



Working Group Reports

Receive & File

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Attachments: Yes

Referring Committee: Not Applicable

1. Issue:

Working Group reports

2. Request:

None; this is for information only.

3. Recommendation for Board:

None; this is for information only.

4. Recommendation for Committee:

Not applicable

5. Background:

Due to time constraints at the May 2024, board meeting, the working group reports were not heard at that meeting. They are being provided now as a Receive & File item for information.

6. Discussion/Analysis:

Race Equity & Inclusion Working Group:

Per its charge, the Race, Equity, and Inclusion (REI) Working Group follows the guidelines of an ad hoc committee of the SACOG Board of Directors. The working group is charged to discuss and oversee implementation of SACOG's Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP) and, based on review of implementation activities, make recommendations to the SACOG Board of Directors. The REI Working Group will notify the SACOG board of suggestions for updates to the REAP that increase its effectiveness and impact. Foundational to this working group will be building proficiency in knowledge of, and strategic actions through policy and programming, to both fix historical inequities and prevent further marginalization of Black, Indigenous, Asian, Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latino, and other communities of color as well as low-income, rural, urban and other underrepresented communities throughout the Sacramento Region. The Working Group is comprised of 10 SACOG board members and 9 public members, who were appointed by the SACOG board chair for a two-year term, 2023-2024.

The Working Group met on March 15, 2024. A written meeting summary and meeting materials are included as attachments to this item.

Funding Round Working Group:

The Funding Round Working Group met on May 8, 2024. The Working Group heard an update on the program development. As a reminder, the board took action earlier this year to memorialize the broad strokes of the framework. This included using state funding, or STIP, for a four county funding program for Yolo, Yuba, Sutter, and Sacramento Counties. This also included the structure for the first ever six county program using federal dollars, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds.

At the May meeting, staff presented two options for how we could potentially structure the funding program to respond to the maintenance needs that have been expressed by agency staff and members of the board. The recommended structure, which was supported by the working group, would utilize the most flexible funding – STBG – to allow for more direct roadway maintenance. It would also allow for more diverse projects, including more complex maintenance projects, transit state of good repair, and other non-maintenance projects, such as leveraging the dollars for large transformational project applications to grant programs. Much of the discussion centered around how to balance the maintenance needs and other project needs – in effect, put some sort of limit or cap on the dollars available for the direct maintenance. The discussion also included the need to focus on preventative maintenance and making best use of funding, as opposed to infrastructure that is highly degraded and more costly. There is a clear need to weigh how we can still encourage more aspirational projects, while recognizing the maintenance issues that are present throughout the region.

Staff also briefed the group on the potential to create some sort of regional strategy for pavement maintenance, similar to what other Metropolitan Planning Organizations employ to help guide use of federal dollars for state of good repair and maintenance. This would need to be developed more, and staff is going to be looking at this more in depth. It would likely be something that is utilized for later funding rounds, since it would include a regional study of needs to set a baseline of conditions. For the other federal program, CMAQ, staff briefed the working group that this would focus on non-maintenance projects – things like bike and pedestrian, transit, and other projects that seek to relieve congestion and encourage multimodal projects. For the state STIP funding, the program would follow the tenets of the state's fix-it-first policy and program CAPTI, or Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure. This includes some state of good repair projects that would be generally centered around active modes, equity, and climate adaptation.

Staff brought these elements to the Transportation Committee meeting in June, and these elements will be presented to the board in June to memorialize the more detailed framework.

At the next working group meeting, staff will be discussing equity and other evaluation criteria elements. The final action will occur in the fall, where the board will receive the funding framework including program eligibility, evaluation criteria, and more detail on budget and timing of the program.

Mega Region Working Group:

The Megaregion Working Group is a partnership between the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in the Bay Area, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, and the San Joaquin Council of Governments, with four Representatives from the board of each agency (Attachment A). The agencies represent 16 counties and 136 cities with a total population of nearly 11 million people stretching from the Central Valley and Bay Area to the Sierra Nevada Foothills and Lake Tahoe Basin. The Working Group's mission is to better connect the people and economies of the Megaregion. To accomplish this, our regions work to speak with a common

voice on behalf of cities and counties at the federal and state legislatures and support the efforts of business groups and associations within and across our jurisdictional boundaries.

The first Megaregion Lobby Day was held on April 19, 2023. The representatives in attendance from MTC, SJCOG, and SACOG reported back on the positive feedback received at the meetings. The Megaregion Working Group agreed to continue holding Advocacy Day annually to continue meeting with state agencies and legislators to highlight funding requests for Megaregion Dozen projects and advocate for shared state policy goals.

The Megaregion Working Group participated in the second Megaregion Advocacy Day on April 22, 2024. The focus of the Megaregion Lobby Day meetings was to provide joint advocacy for “Megaregion Dozen” projects and relevant state and federal grant funding opportunities, and to discuss the importance of restoring the \$300 million proposed rescission to the Regional Early Action Planning Grants of 2021 (REAP 2.0) included in Governor Newsom's 2024-25 January Budget proposal. In the SACOG region, REAP 2.0 funds the Green Means Go Program.

Six Megaregion Working Group Representatives and staff from MTC, SACOG, and SJCOG attended eight meetings with staff from state agencies, Assembly and Senate Committees, and state legislative offices. Refer to Attachments B and C for further detail on the Megaregion Working Group attendees and the meetings that were held.

7. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

Included in the Overall Work Program/Budget

List of Attachments:

Race Equity & Inclusion (REI) March 15, 2024, Meeting Summary and REAP Progress Report, REI Principles of Meaningful Community Engagement, REI Finding Strength in Partnership with Community Based Organizations, REI Public Outreach and Engagement Grant Program

Mega Region Working Group Membership Roster, Mega Region Advocacy Day Representatives and Staff in Attendance, Mega Region Advocacy Day Schedule, Megaregion Dozen Brochure, Megaregion Working Group Letter Budget Funding for Regional Early Action Planning Grants of 2021 (REAP 2.0)