

PUBLIC NOTICE
15 DAY COMMENT PERIOD & PUBLIC HEARING

The Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG) is designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Butte County and its incorporated cities. As the MPO, BCAG is required to prepare a Federal Transportation Improvement program (FTIP) every two years and a Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) every four years. The purpose of the FTIP is to identify all transportation-related projects that require federal funding or other approval by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The FTIP identifies all non-federal, regionally significant projects for information and air quality emissions modeling purposes. The FTIP indicates the area's short-term plan for use of federal dollars and other resources for the maintenance, operation, and improvement of the transportation system and the achievement of federal air quality standards over the next four federal fiscal years. The purpose of the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) is to establish regional goals, identify present and future needs, deficiencies, and constraints, analyze potential solutions, estimate available funding, and propose investments over a 20-year minimum horizon. The long range RTP/SCS and short-range FTIP are required to be consistent with each other. This amendment ensures their consistency for air quality conformity. The Draft 2024 RTP/SCS, Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination and SEIR are complete and available for review and comment. The BCAG Board of Directors is scheduled to adopt the 2024 RTP/SCS and SEIR on December 12, 2024. The 2025 FTIP was adopted by the BCAG Board on September 26, 2024.

Notice is hereby given that:

The 2025 FTIP Amendment #01 has been prepared and is available for public review. The purpose of this amendment is to ensure the 2025 FTIP is consistent with the long-range 2024 RTP/SCS including the following changes described below:

NEW AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY DETERMINATION

1. Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination – demonstrating that the projects in the 2025 FTIP and 2024 RTP/SCS conform to the applicable federal air quality requirements. This amendment replaces the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination to the same Air Quality Conformity Analysis and Determination included in the draft 2024 RTP/SCS scheduled for approval on December 12, 2024.

Details of these amendments can be found at: <http://www.bcag.org/Planning/FTIP/index.html> for the FTIP under Amendment #1 and also posted at BCAG's Regional Transportation Air Quality Planning webpage at: <https://www.bcag.org/PlansProgramsModel/Regional-Transportation-Air-Quality-Planning/index.html>

This amendment meets all applicable transportation planning requirements per 23 CFR Part 450 (financial constraint, public involvement and consistency with the RTP). BCAG does not have any Transportation Control Measures in the State Implementation Plan (SIP) and therefore the project does not interfere with any TCMs. A public hearing has been scheduled to solicit final comments from the public.

This amendment is scheduled to be approved by the BCAG Board of Directors on December 12, 2024, at the conclusion of the public hearing. Information is also available for review at the Butte County Association of Governments office located at 326 Huss Drive, Suite 150, Chico CA 95928. Questions can be directed to Ivan Garcia, Programming Director at BCAG at 530-809-4616 or by e-mail at igarcia@bcag.org.