

Volume 5, Issue 2

April—May—June 2015

# Caltrans Update

## Fresno Council of Governments

### CALTRANS MISSION:

Provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability



## Caltrans Releases the Spring Issue of: The Mile Marker, A Caltrans Performance Report

Caltrans has released the third issue of **The Mile Marker**, a periodic reporting of areas where the department is excelling and where further improvement is needed.

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transportation professionals statewide and around the country.

Caltrans also releases 23 statutorily required reports on a periodic basis on subjects including project delivery, finance, fish passage, state rail and highway maintenance.

“As a government department that touches the lives of nearly everyone in the state every day, it is incumbent on us to provide factual information in a narrative that is easily understandable,” Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty wrote in the report's welcome letter.

The Mile Marker is one of Caltrans' steps to improve its transparency and accountability by making the department's work more accessible and understandable to the public. Its intention is also to quantify and measure the department's performance – what's working, what's not and what could be improved – based on consistent markers.

The Mile Marker features an at-a-glance chart showing the department's progress from the previous report, where it's reaching its goals and where it needs to improve.

The Mile Marker is distributed to the Legislature, local government agencies and trans-

*Copies of this issue of The Mile Marker are available at:  
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/ctjournal/MileMarker/2015-1/index.html> (online)*

*Copies of the 23 statutorily required reports are located at:  
<http://dot.ca.gov/reports-legislature.htm>.*

## Report Highlights Caltrans' Commitment to Improve Travel for Non-Motorized Users

Caltrans' jump into the nation's top ten bicycle-friendly states and the creation of the nation's largest active transportation program are just a few of the achievements highlighted in Caltrans' annual Non-Motorized Transportation Facilities Report.

The report is an in-depth look at Caltrans' successes that emphasize the department's mission to provide a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability.

"California has always been a transportation leader, and this report reinforces that hard-earned reputation," said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. "Transportation is a vital part of our daily lives, and increasing the diversity of travel options is something the public wants. We are committed to making walking and biking safer."

The report provides an overview on the state's Active Transportation Program (ATP), the largest of its kind in the nation. In its first call for projects in May 2014, Caltrans received 771 project applications requesting more than a billion dollars. The California Transportation Commission has adopted the first program of projects for the ATP, which includes 265 projects using \$368 million in ATP funds. Of this amount, \$311 million is dedicated to 220 projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.

The report also highlights program activities and completed projects, as well as other state and federal partnering programs to establish and improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Among the completed projects highlighted in the report is the Oak Manor Trail in the city of Ukiah. The project improved cross-town connection to schools, shopping centers and employments centers. It also gave pedestrians and cyclists a new off-street travel alternative. Southern California saw its first "Bicycle Boulevard" in the city of Pasadena—an area with a high concentration of cyclists. The project improved bicycle safety and advanced the vision of commuting in Pasadena without a car.

"Caltrans' has historically been known as a highways agency, but we are shifting our focus to creating a California transportation system that links communities and is safe for all travelers, including those who choose to travel by biking and walking," said Dougherty. "We couldn't accomplish this without our partners at all levels, from the federal government to grassroots organizations and the public."

The state's jump in 2014 from 19th to 9th in the nation in The League of American Bicyclists annual report is due to notable progress in legislation, funding and policy that will make it easier to build bike lanes and mandate drivers to give cyclists three-feet of space when they pass.

Also, as part of its effort to streamline construction of multimodal local streets and roads, in April 2014, Caltrans became the third state to endorse National Association of City Transportation Officials guidelines that include innovations such as buffered bike lanes and improved pedestrian walkways.

Caltrans also released its 2010–12 California Household Travel Survey Final Report that showed residents used walking, biking, transit and other non-motorized sources for 23 percent of trips. That was more than double the amount in the 2000 survey. This underscores the rising demand for non-motorized transportation.

*Read the full report at:*  
[http://www.dot.ca.gov/docs/Non-Motorized\\_Transportation\\_Facilities\\_Report\\_FY\\_2013-14.pdf](http://www.dot.ca.gov/docs/Non-Motorized_Transportation_Facilities_Report_FY_2013-14.pdf).

*Read more about The League of American Bicyclists report cards at:*  
<http://bikeleague.org/content/report-cards>.

# May is National Bike Month!

May is National Bike Month! Sponsored by the League of American Bicyclists, this event is celebrated in communities from coast to coast. Established in 1956, National Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling – and encourage more folks to give biking a try.



As a national sponsor, the League provides resources to help plan events and each year the number and diversity of Bike Month celebrations continues to grow, accelerating the momentum around bicycling nationwide.

## Bike to Work Day

This year, Bike to Work Day will be observed on **May 21, 2015**. Most trips Americans make are short: 50 percent are less than three miles, 40 percent are less than two miles, and 28 percent are less than one mile. These distances are ideal for beginning commuters. Bike to Work Day happens throughout California with a diversity of special events and competitions. In Fresno, Caltrans District 6 participates in the Bike to Work Corporate Challenge which is sponsored by iBikeFresno.org. The event is participated by local agencies and businesses within Fresno. District 6 has had a large amount of riders compete in this annual event and has placed first in the large corporation category a number of times. Other fun rides are organized throughout the month of May.

## Team Bike Challenge

Gather your friends, colleagues and neighbors to form teams and pedal to win! It's a fun and easy way to see just how much biking does for your health, budget and the environment.

How the Team Bike Challenge Works:

- Form a team of up to 5 people.
- Sign up your team.
- Earn points for each bike ride you take and your total daily mileage.
- Record your bike trips on the Team Bike Challenge website or mobile site.
- Compete with your friends on your personalized leaderboard.
- At the end of the month, the team with the most points wins.

The Team Bike Challenge competition Kicks Off May 1st, 2015!

*For more information on the League of American Bicyclists and Bike to Work Month, please see:  
<http://bikeleague.org/bikemonth>*

*For more information on Bike to Work Day, please see:  
<http://ibikefresno.org/>*

*For more information on the Team Bike Challenge, please see:  
<http://teambikechallenge.com/welcome/about-tbc>*

## 2015 Active Transportation Program



On September 26, 2013, Governor Brown signed legislation creating the Active Transportation Program (ATP) in the Department of Transportation ([Senate Bill 99, Chapter 359](#) and [Assembly Bill 101, Chapter 354](#)). The ATP consolidates existing federal and state transportation programs, including the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA), and State Safe Routes to School (SR2S), into a single program with a focus to make California a national leader in active transportation. The ATP administered by the Division of Local Assistance, Office of Active Transportation and Special Programs.

The purpose of ATP is to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation by achieving the following goals:

- Increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking,
- Increase safety and mobility for non-motorized users,
- Advance the active transportation efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals,
- Enhance public health,
- Ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program, and
- Provide a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of active transportation users.

ATP Cycle 2 for 2015 has begun! The Call for Projects began in March 2015 and applications are expected to be due June 1, 2015.

Caltrans will be hosting a series of ATP training workshops that began in March and will continue through- May, 2015.

### 1. ATP Cycle 2 – District Application Workshops (How to Apply for ATP Cycle 2)

This workshop is intended to assist applicants on how to apply for and complete the ATP Cycle 2 Application. The application workshops will be held in each of the Caltrans Districts (March – April 2015).

## 2015 Active Transportation Program, Continued

### 2. Support for Smaller Agencies and Disadvantaged Communities: Developing Effective Active Transportation Projects and Programs

This workshop is intended to provide technical assistance to smaller agencies and disadvantaged communities to support development of impactful active transportation plans, programs, and projects that can successfully compete for ATP funding. The focus will be on the elements that make for a high quality bicycle or pedestrian plan, project, or program.

#### QUESTIONS AND CONTACTS

*For More information on the program, please see:*

*<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/index.html>*

*For more information on the planned workshops, please see:*

*<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/workshops-training-cycle2-2.html>*

*If you have any questions regarding the ATP, please contact the Program Managers:*

*Teresa McWilliam*

*(916)653-0328*

*[teresa.mcvilliam@dot.ca.gov](mailto:teresa.mcvilliam@dot.ca.gov)*

*Or*

*Ted Davini*

*(916)653-4335*

*[Ted.davini@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Ted.davini@dot.ca.gov)*

*Please direct any Safe Routes to Schools questions to:*

*Kevin Atkinson*

*(916)653-6920*

*[kevin.atkinson@dot.ca.gov](mailto:kevin.atkinson@dot.ca.gov)*

*For questions regarding **BTA and TE projects prior to ATP**, please contact:*

*Deborah Lynch*

*(916)653-0036.*

## UPDATE ON FRESNO COUNTY PROJECTS

**SIGNAL COUNTDOWN/ ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS:** Install signal countdown heads/accessible pedestrian signs in Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera and Tulare at various locations. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to advertise May 2015; award contract late summer 2015. Curt Hatton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3445.

**Fre-Tul Sign Panel Upgrade:** Upgrade sign panels in Fresno County on Routes 41, 168, 180, and in Tulare County on Route 198. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to advertise summer 2015. Emad Abi-Rached, Project Manager, (559) 243-3460.

**Fre/Mad Wire Theft:** In Fresno and Madera Counties at various locations. Funding: SHOPP. Construction contract approved December 9, 2013; in construction; end construction summer 2015. Anand Kapoor, Project Manager, (559)243-3588.

**Fresno ITS Freeway Crossings:** City of Fresno will design and construct an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) project to help synchronize traffic signals along freeway crossings. Funding: Minor A, CMAQ. Ready to List summer 2015; advertise late 2015. Anand Kapoor, Project Manager, (559) 243-3588.

**Panoche Overlay:** Pavement Rehabilitation on I-5 from south of the Panoche Road overcrossing to north of the Russell Road overcrossing. Funding: SHOPP. Project awarded; begin construction spring 2015. Chris Gardner, Project Manager, (559) 243-3444.

**Jacalitos Creek Bridge:** Replace bridge on SR 33 near the City of Coalinga at Jacalitos Creek. Funding: SHOPP. Advertised September 2014; begin construction 2015. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

**FRE 41 CAPM:** Pavement preservation on SR 41 north of the City of Lemoore from Harlan Avenue to Elkhorn Avenue. Funding: SHOPP. Advertised September 2014; project in winter suspension; complete construction 2015. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

**Ventura Viaduct Deck Seal:** On SR 41, near Fresno, 1.3 miles north of the SR 41/99 Separation. Funding: SHOPP. Project awarded and will begin work spring 2015; end construction late 2015. Chris Gardner, Project Manager, (559) 243-3444.

**180 Westbound Ramp Barrier:** Replace existing right side metal beam guard rail with

concrete barrier on southbound SR 41 to the westbound SR 180 interchange ramp in the City of Fresno. Funding: SHOPP. Construction complete; in plant establishment. Earle Jones, Project Manager, (559) 243-3471.

**Ramp Improvement at SR41 at various locations and at SR180:** Install concrete barriers on SR 41 and SR 180 at ramps at Abby Avenue, McKinley Avenue, Shields Avenue, Shaw Avenue, Herndon Avenue, and Friant Avenue in the City of Fresno. Funding: SHOPP. In construction and on schedule to complete summer of 2015. Judy Aguilar-Luna, Project Manager, (559) 243-3457.

**McKinley 41 NB Ramp Guardrail:** Replace MBGR with concrete guardrail on SR 41 northbound on-ramp from McKinley Avenue. Funding: Minor A. Advertise spring 2015; begin construction summer 2015; end construction fall 2015. Chris Gardner, Project Manager, (559) 243-3444.

**Ramp Meter Replacement Planting:** Replacement planting on SR 41 between Ashlan Avenue overcrossing to Herndon Avenue undercrossing in the City of Fresno. Funding: SHOPP. In construction and on schedule; complete con-

## UPDATE ON FRESNO COUNTY PROJECTS, CONTINUED

struction summer 2016. Anand Kapoor, Project Manager, (559) 243-3588.

**41 Seismic Retrofit:** Bridge seismic retrofit on old Route 41 Bridge between Madera County and Fresno County near the Community of Friant. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list spring 2016; end construction late 2017. Victor Shaw, Project Manager, (559) 243-3441.

**Tulare Madera VDS:** Install Vehicle Detection systems on SR 99 in Fresno County from PM 18.7 to PM 22.5; in Tulare County from PM 0.1 to PM 28.0; in Madera County from PM 16.4 to PM 26.5. Funding: Minor A. Ready to List February 2016; advertise April 2016; award contract summer 2016. Jeannie Wiley, Project Manager, (559) 243-8051.

**Olive Avenue Signals:** At SR 99/Olive on- and off-ramps in the City of Fresno; ramp metering included. Funding Minor A. . Advertised fall 2014; complete construction early 2015. Steven Milton, Project Manager, (559) 243-3451.

**SR 99 Realignment for HST:** Realignment of SR 99 to accommodate the High Speed Train System from south of Clinton Avenue in the City of Fresno to Ashlan Ave. Fund-

ing: HSRA (ARRA & BOND). Begin construction fall 2015. Garth Fernandez, Project Manager, (559) 243-8012.

**HST Fresno to Merced Segment:** Construct a high-speed train system along SR 99 in Fresno County from Olive Avenue to Ashlan Avenue and at Herndon Avenue. Funding: STIP. Complete PA&ED fall 2015. Garth Fernandez, Project Manager, (559) 243-8012.

**San Joaquin River 6-Lane:** Replace the SR 99/San Joaquin River Bridge and widen SR 99 from Grantland Avenue overcrossing in the City of Fresno to north of the Avenue 7 overcrossing in Madera County. Funding: Prop 1B Bond. In construction; construction complete summer 2016. The new northbound bridge is nearing completion and roadwork south of the river continues. Jim Bane, Project Manager, (559) 243-3469.

**Veterans Blvd. Interchange:** New interchange on SR 99 between Herndon Avenue and Shaw Avenue on Veterans Boulevard in the City of Fresno. Funding: Measure, local. Project design progressing. Begin construction 2016 pending funding approval. Jim Bane (559) 243-3469.

**Kerman Roundabout SR 145/Jensen:** SR 145 at Jensen Avenue in the City of Kerman. Funding: SHOPP. Construction is complete; project will be in plant establishment until June 2015. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

**Fre 168/180 Wire Theft:** In Fresno and Madera Counties at various locations. Funding: SHOPP. Project awarded on 11/19/2013. Construction contract approved December 9, 2013; in construction; end construction summer 2015. Anand Kapoor, Project Manager, (559)243-3588.

**168 Median Barrier:** Construct median barrier on SR 168 in the City of Clovis between the Herndon Avenue undercrossing to the Clovis Avenue undercrossing. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list spring 2015; construction to start late summer of 2015. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

**Prather Curve Correction:** Realign the curve on SR 168 and Auberry Road near the community of Prather. Funding: SHOPP. Advertise spring 2015; construction to start late summer 2015. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

## UPDATE ON FRESNO COUNTY PROJECTS, CONTINUED

**Auberry Road Roundabout:** Intersection improvements at the SR 168/Auberry Road intersection near the community of Prather. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list fall 2015; advertise early 2016; begin construction spring 2016; complete construction 2016. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

**Munger Point:** Enhance Maynard Munger vista point on SR 168 east of the community of Prather. Funding: STIP, TE. Project is being redesigned since the first advertisement. The project could not be awarded as all bids were greater than the Caltrans cost for the project. Construction to start summer 2015. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

**180 West Freeway Landscape:** Highway planning on SR 180 in and near the City of Fresno from west of Brawley Avenue to Teilman Avenue. Funding: STIP. Ready to list summer 2015; end construction fall 2020. Chris Gardner, Project Manager, (559) 243-3444.

**180 Braided Ramps Landscaping Project:** Freeway landscaping in the City of Fresno from west of the Route 180S/Route 41 separation to east of the Peach Avenue

overcrossing. Funding: Measure. Project advertised in February 2015; construction should begin early summer 2015. Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559) 243-3465.

**180 Freeway Landscape:** Highway planting and install irrigation on SR 180 in the City of Fresno between west of Clovis Avenue overcrossing to east of Temperance Avenue. Funding: RIP. CTC approved funding March 2012. Contract approved in September 2012; in construction; end construction winter 2016. Due to drought conditions the planting phase start date was delayed until early January 2015. Planting should be complete by summer 2015; plant establishment complete by summer 2018. Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559) 243-3465.

**Kings Canyon Expressway Segment 3:** SR 180 from Smith Rd. to Alta Main Canal near the community of Centerville. Funding: RIP, Measure. Ready to list early 2015; advertise summer 2015; award contract late summer 2015; begin construction fall 2015 (pending funding availability). In design phase. Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559) 243-3465.

**Kings River Overflow Bridge Replacement:** Replace the

Kings River overflow bridge on SR 180 northeast of the City of Sanger. Funding: SHOPP. Current construction contract will be terminated; bridge replacement work will be added to the Kings Canyon Expressway Segment 3 project. Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559)243-3465.

**Cali Aqueduct Deck Replacement:** Replace the California Aqueduct bridge deck on SR 198 near the City of Huron. Funding: SHOPP. Ready to list late 2015; advertise early 2016; begin construction early 2016; complete construction spring 2016. Suzie Holdridge, Project Manager, (559) 243-3432.

**Route 269 Bridge Project:** Palmer Avenue to SR 198 near the City of Huron. Project programmed in 2010 SHOPP for support costs only. Measure funds will be used for capital costs. Ready to list late 2016; Project is in environmental and preliminary design process. Neil Bretz, Project Manager, (559) 243-3465.

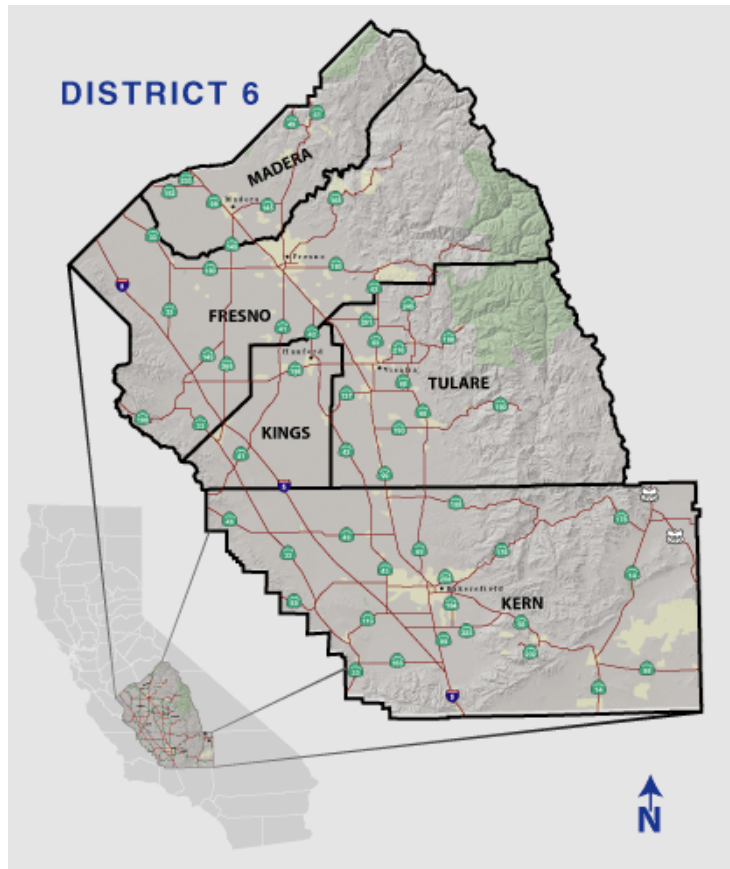




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*The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 6 is headquartered in Fresno. This geographically diverse district is the second largest of the 12 Districts statewide, stretching from the southernmost part of Yosemite National Park in the north to the Mojave Desert. It includes Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kings and Kern counties. Interstate 5 and State Route 99 run the length of District 6, serving as the main north-south arteries for not just the Central Valley, but for the entire state as well.*



Visit District 6 on the web at [www.dot.ca.gov/dist6/](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist6/)