



# MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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NEPHELE BARRETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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## AGENDA

**Monday, October 3, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.**

### Teleconference

*Zoom videoconference link provided to Council members and by request.*

*Please submit access request to*

*[info@mendocinocog.org](mailto:info@mendocinocog.org) or call MCOG Administration at (707) 463-1859.*

Audio Call-in Option: 1 (669) 900-6833 (in CA)  
Meeting ID: 810 3953 9735      Passcode: 570498

### Additional Media

For live streaming and later viewing:

<https://www.youtube.com/>, search for Mendocino County Video, or  
[YouTube link at http://www.mendocinocog.org](http://www.mendocinocog.org) under Meetings

**The Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) meets as the Board of Directors of:**  
Mendocino Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and  
Mendocino County Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE)

**NOTICE:** This meeting of the Mendocino Council of Governments will be conducted by teleconference (audio and video) and not available for in-person public participation, pursuant to the Assembly Bill 361, Brown Act: Remote Meetings During a State of Emergency. In order to minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19, the public may participate in lieu of personal attendance in several ways. Since opportunities during the meeting are limited, we encourage submitting comments in advance.

- In advance of the meeting: comments may be sent by email to [info@mendocinocog.org](mailto:info@mendocinocog.org) or by using the form at <https://www.mendocinocog.org/contact-us>, to be read aloud into the public record.
- During the meeting: email comments to [info@mendocinocog.org](mailto:info@mendocinocog.org) or send comments using the form at <https://www.mendocinocog.org/contact-us>, to be made available as soon as possible to the Board of Directors, staff, and the general public as they are received and processed by staff.
- During the meeting: make oral comments on the conference call by phone or video when public comment is invited by the Chair.

Thanks to all for your interest and cooperation.

**NOTE:** *All items are considered for action unless otherwise noted.*

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Convene as RTPA
3. Recess as RTPA – Reconvene as Policy Advisory Committee

### CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items are considered for approval in accordance with Administrative Staff, Committee, and/or Directors' recommendations and will be enacted by a single motion. Items may be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration, upon request by a Director or citizen.

4. Adoption of Resolution No. M2022-17 Making Continued Findings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 to Conduct Public Meetings Remotely for MCOG’s Legislative and Advisory Bodies During the COVID-19 State of Emergency
5. Approval of August 15, 2022 Minutes

**PUBLIC EXPRESSION – *Please refer to notice at top of this Agenda.***

6. Participation is welcome in Council meetings. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person and not more than ten minutes per subject, so that everyone can be heard. “Public Expression” time is limited to matters under the Council’s jurisdiction that may not have been considered by the Council previously and are not on the agenda. No action will be taken. Members of the public may comment also during specific agenda items when recognized by the Chair.

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

*Attachments posted:* [Board of Directors - Mendocino Council of Governments \(mendocinocog.org\)](http://mendocinocog.org)

7. Adoption of Resolution No. M2022-\_\_\_\* Approving the FY 2022/23 Project List for the California State of Good Repair Program – *Mendocino Transit Authority – Ukiah Transit Center*
8. Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Recommendation of September 21, 2022:  
Award of Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Two Percent Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Funds

**RATIFY ACTION**

9. Recess as Policy Advisory Committee – Reconvene as RTPA – Ratify Action of Policy Advisory Committee

**REPORTS**

10. Reports – Information – *No Action*
  - a. Caltrans District 1 – Projects Update and Information
  - b. Mendocino Transit Authority
  - c. Great Redwood Trail Agency
  - d. MCOG Staff - Summary of Meetings
  - e. MCOG Administration Staff
    - i. Miscellaneous
    - ii. Next Meeting Date – Monday, November 7, 2022
  - f. MCOG Planning Staff
    - i. Feasibility Study - Mobility Solutions for Rural Communities of Inland Mendocino County
    - ii. Miscellaneous
  - g. MCOG Directors
  - h. California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) Delegates

**ADJOURNMENT**

11. Adjourn

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) and TRANSLATION REQUESTS**

Persons who require special accommodations, accessible seating, or documentation in alternative formats under the Americans with Disabilities Act, or persons who require interpretation services (free of charge) are advised to contact the MCOG office at (707) 463-1859, **at least five days** before the meeting.

Las personas que requieren alojamiento especial, asientos accesibles, o documentación en formatos alternativos de acuerdo con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades, o personas que requieren servicios de interpretación (sin cargo) deben comunicarse con MCOG (707) 463-1859, por lo menos cinco días antes de la reunión.

### **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

The Brown Act, Section 54954.2, states that the Board may take action on off-agenda items when:

- a) a majority vote determines that an “emergency situation” exists as defined in Section 54956.5, **or**
- b) a two-thirds vote of the body, or a unanimous vote of those present, determines that there is a need to take immediate action and the need for action arose after the agenda was legally posted, **or**
- c) the item was continued from a prior, legally posted meeting not more than five calendar days before this meeting.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

If agendaized, MCOG may adjourn to a closed session to consider litigation or personnel matters (i.e. contractor agreements). Discussion of litigation or pending litigation may be held in closed session by authority of Govt. Code Section 54956.9; discussion of personnel matters by authority of Govt. Code Section 54957.

**POSTED 9/26/2022**

Next Resolution Number: M2022-18



BOARD of DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. M2022-17

MAKING CONTINUED FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361  
TO CONDUCT REMOTE PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR MCOG'S  
LEGISLATIVE AND ADVISORY BODIES  
DURING THE COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS,

1. The Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) is committed to preserving and fostering public access and participation in its meetings, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Government Code 54950 – 54963), which makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, subject to the existence of certain conditions;
2. A state of emergency was proclaimed by Governor's Executive Order N-33-20 on March 4, 2020, addressing the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic, and remains in effect with certain modifications added since the original order, as part of a phased rollback of Executive Orders in response to the pandemic;
3. On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed into law AB 361, an urgency measure, that provides flexibility to government bodies, allowing them to meet virtually without conforming to the Brown Act teleconferencing rules during a declared state of emergency if: (a) State or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, (b) the legislative body is meeting to determine whether, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person presents imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, or (c) the legislative body has determined that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; AB 361 remains in effect through January 1, 2024;
4. The Mendocino County Health Officer's most recent recommendation for public meetings dated March 9, 2022 states in part that "I continue to strongly recommend online public meetings (i.e., teleconferencing meetings) to the extent possible, as these meetings present the lowest risk of transmission of SARS CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. This recommendation is made due to the current community prevalence rates. While the winter surge has declined and the availability of hospital beds has improved, the County continues to be an area, defined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), with "High Community Transmission" risk. In addition, rates remain high with the Omicron variant of COVID-19 being the predominant variant, the impact of which on the spread of COVID-19 has shown to dramatically increase the transmission of COVID-19...";
5. In a June 30, 2022 report of the Rural Association of Northern California Public Health Officers (RANCHO) response to recent increases in COVID-19 cases, it was noted that "COVID-19 projections indicate that CA will continue to see increasing cases...Northern California counties generally lag behind the rest of CA for increased cases. This swell of infections is largely due to the highly transmissible BA.2.12.1 Omicron variant, which is already being displaced by the new and even more transmissible BA.4 and BA.5

subvariants.”

6. Due to the uncertainty and concerns about these current conditions, numerous state and local agencies, including Caltrans and Mendocino Transit Authority, continue to meet from separate remote locations;
7. Given the heightened risks of the predominant variant of COVID-19 in the community, holding meetings with all members of the legislative body, staff, and the public in attendance in person in a shared indoor meeting space would pose an unnecessary and immediate risk to attendees;
8. These virtual meetings have not diminished the public’s ability to observe and participate and have expanded opportunities to do so for some communities, and MCOG continues to provide for public access to its remote meetings; and
9. On October 4, 2021, MCOG’s Board of Directors made findings of fact by Resolution #M2021-12 including additional background and pertinent details; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT:

- The Mendocino Council of Governments adopts the recitals set forth above as findings of fact.
- MCOG has reconsidered circumstances of the state of emergency.
- MCOG hereby determines that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.
- In accordance with AB 361, based on the findings and determinations herein, meetings of MCOG’s legislative and advisory bodies will be held remotely by virtual means, suspending Brown Act teleconferencing rules while providing for all feasible means of public participation.
- This resolution shall be effective upon adoption and remain in effect until MCOG’s next regular board meeting on November 7, 2022, when MCOG shall consider renewing its findings by subsequent resolution, in accordance with AB 361, or shall resume meeting in person.

ADOPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION was moved by Director \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Director \_\_\_\_\_, and approved on this 3rd day of October, 2022, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINING:

ABSENT:

WHEREUPON, the Chairman declared the resolution adopted, AND SO ORDERED.

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ATTEST: Nephele Barrett, Executive Director

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Dan Gjerde, Chair



# MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**Agenda # 5**  
Consent Calendar  
MCOG Meeting  
10/03/2022

## MINUTES

**Monday, August 15, 2022**

Teleconference Only

*Pursuant to Brown Act and Assembly Bill 361*

**The Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) meets as the Board of Directors of:**  
Mendocino Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and  
Mendocino County Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE)

**1. Call to Order / Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. with Directors Jim Brown, Tess Albin-Smith, Greta Kanne, Scott Ignacio, John Haschak, Michael Carter, Tatiana Ahlstrand (Caltrans/PAC), and Dan Gjerde present by Zoom teleconference; Chair Gjerde presiding.

Staff present: Nephela Barrett, Executive Director; Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO; Loretta Ellard, Deputy Planner; James Sookne, Program Manager; Alexis Pedrotti, Program Manager; and Jody Lowblad, Administrative Assistant. Several Caltrans staff were on hand for certain agenda items.

**Note:** Public comment was invited via email and online comment form; staff monitored for incoming comments throughout the meeting, reporting periodically.

**2. Convene as RTPA**

**3. Recess as RTPA – Reconvene as Policy Advisory Committee**

**4 - 6. Consent Calendar.** The Chair invited directors and public to pull any items for discussion; none came forward. **Upon motion** by Carter, second by Haschak, and carried unanimously on roll call vote (*8 Ayes – Brown, Kanne, Albin-Smith, Ignacio, Haschak, Carter, Ahlstrand/PAC, and Gjerde; 0 Noes; 0 Abstaining; 0 Absent*): IT IS ORDERED that consent items are approved.

**4. Adoption of Resolution Making Continued Findings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 to Conduct Public Meetings Remotely for MCOG’s Legislative and Advisory Bodies During the COVID-19 State of Emergency.**

### **Resolution No. M2022-15**

Making Continued Findings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361  
to Continue Public Meetings Remotely  
for MCOG’s Legislative and Advisory Bodies  
During the COVID-19 State of Emergency  
[Reso. #M2022-15 is incorporated herein by reference]

**5. Approval of June 6, 2022 Minutes – as written**

**6. Approval of First Amendment to Fiscal Year 2022/23 Transportation Planning Overall Work Program (OWP) – to carry over and reprogram planning funds unexpended in FY 2021/22, for Work Elements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 14. Total OWP funding increased from \$1,046,598 to \$1,178,312, an increase of \$131,714. The Executive Director is authorized to sign certifications and a revised OWP Agreement as needed and forward to Caltrans as required.**

**7. Public Expression.** Jessica Stull-Otto of Covelo spoke about the Clean California grant program, noting a short timeframe for completing projects might preclude inclusion of sidewalk construction needs for pedestrian safety in the downtown area. A Round Valley committee met and is grateful for the cleanup and beautification opportunity, yet hopes that sidewalks can be developed at a later stage if not in the current cycle, to address existing hazards. Executive Director responded that staff is working with Caltrans to develop the project, concurring there are strict time constraints. Caltrans partners had indicated they would be as flexible as possible to accommodate the community's wishes.

**8. Report and Possible Direction on Gualala Downtown Streetscape Project.** Ms. Barrett gave an introduction as summarized in her written staff report. An Active Transportation Program (ATP) grant application for construction funds was submitted in June, with initial results expected in October. A Draft Environmental Document (DED) was released in 2019; since then ongoing public comments were received and Caltrans responded with alternative compromises, which included the need for retaining walls due to width and slope of sidewalk improvements. Delays have occurred due to staffing changes, insufficient funding and community input. She described some of the challenges. Caltrans met with the Coastal Commission to support a Town Plan amendment; the Commission will support on-street parking only if a safety and operational need. Ms. Barrett expressed thanks to Frank Demling, recently retired Caltrans project manager, though he might return part time on the project. She said he went above and beyond in dedication to this project and in working with the local community.

Jamie Mateolli, Caltrans' corridor manager for Highway 1 in Mendocino County, invited contact about local projects and echoed the comments about Mr. Demling. He then introduced Caren Coonrod, a Caltrans engineer taking on duties of the project; she has long been familiar with the Gualala project, well aware of unique community needs.

Mr. Demling spoke as a private citizen in support of Caltrans project staff, with comments on the rationale of work with the Coastal Commission, and noting letters received and petitions circulated online and in the town on the draft environmental document. He described comments from a significant portion of the community concerning a left-turn lane, and the compromise reached. A continuous left-turn lane is not recommended nor supported by most of the community. The CCC did support a partial left-turn lane serving commerce at the south end of town. The roadway would be narrowed in the central area to accommodate a bikeway, six-foot sidewalks and landscaping. It is unlikely the draft environmental document would be recirculated. Next steps are update to right-of-way acquisition, final approval of the right-of-way document, update of appraisal maps, and negotiations. Much of funding will depend on results of Active Transportation Program (ATP) grants; if not approved, Caltrans would incorporate the project into its State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) funding, rather than through the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

The Chair invited board comments. Hearing none, he opened public comment.

Tom Murphy of Gualala, noting he no longer represented Gualala Municipal Advisory Council (GMAC), added his congratulations on Mr. Demling's retirement. Staff confirmed his clarifying question that the present design did not include any onstreet parking. He considered a continuous left-turn lane unnecessary, as the community supports a partial left-turn lane. It is a major stride forward that there will be no need to recirculate or amend the Town Plan. He appreciated the landscape plan and was interested in details of the next public review.

Robert Juengling of Gualala added his congratulations. On weekends in Gualala, downtown traffic circulation is not working. It is good news that parking will be removed. He looks forward to seeing the project funded and moving ahead.

Dave Shpak of Gualala stated this configuration is exactly what is called for by the town in terms of safety and transportation planning. It will create a place for summer activity that is safer,

with a practical opportunity for landscaping. He expressed thanks; it has been a long road getting to this point and he looks forward to the resulting improvements.

Melissa Finley, GMAC member, agreed with comments approving of the design, and looks forward to walking on sidewalks, as it is not safe now. She would like to exercise and do errands on foot. The changes are needed.

Board and staff discussion included:

- Although Caltrans will install, they do not maintain landscape; this will need to be addressed with a local maintenance plan. (Barrett)
- Will accept feedback from community before finalizing, though first need to work with new project development team over the next couple of months, then can give a clear presentation and timeline for engagement. (Mateolli)
- Will bike lanes continue beyond or only within project limits? There are long-term plans for a four-foot bikeway along the coast; segments are in progress. (Haschak, Demling)
- Congratulations to residents of Gualala. Appreciates the landscaping, adds to community pride. Thanks for all the hard work by both Caltrans and MCOG. (Kanne)

Chair Gjerde thanked staff for the update, and noted the community seemed pleased with the result so far. No action was taken.

**9. Adoption of Resolution Allocating Fiscal Year 2022/23 Rural Counties Task Force Funds for Administration – Addendum to MCOG Budget.** Ms. Orth commended Executive Director Barrett for her appointment as Chair of the Rural Counties Task Force, who reports directly to the California Transportation Commission. The proposed addendum would add up to \$38,500 to be collected from membership dues to cover direct costs of the duties. No additional compensation for time would be provided. The funds would pass through the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Administration account for tracking and audit purposes, available for claiming reimbursement under the Dow & Associates contract for MCOG Administrative & Fiscal Services.

Upon motion by Brown, second by Ignacio, and carried unanimously on roll call vote (8 Ayes – Brown, Kanne, Albin-Smith, Ignacio, Haschak, Carter, Ahlstrand/PAC, and Gjerde; 0 Noes; 0 Abstaining; 0 Absent): IT IS ORDERED that the following resolution is adopted as an addendum to the budget.

**Resolution No. M2022-16**  
Allocating Fiscal Year 2022/23  
Rural Counties Task Force Funds for Administration  
[Reso. #M2022-16 is incorporated herein by reference]

**10. Recess as Policy Advisory Committee – Reconvene as RTPA – Ratify Action of Policy Advisory Committee.** Upon motion by Carter, second by Haschak, and carried unanimously on roll call vote (7 Ayes – Brown, Kanne, Albin-Smith, Ignacio, Haschak, Carter, and Gjerde; 0 Noes; 0 Abstaining; 0 Absent): IT IS ORDERED that the actions taken by the Policy Advisory Committee are ratified by the MCOG Board of Directors.

## 11. Reports - Information

- a. Caltrans District 1 – Projects Update and Information. Director Ahlstrand introduced project engineer Geoffrey Wright, who was on hand for this report. He described two bridges to be replaced in Calpella at US-101 and SR-20; ground has been broken, with traffic controls at East Side Calpella Road during the construction project. Also a safety project has started at three locations on SR-20 (west) at James Creek, including guard rail improvements, curve

realignment, and a realignment with retaining wall. This project is expected to be completed by early December.

In Q&A, Mr. Wright described several other small projects on SR-20: recently completed areas of chip seal, also some paving in progress. Work on US-101 at Crawford Creek Bridge and McNab Creek Bridge, with detours for these, and a location on SR-162 are anticipated for completion by end of December. An accident occurred that morning near Hopland, where a truck carrying dry cement overturned in a detour; repairs will be needed, and a CHP report is pending.

Another project at the southern interchange of the Willits Bypass is in progress. An emergency Director's order addressed conditions last winter where saturated subgrade on the 101 northbound lane resulted in slope failure that slid toward the off-ramp. At the same time groundwater had caused a landslide above the southbound on-ramp, where rock buttress replaced several years ago was moving, and their geologist determined to remove all rock, recut the slope to a new ratio and replace the rock for stabilization. They hope this will finally resolve a long-standing problem. Excess material was disposed of onsite where environmentally safe to use as fill, avoiding truck trips and GHG emissions. Project budget is about \$4.5 million and they hope to complete by October 1.

Director Ahlstrand announced upcoming community meetings. The 2023/24 Caltrans Adaptation and Sustainable Transportation planning grants will open soon for applications, with a one-time \$50 million available for climate adaptation this year. Also a coastal development permit was approved for the Elk Creek Bridge SHOPP project.

- b. Mendocino Transit Authority. MTA Executive Director Jacob King reported continuing with the zero emission vehicle (ZEV) bus program, with a new battery-electric cutaway vehicle due at end of year. Also he will be working with MCOG staff on the annual State of Good Repair program proposal.
- c. Great Redwood Trail Agency. Director Haschak reported on a meeting that morning. A contract is being finalized with the consulting firm Alta Planning for the Master Plan, including community engagement. A settlement agreement was reached with M.C.M. Construction in the legal suit over the Ukiah rail depot property, concluding a long process.
- d. MCOG Staff - Summary of Meetings. Ms. Barrett referred to the written report.
- e. MCOG Administration Staff
  - i. *Regional Energy Network and Climate Protection Agency Update*. Nephele reported on the RuralREN application. The MCOG Board had approved joining with several other counties in this REN proposal, administered by Redwood Coast Energy Authority, who submitted a business plan to the California Public Utilities Commission. As noted in her last report, there was a chance that the plan would go forward on a separate, expedited track; instead the PUC consolidated with other applications for a decision next year, delaying launch to January 2024. Staff will continue working with the Rural Hard to Reach (RH2R) working group that comprised parties to the proposal; an amendment of their bylaws is necessary for MCOG to formally join, perhaps to be ready this fall. (Further details provided in the Information Packet.)
  - ii. *Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA) Update*. Nephele reported a high-level overview, as not many details are available yet. The IIJA is a five-year authorization as is usual for a federal transportation bill. It increases funding of some existing programs and adds new programs. Multiple working groups are working on details, such as California's historic 60/40 state-regional funding split. She highlighted a few programs. Important to

- note is that names of federal funding programs are not always the same as state programs, so might not be familiar; for example the Active Transportation Program (ATP) is the state's compilation of several federal and state sources for bicycle and pedestrian projects. While some program increases are anticipated, it will take several months to learn regional and local funding amounts. She will share information from CalSTA.
- iii. *Rural Electric Vehicle Charging Grants – Awards Proposed June 24, 2022.* Ms. Orth summarized her written staff report of the California Energy Commission's Notice of Proposed Awards for Grant Solicitation GFO-21-604, with background on efforts made by herself and Supervisor Gjerde to meet high priority needs consistent with MCOG's Mendocino County Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) and Alternative Fuels Readiness Plan Update. County of Mendocino's proposal ranked seventh in the field of applicants. Over \$22 million will be awarded to the top 17, including six in Northern California. Director Gjerde added details of the County's project and climate plans; discussion followed.
  - iv. *Miscellaneous.* Ms. Barrett reported on AB 2237, which would have eroded local control in transportation funding programs while adding new unfunded planning requirements. At the June meeting, MCOG had joined others in taking action to oppose the bill, and it has failed to advance.
  - v. *Next Meeting Date.* Monday, October 3, 2022.
- f. MCOG Planning Staff
- i. *Feasibility Study - Mobility Solutions for Rural Communities of Inland Mendocino County – Community Listening Sessions August 22-26, 2022.* Ms. Ellard reported the consultant AMMA Transit Planning would hold workshops in the five participating communities all week, also she would accept written comments. She described publicity to date, including a notice mailed to every household, and invited questions. Thanks were expressed for the public outreach. Ms. Ellard noted MCOG's annual unmet transit needs identification process finds many of the same needs each year for these communities.
  - ii. *Miscellaneous.* Ms. Ellard report a Request for Proposals of professional services will be issued soon for a feasibility study of MTA's planned transit center in Ukiah. \$150,000 is programmed in MCOG's Overall Work Program for the project. She also noted the past year's project to develop Local Road Safety Plans was completed.
- g. MCOG Directors. Director Carter commented that the contractor on a bridge project near his community had done a phenomenal job; Director Ahlstrand will pass along the compliment to Caltrans staff. Another bridge just to the north around Shamrock Ranch also was well done; the locals approve and appreciate.
- Director Haschak thanked Caltrans for the Clean California program work on Covelo "dump days" where the local communities are going out to help gather old appliances and waste from elders' homes and other areas to properly dispose of the items during amnesty.
- h. California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) Delegates. The next meeting is Friday, August 19. Director Haschak had attended as Alternate Delegate in July and noted not much activity, as the state budget had recently passed.

**12. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Submitted: NEPHELE BARRETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO





# MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**Agenda # 7**  
Regular Calendar  
MCOG Meeting  
10/03/2022

## STAFF REPORT

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**TITLE:** Resolution Approving State of Good Repair Project List for FY 2022/23

**SUBMITTED BY:** Janet Orth, Deputy Director & CFO

**DATE:** 9.21.2022

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### BACKGROUND:

The State of Good Repair (SGR) program is a transit capital funding program created by the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, also known as Senate Bill 1 (SB 1). This funding source is derived from a fee on vehicle registrations. SGR is a capital program, and cannot be used for operations or project development as a stand-alone project. Eligible uses of SGR funds include:

- Transit capital projects to maintain, repair or modernize a transit operator's existing transit fleet or facilities,
- Design, acquisition, and construction of new vehicles or facilities that improve existing transit services, and
- Services that complement local efforts for repair and improvement of local transportation infrastructure.

Updated SGR Guidelines were approved in July 2022, posted at [State of Good Repair | Caltrans](#) along with related program information. Transit operators submit project lists directly to Caltrans in the CALSMART online reporting tool. Projects must be approved by Regional Transportation Planning Agencies. Mendocino Transit Authority (MTA) submitted its 2022/23 SGR Project List by September 1 as required.

The State Controller distributes the funds by the same formula as for State Transit Assistance. Allocated revenues have been received by MCOG at approximately \$129,000 to \$138,000 per year. The SGR revenues are received quarterly in MCOG's fund account. Up to four years of funding can be accrued for a project. Once the project is started, four years are allowed for expenditure, allowing up to a total of eight years from the allocation year to expend the funds.

MCOG has allocated SGR funds for Fiscal Years 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22. Two projects were completed in 2021, for rehabilitation and facility upgrades in Ukiah and Fort Bragg. On October 1, 2021, MCOG approved by resolution MTA's proposal to apply all of the remaining SGR funds to the purchase of three battery-electric busses with related infrastructure, to be deployed in Willits and Fort Bragg. While earlier cycles were programmed for a new Ukiah Transit Center, that project was dropped from the project list due to the limited timeline for expenditure of SGR funds. This year, with MCOG's planning project underway to locate a transit center site, MTA proposes to use FY 2022/23 SGR funds for the Ukiah Transit Center project.

MCOG had an audited SGR fund balance of \$525,131 at June 30, 2021. MTA has claimed \$119,396 to date. Actual revenues were added in 2021/22 of \$137,650, for an unaudited fund balance of \$543,385. The revised 2022/23 revenue estimate is \$149,139, bringing SGR funds to \$692,524, less \$537,203 reserved for the vehicles, for a balance available of \$155,321. MTA proposes \$149,139 of new SGR funds.

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### ACTION REQUIRED:

By resolution, approve MTA's State of Good Repair Project List for FY 2022/23. Note a placeholder exhibit is provided, pending MTA's submittal, anticipated in time for MCOG's action at this meeting.

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### ALTERNATIVES:

The Council could reject the proposed project list or request revisions. – *not recommended*

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### RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the resolution, with exhibit to be provided, approving the FY 2022/23 State of Good Repair Project List.



# MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. M2022-\_\_\_\_

### APPROVING THE FY 2022/23 PROJECT LIST FOR THE CALIFORNIA STATE OF GOOD REPAIR PROGRAM

WHEREAS,

- The Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) is the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Mendocino County;
- Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), the Road Repair & Accountability Act of 2017, established the State of Good Repair (SGR) program to fund eligible transit maintenance, rehabilitation and capital project activities that maintain the public transit system in a state of good repair;
- MCOG is an eligible project sponsor that receives and distributes State Transit Assistance and State of Good Repair funds to eligible project sponsors (local agencies) for eligible transit capital projects; and
- Mendocino Transit Authority, as an eligible sub-recipient, has proposed a Fiscal Year 2022/23 Project List for State of Good Repair Program funds, attached as **Exhibit A**, pledging all of the estimated funds of \$149,139 to the Ukiah Transit Center project; and
- MCOG concurs with the proposed list of eligible projects to be funded with available SGR as listed above and other sources available to MTA; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT:

The Mendocino Council of Governments approves the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Project List and finds that the fund recipient agrees to comply with all conditions and requirements set forth in the Certification and Assurances document and applicable statutes, regulations and guidelines for all State of Good Repair funded transit capital projects.

ADOPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION was moved by Director \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Director \_\_\_\_\_, and approved on this 3rd day of October, 2022, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINING:

ABSENT:

WHEREUPON, the Chairman declared the resolution adopted, AND SO ORDERED.

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ATTEST: Nephele Barrett, Executive Director

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Dan Gjerde, Chair



# Submittal Report

Reso. M2022-\_\_\_\_  
DRAFT Exhibit A  
2 pages

**SGR-C14-FY22/23-6241-001**

**FY 22/23**

## Submittal Details

<b>Program</b> State of Good Repair Program	<b>Agency</b> Mendocino Transit Authority	<b>Date Created</b> 08/30/2022	<b>Date Submitted</b> 08/30/2022	<b>Date Approved</b>
<b>Address</b> 241 plant rd	<b>City</b> ukiah	<b>State</b> CA	<b>Zip Code</b> 95482	
<b>Contact</b> Jacob King		<b>Contact Title</b> Executive Director		
<b>Contact Phone</b> (707) 234-6444		<b>Contact Email</b> Jacob@mendocinotransit.org		
<b>Support Documentation</b> Draft attached/ Final to be presented 9/28/22		<b>Additional Information</b>		

## Project Details

Title	Description	Asset Type	Project Category	Est. Useful Life	Est. Project Start Date	Est. Project Completion Date	Est. 99313 Costs	Est. 99314 Costs
Ukiah Transit Center	Development and construction of a multi-modal transit center in the City	Passenger Facilities	Modernization	30	07/01/2023	07/01/2027	\$138,967	\$10,172



# MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

## STAFF REPORT

**TITLE:** FY 2022/23 Local Transportation Fund (LTF) 2% Bicycle & Pedestrian Application – TAC Recommendation

**DATE PREPARED:** 9/22/22

**SUBMITTED BY:** Loretta J. Ellard, Deputy Planner

**MEETING DATE:** 10/3/22

### BACKGROUND:

There is an approximate fund balance of \$175,000 in MCOG’s LTF 2% Bicycle & Pedestrian Program (from FY 2021/22 & 2022/23, plus interest) available for allocation.

MCOG staff recently solicited applications for these funds, with requests due from local agencies on September 7, 2022. Only one application was received, as follows:

Applicant	Project	Funds Requested
County Department of Transportation	<p><b>Mendocino County Roadway Systemic Improvements I – S. State Street (Ukiah), and Crawford Road (Covelo)</b> – to construct a bikeway/pathway and install/upgrade pedestrian crossing with enhanced safety features along S. State Street in Ukiah, from Laws Avenue to Beacon Lane; and construct a sidewalk/pathway along Crawford Road in Covelo, from Biggar Lane to Foothill Boulevard.</p> <p>The County has applied for a State Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant to cover 90% of project costs, <b>and this LTF 2% application will provide the majority of the local share for the bike/pedestrian components of the HSIP application.</b></p>	\$175,000

At their meeting of September 21, 2022, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) reviewed the application and unanimously recommended that it be funded by MCOG.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Consider TAC recommendation to award \$175,000 in LTF 2% Bicycle & Pedestrian funds to the County Department of Transportation.

**ALTERNATIVE:** Decline to award funds this cycle, and roll over fund balance to next cycle (*not recommended*).

**RECOMMENDATION:** Accept TAC recommendation to award \$175,000 in LTF 2% Bicycle & Pedestrian funds to the County Department of Transportation for “Mendocino County Roadway Systemic Improvements I – S. State Street (Ukiah), and Crawford Road (Covelo)” project.

/le

*Attachment: County Dept. of Transportation Application - Mendocino County Roadway Systemic Improvements I – S. State Street and Crawford Road*





# MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

525 South Main Street~Ukiah~California~95482  
www.mendocinocog.org

NEPHELE BARRETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Administration: Suite B  
(707) 463-1859  
Transportation Planning: Suite G  
(707) 234-3434

## 2022-23 APPLICATION FOR MCOG FUNDING PEDESTRIAN and/or BICYCLE FACILITIES PROJECT

Please complete each portion of the application in as much detail as possible/appropriate.

<p>1. Project Name: Mendocino County Roadway Systemic Improvements I – S State St and Crawford Rd</p> <p>2. Applicant (City, County, MTA) Mendocino County DOT</p> <p>3. Estimated Total Cost: \$2,445,100 (bike/ped components only)</p> <p>4. Funding Requested: \$175,000</p> <p>5. Other Funding: (identify amounts &amp; sources) HSIP (applied): \$2,578,140 (includes motorized countermeasure component)</p> <p>6. This Form Prepared By: Alicia Meier</p> <p>7. Phone Number: (707) 234-2804</p> <p>8. Date: September 7, 2022</p>	<p>9. Line item cost estimate:</p> <p>a. Environmental Documentation \$94,000</p> <p>b. Design \$282,100</p> <p>c. Right-of-Way \$0</p> <p>d. Construction \$2,163,000 (CON) <u>\$282,100 (CE)</u> \$2,445,100 (Total)</p>
<p>10. Description of project: Specify type of facility (pedestrian walkway, standard sidewalk, bikeway (Class I, II, or III) multi-use facility, ADA compliance, etc. How does this project implement the 2008 California Complete Streets legislation?</p> <p>This project will construct a sidewalk/pathway and install/upgrade the pedestrian crossing with enhanced safety features along South State Street in Ukiah from Laws Avenue to Beacon Lane, as well as construct a sidewalk/pathway along Crawford Road in Covelo from Biggar Lane to Foothill Boulevard, so that pedestrians do not have to walk along the roadway in these areas. The type of facility would likely be a standard ADA-complaint sidewalk along South State Street, and likely a multi-use path along Crawford Road. This project implements the 2008 California Complete Streets legislation because it will enable safe access for all users regardless of age or ability, including pedestrians and bicyclists, thereby also making it safer for motorists on the adjacent roadway. We have applied for an HSIP grant to cover 90% of the project costs, and are requesting LTF funds to cover a majority of the local share for the bike/ped components of the HSIP application.</p>	

11. How would this facility improve safety? (Upgrade existing facility, provide new facility, remove gaps in existing system?)

In both instances, a new facility would be provided that would connect into an already existing facility. In Ukiah, there are currently sidewalks along South State Street that end at Beacon, so this sidewalk would continue further to the south. In Covelo, there is currently a pathway along Foothill that connects to the elementary school, so this would provide a north-south path from there. Also, we have recently applied for an ATP grant for the Round Valley Elementary Safe Routes to School project, which includes an upgraded sidewalk along Foothill, which this project would tie into.

12. How much use (in users per day, or per week) would this facility get? What is the basis for this estimate? (What is the traffic volume on adjacent street/road, if applicable?)

The number of users cannot be estimated at this time. The ADT for South State Street is 11,176, and the ADT for Crawford Road is 993.

13. To what extent would this facility be used by commuters? Commuters are people (including children) who use the facility for utilitarian purposes (including work, school, shopping, etc.). Identify below and on project map, non-motorized traffic generators and attractors (residential neighborhoods, schools, shopping, recreational areas, etc.) along or at termini of proposed project.

Both paths would primarily be used by commuters, connecting neighborhoods and the Round Valley Indian community (Covelo) with work, school, shopping, and health centers.

14. What is the readiness of this project? Include milestones for each activity below:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date (mo/yr)</u>
Environmental	09/2023 (phase anticipated to begin)
Design	09/2023 (phase anticipated to begin)
Right-of-Way	
Construction	09/2025 (phase anticipated to begin)

15. Will this project completely or partially implement a specific plan that has been developed and adopted for the area? Examples are: Downtown Design Plan, Community Action Plan, Downtown Streetscape Plan, ADA Implementation Plan, Transit Service Implementation Plan.

Yes, this project will completely implement an identified high priority project in the 2022 Mendocino County Local Road Safety Plan.

16. Is the proposed project identified in or consistent with existing plans for the area (Active Transportation Plan, Bikeway Plan, City/County General Plans, Regional Transportation Plan, and others)? Identify where project is listed in plan or state how consistency with plan is achieved.

This project is consistent with the goals and objectives of the 2017 Mendocino County Active Transportation Plan, the 2017 Mendocino County Regional Transportation Plan, and the Covelo/Round Valley Non-Motorized Needs Assessment & Engineering Feasibility Study, by providing new pedestrian and bicycle facilities to connect population areas; contributing a to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; ensuring residents, regardless of income, have equitable access to vital services, employment, and educational opportunities; offering a feasible alternative to vehicular travel; and encouraging healthier lifestyles.

17. What alternate sources of funding have been sought for this project?

<u>Source</u>	<u>Application Date</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Date Available if Approved</u>
HSIP	09/12/2022	Pending	07/2023 (estimated)

18. Is this non-motorized project a component of a larger project? If so, provide details of the larger project

Yes, these two non-motorized components are part of a larger project identified in the 2022 Mendocino County Local Road Safety Plan, the whole of which is being applied for in an HSIP grant.

19. What other funds have already been committed to this project?

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Documentation</u> (Funding Agreement, Resolution/Minute Order)
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\*No funds have currently been committed to this project. We are applying for HSIP funds, to fund the majority of the project, with the LTF funds intended to cover most of the local match for the non-motorized portion.

20. Does your agency currently have any open LTF 2% Bike & Pedestrian projects? If so, what is the status?

No, we do not currently have any open LTF projects, and we have successfully completed our past LTF projects.

21. Other Comments:

# CRAWFORD ROAD: BIGGER LANE TO FOOTHILL BLVD

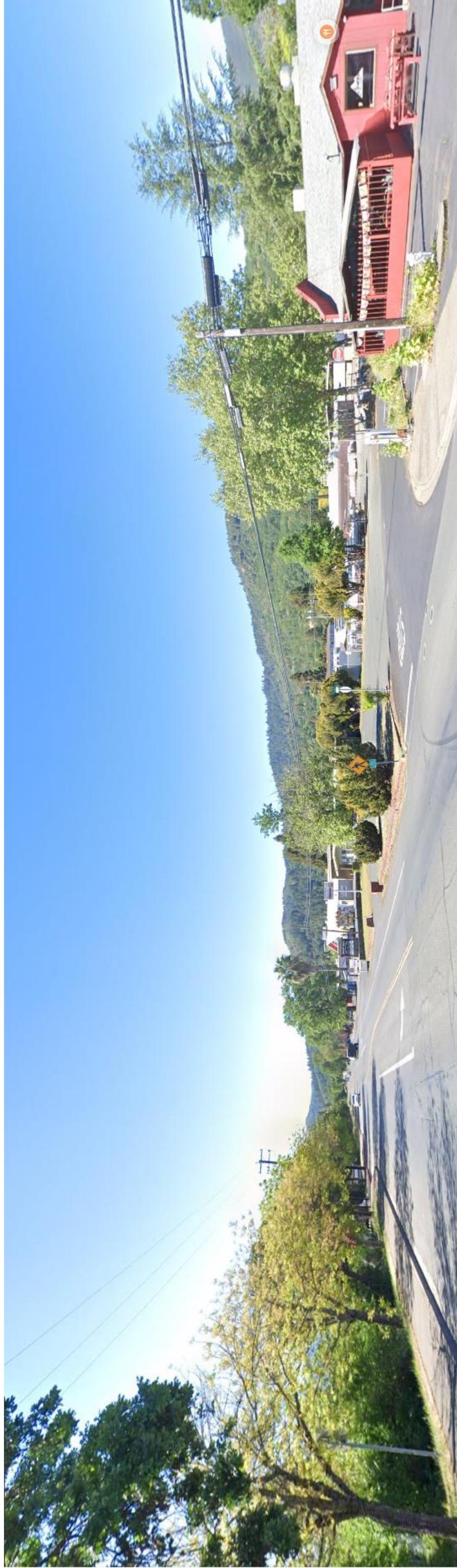


Improvements Needed: Install sidewalk/pathway (to avoid walking along roadway )

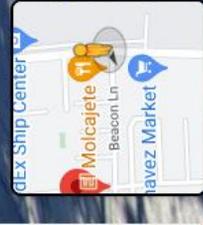


Google

# SOUTH STATE STREET: LAWS AVENUE TO BEACON LANE



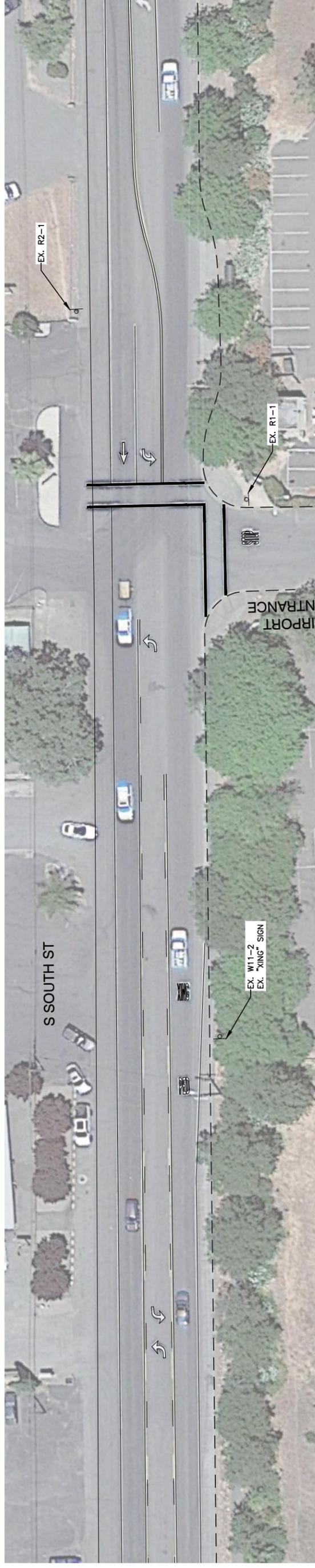
Improvements Needed: Install sidewalk/pathway (to avoid walking along roadway). Install/ upgrade pedestrian crossing (with enhanced safety features )



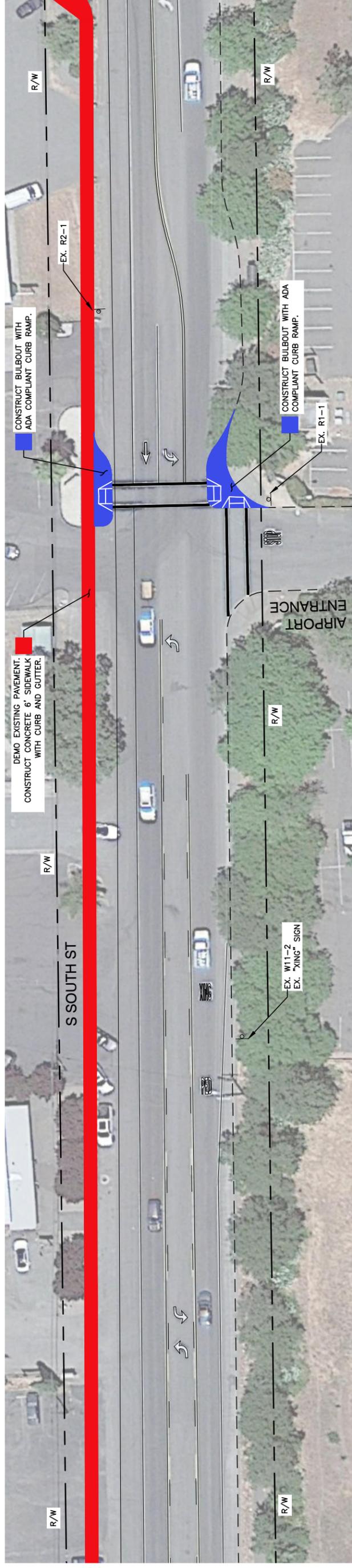
Google



# South State Street (Between Laws Avenue to Beacon Lane) Typical Improvements



## EXISTING CONDITIONS



## PROPOSED CONDITIONS

### LEGEND:

- COUNTERMEASURE R34PB IMPROVEMENTS
- COUNTERMEASURE R35PB IMPROVEMENTS



SCALE: 1"=50'





# MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Agenda # 10d  
Reports  
MCOG Meeting  
10/03/2022

## STAFF REPORT

TITLE: Summary of Meetings

DATE PREPARED: 9/26/2022

SUBMITTED BY: Jody Lowblad, Administrative Assistant

BACKGROUND: Since our last regular MCOG meeting packet, MCOG Administration and Planning staff have attended (or will have attended) the following meetings on behalf of MCOG:

Date	Meeting/Event	Staff
Aug 11	Covelo Community/ Clean CA Grant Meeting	Ellard
Aug 11	Gualala Active Transportation Program (ATP) Meeting	Barrett
Aug 17-18	CA Transportation Commission Meeting	Barrett & Orth
Aug 17	Covelo Trail Project Development Team ( PDT )Meeting	Barrett & Sookne
Aug 22	Mobility Study - Covelo Community Meeting	Barrett & Rodriguez
Aug 23	Mobility Study- Laytonville Community Meeting	Ellard & Rodriguez
Aug 24	Mobility Study – Hopland Community Meeting	Barrett & Rodriguez
Aug 24	North State Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Working Group	Orth & Rodriguez
Aug 24	Mobility Study Meeting with AMMA	Barrett & Ellard
Aug 25	Mobility Study – Potter Valley Community Meeting	Ellard & Rodriguez
Aug 26	Mobility Study – Brooktrails Community Meeting	Ellard & Rodriguez
Aug 26	Mobility Solutions Grant Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Debriefing	Barrett, Ellard & Rodriguez
Aug 30	Meeting with MCDOT Regarding Brooktrails 2 <sup>nd</sup> Access & Willits Trail	Barrett & Ellard
Aug 30	Covelo Trail Project Development Team (PDT) Meeting	Barrett & Sookne
Aug 31	Noyo Harbor Grant Meeting	Barrett & Ellard
Sep 7	Nat'l Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Pre-solicitation Workshop Part 1	Orth
Sep 8	Nat'l Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Pre-solicitation Workshop Part 2	Orth
Sep 8	Mobility Solutions Grant Meeting	Barrett & Ellard
Sep 15	Ukiah Streetscape Grant Meeting	Ellard
Sep 19	Subrecipient Agreement Meeting with Mendocino County Department of Transportation( MCDOT) and Planning & Building Services ( PBS)	Orth & Barrett
Sep 21	MCOG Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting	Barrett, Davey-Bates, Orth, Ellard, Pedrotti and Rodriguez
Sep 22	UC-ITS webinar – California’s Hydrogen Strategy	Davey-Bates, Sookne, Orth
Sep 23	CALCOG Board meeting	Orth
Sep 28	Mobility Solutions Grant Meeting	Ellard
Sep 28	Covelo Kickoff Meeting w/ Ghirardelli	Barrett & Sookne
Sep 28	North State ZEV Working Group	Orth
Sep 28	Mendocino Transit Authority Board Meeting	Sookne
Sep 29	Noyo Harbor Grant Meeting	Barrett & Ellard
Sep 30	Caltrans Adaptation Planning Grants Guidelines Workshop	Ellard

We will provide information to the Board regarding the outcome of any of these meetings as requested.

ACTION REQUIRED: None.

ALTERNATIVES: None identified.

RECOMMENDATION: None. This is for information only.





# MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

## STAFF REPORT

**Agenda # 10f**  
Reports  
MCOG Meeting  
10/03/2022

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**TITLE:** Mobility Solutions for Rural Communities of Inland  
Mendocino County – Feasibility Study

**DATE PREPARED:** 09/23/22

**SUBMITTED BY:** Loretta Ellard, Deputy Planner

**MEETING DATE:** 10/3/22

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**BACKGROUND:**

The purpose of this report is to give you a brief update of where we are with the grant-funded “Mobility Solutions for Rural Communities of Inland Mendocino County – Feasibility Study” project.

As previously reported, this consultant-led project is a study of the remote rural communities of Covelo, Laytonville, Brooktrails, Hopland, and Potter Valley, to research potential mobility solutions and alternatives to traditional transit service for these hard-to-serve areas. Traditional transit service has not been a viable option in these distant communities; however, we continue to hear about “unmet transit needs” in these communities and would like to explore possible solutions.

The project is off to a good start, and in-person “community listening sessions” were held in each of the five communities in late August, along with separate stakeholder meetings. The consultant team is currently analyzing the input received, and developing a follow-up survey. A second “household mailer” will soon be distributed to households in all five communities directing individuals to the e-survey and project website at <https://bit.ly/MCOGMobility>. The next round of community and stakeholder outreach will be in a virtual format.

The timeline for this study runs through next summer, with presentation of the final plan anticipated to occur at the August 2023 MCOG Board meeting.

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**ACTION REQUIRED:** Information only.

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**ALTERNATIVES:** N/A.

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Information only.