



Approve Delegation of Authority for Supporting State Targets for Federal Performance Metrics

Consent

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Attachments: No

Approved by: James Corless

Referring Committee: Transportation

1. Issue:

Should the SACOG Board delegate authority to the Executive Director to support Statewide targets for federal Transportation Performance Measurements?

2. Recommendation:

The Transportation Committee recommends that the board delegate authority to the Executive Director to support Statewide targets for federal Transportation Performance Measurements.

3. Background/Analysis:

The most recent federal transportation bills require state departments of transportation to set and report on progress towards three sets of performance measurement targets: Safety (PM1: Fatalities and Injuries), Asset Management (PM2: Pavement and Bridge conditions) and Performance (PM3: Freight, Congestion and travel time reliability). Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) must either set their own regional targets or support the state targets. Since 2018, the board has approved all Caltrans-established statewide performance targets for PM1, PM2 and PM3 as SACOG's targets.

4. Discussion/Analysis:

Caltrans is required to request MPO review and consideration of federal performance metrics on the schedule set by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA): annually for Safety targets and once every four years for Asset Management and Performance Targets. MPOs have 180 days after the state sets targets to either set different regional targets or support the adopted statewide targets. Typically, SACOG staff would review state-reported performance metrics and statewide adopted targets, discuss their merit with SACOG committees, and make a target recommendation by the 180-day deadline.

This schedule is disassociated with SACOG's long-range planning and policy actions, such as the development and adoption of Metropolitan Transportation Plans (MTP) and funding round frameworks. Review of performance metrics and target setting recommendations by SACOG committees outside of these policy actions has resulted in genuine debate and recommendations for further study, but rarely results in shaping subsequent board actions.

To better connect performance metric review and target-setting discussion with SACOG plan development and policy actions, staff recommends deferring robust committee engagement of federal performance

metrics until analyzed as part of the 2025 Blueprint development and future Funding Round policy actions. To maintain our commitment to Caltrans to report performance target-setting by federal deadlines, staff recommends delegating authority to the Executive Director to support Statewide targets for federal Transportation Performance Measurements. Staff is not recommending to delegate authority regarding setting different regional performance targets. To set targets differently than adopted state targets, staff would return to SACOG committees for discussion and recommendations. At their March 2, 2023, meeting, the Transportation Committee unanimously recommended the staff recommendation.

Currently, 2025 Blueprint presentations on various pathway metrics are scheduled for committee review between March and June 2023. Funding round working group discussions of performance metrics are scheduled for Fall 2023, through Spring 2024.

5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

There is no fiscal impact. Performance-based planning is part of the existing budget.