



## Federal Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

Receive and File

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**Attachments:** No

**Approved by:** James Corless

**Referring Committee:** Transportation

### 1. Issue:

SACOG is working on a minor update of the regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) to ensure the region stays in compliance with federal requirements.

### 2. Recommendation:

None; this item is for information only.

### 3. Background/Analysis:

In November of 2022, the SACOG Board of Directors authorized SACOG staff to pursue state legislation to extend the Blueprint (SACOG's Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS)) schedule, which would move the plan adoption date from Spring 2024 to Fall 2025. Since then, Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry introduced a bill (AB 350) that will provide SACOG with the legislative authorization needed to keep the current Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) in compliance with state law for an additional two years. In the meantime, SACOG continues to work toward updating the region's long-range vision and plan for 2050. To follow progress on this plan update, please visit <https://www.sacog.org/2025-blueprint-mtpscs>.

As work moves forward on the major update of the regional plan, SACOG is still required to maintain a federally compliant Metropolitan Transportation Plan. To ensure consistency with federal requirements, SACOG will need to adopt this plan by November 2023 (four years after the adoption of the [2020 MTP/SCS](#)). SACOG staff intends for the 2023 Federal MTP to largely carry forward the major financial assumptions, projects, programs, and policies included in the 2020 MTP/SCS. This will ensure the plan remains consistent with the state component of the plan, the Sustainable Communities Strategy which will remain in effect until the end of 2025. The federal plan update will also include an Air Quality Conformity Determination demonstrating the plan's conformity with the State Implementation Plans for air quality, in accordance with the Transportation Conformity Requirements in 40 C.F.R. 51 and 93, as required by the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments.

### 4. Discussion/Analysis:

The federal MTP update is a minor update to the current plan that was adopted by the SACOG board in November 2019. In April, SACOG conducted a call for project updates for sponsor agencies to provide any necessary modifications to ensure projects that are consistent with the current regional plan are able to move

forward over the next two years while work on the 2025 Blueprint continues. SACOG received modifications to 22 projects, which staff is currently reviewing for consistency with the current plan, federal air quality conformity, and financial constraint. The changes consist primarily of minor modifications and clarifications to scope, schedule, or budget to ensure transportation projects in the current plan can continue to make progress on securing funding and entering into new phases of work during the 18-month period between November 2023, and the anticipated adoption of the Blueprint in Fall/Winter of 2025. The adoption of the 2025 Blueprint will restart the four-year clock by which updates to both the federal and state components of the plan are required to comply, putting the next regional plan adoption in late 2029.

In addition to reviewing sponsor requested modifications, SACOG is also conducting a review of the revenues assumptions of the 2023 Federal MTP Update. This review is integral to meeting federal regulations and in consideration of two sales tax measures in Sacramento and Placer counties that are assumed in the 2020 MTP/SCS, but as of yet have not been implemented. SACOG is working with the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency and the Sacramento Transportation Authority to revisit assumptions about these sales tax measures, future intentions for putting the measures before voters, and the lists of expenditures intended to be supported by the measures.

### **Public Involvement on the 2023 Federal MTP**

SACOG intends to provide opportunity for public involvement in the 2023 Federal MTP based on the guidance outlined in SACOG's adopted [Public Participation Plan](#). Federal law provides some flexibility in designing public participation processes based on the scope of the relevant project, or plan in this case. Because the 2023 Federal MTP update is targeting changes primarily to projects programmed in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program, SACOG will follow the documented public involvement process for formal amendments of the agency's Transportation Improvement Program including scheduled open houses to receive public input, public hearings at the SACOG Transportation Committee and/or Board of Directors, and a public comment period in advance of anticipated board adoption of the 2023 Federal MTP.

Members of the public are also welcome to reach out to SACOG with questions or comments regarding the MTP update by emailing Clint Holtzen at [choltzen@sacog.org](mailto:choltzen@sacog.org).

It is worth noting that SACOG is underway with a significant public outreach and engagement campaign for the 2025 Blueprint. In part, the more focused public involvement process for the 2023 federal plan update is designed to focus on the very limited scope of that update as well as to avoid confusion between the two concurrent efforts. Members of the public are welcome to follow along and weigh in on the 2025 Blueprint update at: <https://www.sacog.org/2025-blueprint-mtpscs>

### **Next Steps**

SACOG plans to release the proposed changes to the federal MTP in late August for a public review and comment period as well as required interagency review conducted through the Regional Planning Partnership. Staff is also planning to hold public hearings on the plan update at the September or October Transportation Committee Meeting and will post notices for open houses on SACOG's website.

Staff is also coordinating with Caltrans, Federal Highway Administration, and Environmental Protection Agency to confirm the final documentation and changes are consistent with federal and state expectations to ensure a timely review of the plan following board adoption.

Staff anticipates bringing the final plan update to the SACOG board in November for adoption.

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

Work on the federal MTP update is funded by a combination of sources including Federal Metropolitan Planning funds and Transportation Development Act-Local Transportation Funds. The Placer County Transportation Planning Agency and El Dorado County Transportation Commission also provide some funding to SACOG to support development of the plan to ensure coordination and consistency between the regional plan and the county-level Regional Transportation Plans.