, Caltrans
Ramon Billy, Hopland Band Pomo Indians

1. **Call to Order/Introductions** – Nephele called the meeting to order at approx. 10:00 a.m.
2. **Public Expression** – None.
3. **Input from Native American Tribal Governments' Representatives** – Ramon Billy, Hopland Band Pomo Indians, was present but had no comment. No other tribal representatives were present.
4. **Approval of Minutes of 10/15/25** – Chantell and Paul requested that the spelling of their names be corrected in the final minutes.
A motion was made by Paul Andersen and seconded by Chantell O'Neal to approve the October meeting minutes, as corrected. Votes in favor: Jason, Chantell, Blake, Liam, Andrea, Paul.
5. **2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) (Review/Recommendation)**
James reported that CTC adopted the 2026 STIP Fund Estimate on August 14, which included \$280,000 in new PPM funds and no additional funding for new or existing projects, leaving no unprogrammed balance. Staff informed the TAC in October that no new funds were available and asked whether any funds should be reprogrammed. The draft RTIP was presented to the MCOG Board in November, and no comments were received. With no new funding and no

reprogramming suggestions, staff returned the RTIP to the TAC for a recommendation to the Board for adoption in December.

Motion by Liam Crowley, seconded by Andrea Trincado, to recommend to the MCOG Board approval of the 2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program. Motion carried unanimously on roll call vote (6 ayes – Jason, Chantell, Blake, Liam, Andrea, Paul).

**6. 2026 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) & Active Transportation Plan (ATP)
(Discussion)**

James reported on the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan and Active Transportation Plan. Staff continued incorporating comments from agencies and the public and had reached out to several stakeholders to discuss feedback. The plan had been intended for adoption in December; however, technical issues with the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department regarding the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) process pushed the adoption target to February.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) public comment period remained open, and staff anticipated bringing the CEQA document to the Board for adoption in December. Staff were reviewing and addressing Caltrans' comments as appropriate. James noted three planned changes to the document: moving the Garcia River flooding project on the State Highway System from long-term to short-term, adding a project for a single-port charger for the CVSTAR charging project, and modifying the narrative related to the transit center.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the transit center modification. James clarified that the modification would include more specific details and partnership opportunities associated with the recommended sites for the courthouse and/or the area next to Kohl's, without identifying a specific location, but rather outlining the available options.

7. Staff Reports (Verbal)

a. Noyo Harbor Multimodal Circulation Plan – Nephele provided an update on the Noyo Harbor Multimodal Circulation Plan. The consultant received several comments from Caltrans and additional comments from MCOG. The goal was to bring the final plan to the MCOG Board for acceptance at the December 1 meeting, noting that the project had already been presented to the Board previously and that this action would be acceptance of the final revised plan.

Staff reported that comments focused largely on changes to the project concept. Early in the project, the team explored the possibility of extending an informal road connection to Noyo Point Road on the northwest end of North Harbor Drive. Through project analysis, it became clear that a full-time road connection was not feasible for multiple reasons, and this concept was not pursued further. Additional explanation of this change was included in the revised plan.

Staff anticipated bringing the final plan, reflecting these updates, to the December MCOG Board meeting for acceptance.

b. Sea-Level Rise Roadway Impact Study – James reported on the Sea Level Rise Roadway Impact Study. Staff reviewed the consultant's Community Engagement Plan materials, and that

phase was completed. The project website at MendocinoCountiesSeaLevelRise.org was live, and more in-depth public engagement activities were expected to begin soon. The project had made significant progress.

c. Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Mitigation Program – James provided an update on the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Mitigation Program. A kickoff meeting with Caltrans had been completed, and staff planned to begin developing the RFP, with release anticipated after the new year. Staff noted that RFPs were typically not issued between Thanksgiving and Christmas due to reduced consultant availability and historically low response rates. Despite the grant timing, the RFP release was deferred accordingly. No questions were received.

8. **Miscellaneous**

Michael provided two updates. First, he sent all local agencies a reminder about the Local Streets and Roads Program reporting deadline of December 1. Instructions and an Excel sheet indicating which agencies had not yet submitted were included; all Mendocino County agencies had not submitted as of this report.

Second, Michael reported that at the December 1 MCOG meeting, FM3 would present survey results for the unincorporated Mendocino County area regarding a potential sales tax measure. Preliminary results were somewhat promising, with overall support at approximately 66%. He reminded the group that the measure would require a two-thirds vote to pass and noted options similar to those used by the City of Ukiah if sufficient support was not achieved.

Blake Batten, Caltrans District 1, provided updates. Delays in updating the Caltrans projects list, due to funding issues, postponed the September quarterly milestones report. The report would be distributed once the information became available. Blake offered to provide updates on specific projects or to arrange a presentation to the TAC if desired.

Project updates included:

Elk Creek Bridge Replacement (SR 1): Nearly complete; the new structure was open to motorists, and the temporary bridge had been removed. Remaining work included installation of railings, guardrails, and erosion control. Completion was expected by the end of the month, weather permitting.

Jack Peters Bridge Widening and Rail Upgrade (SR 1): Almost complete; remaining work included bridge railing and barrier installation.

Blake also reminded attendees that the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants deadline was Friday, with applications due via Smartsheet by 5:00 p.m., and encouraged agencies to reach with questions.

Staff reported that MCOG was preparing to submit a grant application for a study along the SR 20 corridor through the Willits area, extending slightly west and south of the city limits. The study would revisit streetscape concepts from a pre-bypass plan, including bicycle and pedestrian improvements, and would also focus on intersection safety improvements in outlying areas, such as Blosser Lane and Brown's Corner. Preliminary considerations included the potential for roundabouts at key intersections, though specific design elements were not finalized in the application.

Nephele stated that the grant application was challenging to complete due to limited planning staff but the application remained a priority. The timing of the study aligned with Caltrans pavement projects, allowing the results to inform future improvements along the corridor.

Andrea Trincado stated that the City of Ukiah would have the kickoff meeting with Caltrans early next month for the East Perkins Multimodal Transportation project.

Nephele announced that the Ukiah area project tour had been successful and thanked everyone who helped and participated. She also discussed a potential spring tour for the coastal area and asked for suggestions.

Next Meeting – 12/17/2025, if needed

8. **Adjournment** – approx. 10:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charlene Parker
/CP