



## Status of the 2023 State and Regional Active Transportation Program Competitions

Receive & File

**Prepared by:** Dustin Foster

**Attachments:** Yes

**Approved by:** Kristina Svensk

**Referring Committee:** Transportation

### 1. Issue:

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) released a staff recommendation to fund 93 Active Transportation Program (ATP) projects in the Statewide competition. The competitive project selection process continues, with a recommendation of \$45,512,000 for the Regional Active Transportation Program in April.

### 2. Recommendation:

None, this item is for information only.

### 3. Background/Analysis:

The ATP was created by Senate Bill 99 in 2013 to fund projects and programs that will increase biking and walking. The ATP is a highly competitive program jointly managed by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the CTC. Metropolitan planning organizations like SACOG distribute a portion of these funds through a competitive process, with all final regional recommendations subject to approval from the CTC. SACOG works with El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) and Placer County Transportation Planning Agency (PCTPA) to develop and implement the Regional ATP.

The ATP's sequential selection process is split between a statewide competition followed by regional competitions, like the SACOG Regional ATP. During the first selection process, the CTC develops a list of projects recommended for funding in the statewide ATP based on score, eligibility, and deliverability. Projects that are unsuccessful in the statewide ATP are then eligible to compete for funding in the Regional ATP, allowing for a second opportunity to compete for funding. Applications to the Regional ATP that were not submitted to the State are also eligible. The sequential selection process is important because it allows local agencies to bring more funding into our region to implement needed active transportation projects and offers streamlining opportunities for funding programs with similar emphases.

The 2023 ATP funds are available across four years: state fiscal years 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027. Project sponsors throughout the state submitted 463 project applications requesting \$3.12 billion of Active Transportation Program funds. This included 26 competing projects from El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties requesting over \$252.8 million.

### 4. Discussion/Analysis:

The California State Budget included a one-time increase to the overall ATP funds, adding \$1.05 billion in new funding for the 2023 cycle, a substantial increase from the expected \$650 million. The CTC continued to encourage larger infrastructure projects to compete in the 2023 ATP, a feature that was also seen in the 2021 competitive cycle in support of transforming communities. Consequently, the average funding request through the State ATP jumped from \$5 million to \$7 million, yet the number of successful projects increased from 41 projects in 2021 to 93 projects in 2023. Projects submitted from the Sacramento region averaged a State ATP funding request of \$9.7 million.

The CTC released a staff funding recommendation in October that identifies projects to receive over \$1 billion of statewide ATP funding. Eight Sacramento region projects are recommended to receive \$83,684,000 in support of active transportation infrastructure improvements, highlighted in Attachment A. The CTC is expected to adopt the State ATP funding recommendations at their June 2023 meeting.

The Regional ATP competition includes 26 projects, adding 11 applications that were not submitted for the State competition. The Regional ATP funding request is \$129,810,000 (Attachment B). A multidisciplinary working group is evaluating all remaining competing projects to develop a funding recommendation for the region's \$45,512,000 of ATP funds in accordance with the Regional ATP Policy Framework (Attachment C). The funding recommendation will be presented to the Transportation Committee on April 6, 2023.

**5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:**

This item has no fiscal impact to the agency's operating budget, other than already budgeted staff time.

**6. This staff report aligns with the following SACOG Work Plan Objectives:**