

WHO WE ARE

The California Transportation Commission (Commission) is an independent public agency. The Commission serves an important role in contributing to transparency and accountability for transportation in California.

The Commission is primarily responsible for:

- Programming and allocating transportation funds used in the construction of highway, intercity passenger rail, active transportation, aeronautics, and transit improvements through transparent, open programs developed and approved by the Commission; and
- Advising and assisting the Legislature and the California State Transportation Agency Secretary on transportation policies and programs.

The 13 member Commission is comprised of:

- Eleven voting members and two non-voting ex-officio members. Of the eleven voting members, nine are appointed by the Governor, one by the Senate Rules Committee, and one by the Speaker of the Assembly.
- Two ex-officio members, each appointed from the State Senate and Assembly by the Senate Rules Committee and the Speaker of the Assembly, respectively. The ex-officio members are usually the respective chairs of the transportation policy committee in each house.

The Commission is supported by an Executive Director who oversees 19 policy and administrative staff.

Commission staff have extensive background and experience in transportation engineering, planning, programming, and funding. Commission staff also have expertise and practice in the development of statewide transportation policy.

The Commission regularly engages with legislators, federal, state, regional, and local partners, as well as elected officials and legislative staff, to manage statewide transportation funding programs and develop cutting-edge transportation policy.

WHAT WE DO

The Commission holds regular public meetings throughout the state, pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, to undertake activities in the following areas:

Advise and Assist the Legislature and Administration

- Convene forums, workshops, and other meetings to assist in the development of statewide transportation funding and policy solutions.
- Develop and submit an annual report to the Legislature and the Administration which includes pragmatic and action-oriented recommendations for legislation to improve the transportation system.
- Provide technical assistance as needed to legislative staff and the Administration in the development of transportation policy and budget language.

Commissioners

Bob Alvarado, Chair
Fran Inman, Vice-Chair
Yvonne B. Burke
Lucetta Dunn
James Earp

James C. Ghielmetti
Carl Guardino
Christine Kehoe
James Madaffer
Joseph Tavaglione

Ex-Officios

Senator Jim Beall
Assembly Member Jim Frazier

Executive Director
Susan Bransen

WHAT WE DO CONTINUED...

Develop and Adopt Guidelines

The Commission undertakes an open, public, and transparent process to facilitate stakeholder participation and input in the development of guidelines for:

- Commission-administered funding programs;
- The California Transportation Plan;
- Asset Management Plan; and
- Regional Transportation Plans.

Adopt Transportation Programs

The Commission develops and adopts fund estimates as needed and programs of projects for the following statewide transportation programs:

- State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP);
- State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP);
- Active Transportation Program (ATP);
- California Freight Investment Program (CFIP);
- Other Programs (Proposition 1B, Proposition 1A, Traffic Congestion Relief Program, etc.).

Allocate State and Federal Funding

The Commission allocated \$4.5 billion in state and federal transportation funding in FY 15-16. These funds created thousands of jobs and contributed to \$8.8 billion in state-administered construction contracts.

Set Investment Priorities, Performance Measures, and Reporting

Pursuant to SB 486 (DeSaulnier, 2014), the Commission has specific authority to approve performance measures and targets to achieve state transportation goals and objectives for the Caltrans Asset Management Plan to guide selection of investments in the SHOPP.

The Commission continues to partner with Caltrans in developing methods for making Caltrans more efficient and effective, and will explore ways to

further improve the Caltrans project development process.

Approve Right of Way and Environmental Matters

The Commission approves right of way matters such as route adoptions, new public road connections, resolutions of necessity, relinquishments, and director's deeds associated with the eminent domain process and disposal of property, as well as air space leases.

The Commission serves as a Responsible Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and reviews environmental documents to approve projects for future consideration of funding.

Advise on the Road Charge Pilot Program

The Commission established the Road Charge Technical Advisory Committee in January 2015 pursuant to SB 1077 (DeSaulnier, 2014) to study road charge alternatives to the gasoline tax, gather public comment, and make recommendations regarding pilot program design.

Approve Toll Facilities

Pursuant to AB 194 (Frazier, 2015), regional transportation agencies or Caltrans may apply to the Commission to develop and operate high-occupancy toll lanes or other toll facilities.

Contact Us:

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