

Solutions for Congested Corridors Program

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Questions on the phone? Please email them to: ctc@dot.ca.gov

Program Goals

- Support and encourage collaborative and comprehensive corridor planning
- Benefit mobility, quality of life, and environment through comprehensive planning efforts
- Achieve a balanced set of improvements along highly traveled corridors:
 - ❖ Transportation
 - ❖ Environmental
 - ❖ Community Access

Program Structure

- Competitively awarded funding program
- \$250 million each fiscal year, beginning in 2017-18
- Programs of projects will be adopted every two years
- Programming cycles may cover a multi-year programming period and may include updates to previous programs

Eligible Applicants

- **Regional Transportation Planning Agency**
- **County Transportation Commission or Authority**
- **Caltrans**
 - ❖ Preference will be given to plans resulting from collaboration between Caltrans and the regional agency
 - ✓ Collaboration may be demonstrated by joint project nomination
 - ❖ No more than half of the available funding can be awarded to projects exclusively nominated by Caltrans

Comprehensive Corridor Plans Goals & Expectations

- Provide more transportation choices for residents, commuters, and visitors
- Achieve a balanced set of improvements within highly congested travel corridors including transportation, environmental, and community access considerations
- Multi-modal focus with multi-agency collaboration

Comprehensive Corridor Programs Examples Cited in SB 1

- The North Coast Corridor improvements along I-5 and the parallel rail corridor in San Diego County
- The SR 91 and Metrolink rail corridor improvements in Riverside County
- Emerging solutions for the US 101 and Caltrain corridor connecting Silicon Valley with San Francisco
- Multimodal approaches for the US 101 and SMART rail corridor in Marin and Sonoma Counties
- Comprehensive solutions for the I-405 corridor in Los Angeles County

Project Components

Projects are required to meet all of the following:

- Make specific corridor improvements
- Be part of a comprehensive plan designed to reduce congestion in a highly traveled corridor
- Preserve the character of the local community
 - ❖ How should a corridor plan demonstrate this?
- Create opportunities for neighborhood enhancement projects
 - ❖ How should a corridor plan demonstrate that it creates the opportunity for neighborhood enhancement projects?

Project Nominations

Project nominations must meet all of the following:

- Include documentation validating the project's consistency with the policy objectives of the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program
 - ❖ Both quantitative and qualitative measures
- Project must be included in the region's RTP
- If the project is located in an MPO, it must be included in an RTP with an ARB-approved Sustainable Communities Strategy

Eligible Projects

- Project elements within the corridor plans may include, but are not limited to the following facility types:
 - ❖ State Highways (with limitations)
 - ❖ Local streets and roads
 - ❖ Public transit facilities, including rail
 - ❖ Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
 - ❖ Restoration or preservation work that protect critical habitat or open space

Eligible Highway Projects (Limitations)

- **Non-general purpose highway lane capacity-increasing projects limited to:**
 - ❖ High-occupancy vehicle lanes
 - ❖ Managed lanes
- **Other highway improvements with the primary purpose to improve safety, such as:**
 - ❖ Auxiliary lanes
 - ❖ Truck climbing lanes
 - ❖ Dedicated bicycle facilities

Eligible Highway Projects (Limitations)

- Limitations on the state highway system are in place to mitigate the following:
 - ❖ Increases in vehicle miles traveled
 - ❖ Greenhouse Gas emission reduction
 - ❖ Reduce air pollution

Project Evaluation Steps

1. Determine if the project comes from a qualified comprehensive corridor plan
2. Determine if the project is consistent with the objectives of the corridor plan
3. Preference to be given to projects from corridor plans created in collaboration between Caltrans and regional partners
 - ❖ Collaboration may be demonstrated by a project's joint nomination by Caltrans and a regional agency
4. Evaluate project using the scoring criteria prescribed in SB 1

Project Scoring Criteria as Required by SB 1

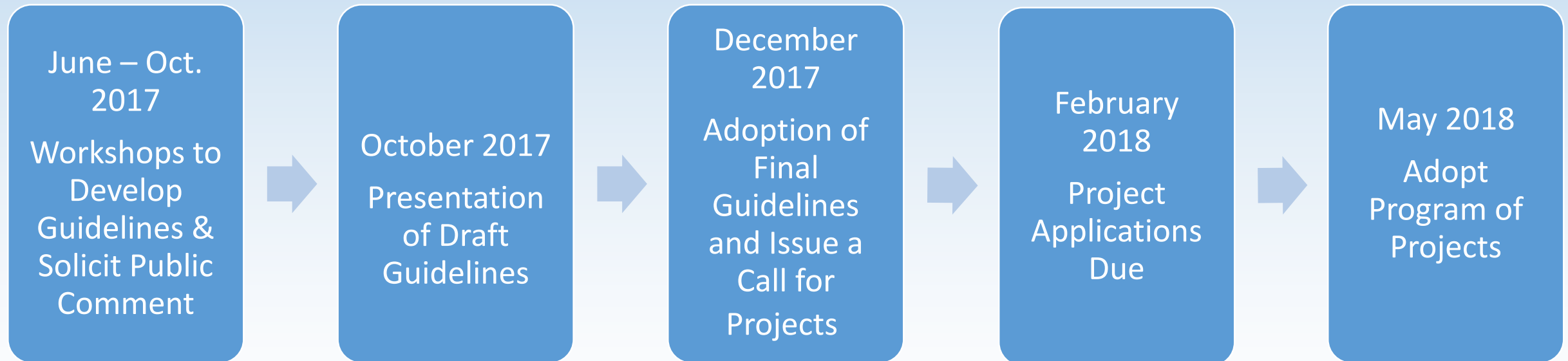
- Safety
- Congestion
- Accessibility
- Efficient land use
- Economic development and job creation and retention
- Furtherance of state and federal ambient air quality and GHG emissions reduction standards
- Matching funds
- Project deliverability

Reporting Requirements

Commission to report annually to the Legislature:

- Summary describing the overall progress of each project since the initial award
- Expenditures to date for all project phase costs
- Summary of milestones achieved during the prior year and milestones expected to be reached in the coming year
- Assessment of how the project is meeting the quantitative and qualitative measures identified in the project nomination

Schedule



Part 2 - Program Discussion

- Definition of Terms
- Metrics for Project Scoring
- Considerations for Evaluating Plans
- Application Format and Scoring Considerations
- Project Reporting and Management Considerations

Term Definitions and Metrics

General Questions

- **What is a corridor?**
 - ❖ “A corridor is defined as a largely linear geographic band defined by existing and forecasted travel patterns involving both people and goods. The corridor serves a particular travel market or markets affected by similar transportation needs and mobility issues. It includes various modes that provide similar or complementary transportation functions, including cross-mode connections.” – Adopted 2016 STIP Guidelines
- **What does it mean to have a “highly traveled” corridor?**

Term Definitions and Metrics

General Questions

- What is congestion?
 - ❖ Highway
 - ✓ Caltrans definition is 35mph or slower for 15 minutes or longer
 - ❖ Local streets and roads
 - ❖ Rail
 - ❖ Transit

Project Scoring Criteria Required by SB 1

- Safety
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How should these scoring criteria be measured?

Thank you!

Any Questions?

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