



November 29, 2023

TO: **TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TTAC)**
FROM: AHRON HAKIMI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: DECEMBER MEETING CANCELLATION NOTICE

The meeting of the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, 2023, has been cancelled.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, January 3, 2024. Agenda materials will be mailed approximately one week prior to the meeting.

The following information items are available on the TTAC webpage:

<https://www.kerncog.org/ttac-meetings>

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- A. Project Update – ATP Cycle 5 Safe Routes for Cyclists in Kern County’s Disadvantaged Communities
- B. Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program – Workshop Follow-Up #2
- C. Cycle 7 Active Transportation Program – Upcoming Statewide Call for Projects
- D. FY 2023-24 Kern Region Estimated SB 125 Transit Operations And Capital Project Population-Based Apportionment: \$51,329,661

ANNOUNCEMENT:

- Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative: 2024 Point-in-Time Count Volunteers (see flyer for information).



December 6, 2023

TO: Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)

FROM: AHRON HAKIMI,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By: Rochelle Invina-Jayasiri, Regional Planner
Victoria Romero Valdivia, Planning Intern

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION ITEM: A.**
PROJECT UPDATE – ATP CYCLE 5 SAFE ROUTES FOR CYCLISTS IN KERN
COUNTY'S DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

DESCRIPTION:

Bike Bakersfield will participate in Christmas parades and monthly community bike rides to practice safe riding skills for the *Safe Routes for Cyclists in Kern County's Disadvantaged Communities* project.

DISCUSSION:

Kern Council of Governments was awarded an Active Transportation Program Cycle 5 grant for the *Safe Routes for Cyclists in Kern County's Disadvantaged Communities* project. Bike Bakersfield is the selected consultant for this project. Within Bike Bakersfield's operational framework, monthly community bike rides are integrated into Cyclist Education (Task D). These recurring bike rides serve the purpose of educating cyclists on equipment, accessories, safe riding skills, and bike maintenance for safe cycling. Bike Bakersfield collaborated with the League of American Bicyclists and contracted local bicycle shops and community members to enrich the ride experience and enhance community-wide participation.

Bike Bakersfield will join community parades throughout the county in December 2023 and will continue to host bike rides through December 2024. For more information, refer to the flyers attached and Bike Bakersfield's website: <https://bikebakersfield.org/safe-routes/>

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – December & Christmas Community Rides Schedule

Attachment 2 – November 2023 – December 2024 Monthly Community Rides Schedule

DECEMBER COMMUNITY RIDES

***JOIN US FOR A FAMILY-FRIENDLY, ALL-AGES
CRUISE THROUGH YOUR COMMUNITY**

Kern River Valley - Christmas Parade - Nov, 25th, 11:00 am
Shafter - Christmas Parade - Dec, 1st, 6:30 pm
Lamont - Christmas Parade - Dec, 2nd, 10:00 am
Wasco - Christmas Parade - Dec, 2nd, 6:00 pm
Arvin - Christmas Parade - Dec, 4th, 7:00 pm
Delano - Christmas Parade - Dec, 7th, 6:00 pm
Rathbun - Christmas Parade - Dec, 9th, 10:00 am
Buttonwillow - Buttonwillow Library - Dec, 12th, 5:30 pm
McFarland - McFarland Library - 16th, 5:30 pm
Taft - Taft Library - 19th, 5:30 pm
California City - Balsitis Park - 27th, 5:30 pm
Maricopa - City Park - 30th, 5:30 pm



- **Bike maintenance clinics, Mock City bike safety training and Stakeholder meetings to be announced**



This program is a collaboration of Bike Bakersfield, California Walks, the Kern County Library, Snider's Cyclery, Finish Line Bikes and Kern Council of Governments. This program was funded by an Active Transportation Program Grant through the California Transportation Commission and Caltrans Active Transportation Planning Grant Program.

Scan QR Code for more info

***Schedule to change accordingly**



NOV.2023-DEC.2024 MONTHLY COMMUNITY RIDES

***JOIN US FROM 6:00PM-7:00PM FOR A
FAMILY-FRIENDLY, ALL-AGES CRUISE
THROUGH YOUR COMMUNITY**

Kern River Valley - Old Isabella Coffee - 1st Saturday
Lost Hills - Lost Hills Community Center - 1st Monday
Arvin - Las Palmas Park - 1st Tuesday
Lamont - Lamont Library - 2nd Saturday
Delano - Delano Library - 2nd Monday
Buttonwillow Library - 2nd Tuesday
McFarland - McFarland Library - 3rd Saturday
Rathbun - Rathbun Library - 3rd Monday
Taft - Taft Library - 3rd Tuesday
Shafter - Tony's Pizza - Last Monday
California City - Balsitis Park - Last Wednesday
Maricopa - City Park - Last Saturday
Wasco - Barker Park - Last Tuesday



**Bike maintenance clinics, Mock City bike safety training and
Stakeholder meetings to be announced**

This program is a collaboration of Bike Bakersfield, California Walks, the Kern County Library, Snider's Cyclery, Finish Line Bikes and Kern Council of Governments. This program was funded by an Active Transportation Program Grant through the California Transportation Commission and Caltrans Active Transportation Planning Grant Program.

Scan QR Code for more info

*SCHEDULE TO CHANGE ACCORDINGLY





December 6, 2023

TO: Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)

FROM: AHRON HAKIMI,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By: Raquel Pacheco, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION ITEM: B.**
CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROGRAM –
WORKSHOP FOLLOW-UP #2

DESCRIPTION:

Kern COG staff update on activities since the November 1, 2023 TTAC meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Background

Nineteen CMAQ applications were received for the 2023 CMAQ Call for Projects, requesting \$49.2 million in CMAQ funds. The CMAQ application summary and applications received were posted to the Kern COG website at <http://www.kerncog.org/category/docs/ftip/>. Kern COG staff has continued to work with project applicants to clarify the following concerns:

- Purpose and need issues;
- Potentially ineligible project elements;
- Emission calculation inputs and formulas;
- Cost effectiveness based on revised emission calculations; and
- Verification of cost estimates.

Activities Since the November 1, 2023 TTAC meeting

- Kern COG staff transmitted the Carbon Reduction Program project alignment confirmation forms for two City of Bakersfield adaptive signal projects - Project #2: Calloway Drive from Rosedale Highway to Olive Drive and Project #5: Panama Lane from Gosford Road to Akers Road. On November 22, 2023, Caltrans responded with signed confirmation forms.
- The City of Bakersfield submitted revised Project #2 and Project #5 applications that included local funds for the preliminary engineering phase. This allowed the projects to be introduced into the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (Amendment No. 10) using local funds for preliminary engineering only. Once the Kern COG Board approves the final program of projects, then the Carbon Reduction Program funding (and required local match) can be added to the projects.

- Kern COG staff transmitted two questionable City of Bakersfield corridor improvements applications - Project #4: H Street and Project #7: 18th and 19th Street - for Caltrans CMAQ eligibility review. Kern COG staff received responses from Caltrans headquarters that needed further investigation at the Caltrans District 6 level. On November 17, 2023, Kern COG met with Caltrans District 6 to initiate the CMAQ review. On November 21, 2023, Kern COG met with Caltrans District 6 and Bakersfield to discuss in more detail which components of the projects were CMAQ eligible. The City of Bakersfield staff will submit revised applications for Project #4 and Project #7.

Upcoming Activities/Dates

- Kern COG staff is preparing the draft program of projects. Kern COG will circulate the draft as part of the January Transportation Technical Advisory Committee and Transportation Planning Policy Committee meetings.
- Kern COG staff will circulate the final program of projects as part of the February Transportation Technical Advisory Committee and Transportation Planning Policy Committee meetings.



December 6, 2023

TO: Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)

FROM: AHRON HAKIMI,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By: Irene Enriquez, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION ITEM: C.**
CYCLE 7 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM – UPCOMING STATEWIDE
CALL FOR PROJECTS

DESCRIPTION:

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) anticipates initiating the statewide Cycle 7 Active Transportation Program (ATP) call for Projects at their March 21-22, 2024, meeting, with a project application due date of June 17, 2024.

DISCUSSION:

At their October 31, 2023 workshop, CTC staff provided a finalized schedule for the rollout of the 2025 ATP Cycle 7 call for projects. Announcements made regarding this roll-out include 1) the offer to provide meetings with the CTC staff on Tuesdays and Thursdays, October 2023 through March 2024; and 2) requirement for applicants to provide census tracts for the project area to comply with the Justice40 Initiative. Additional information on these items circulated as it becomes available.

Please check the CTC ATP resource page for more information. We are providing the following information to reflect upcoming key timeline benchmarks that span from March 2024 all the way through June 2025 for the full cycle. Potential applicants should use the following links to ensure access to up-to-date information for the 2025 Cycle 7 ATP information:

<https://catc.ca.gov/programs/active-transportation-program> and
<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/fed-and-state-programs/active-transportation-program>

CTC 2025 Cycle 7 Active Transportation Program Timeline

Benchmark Activity	Date
Draft ATP Guidelines presented to Commission	January 25-26, 2024
Draft ATP Fund Estimate presented to Commission	January 25-26, 2024
Commission hearing and adoption of ATP Guidelines	March 21-22, 2024
Commission adopts ATP Fund Estimate	March 21-22, 2024
Call for Projects	March 21-22, 2024
Application Deadline (via Submittable-New Portal)	June 17, 2024
CTC staff recommendation for statewide applications	November 1, 2024
CTC adoption of statewide selected applications	December 5-6, 2024
Deadline for MPO draft project recommendations	February 21, 2025
Deadline for MPO final project recommendations	April 22, 2025
CTC recommendations for MPO component are posted	June 2, 2025
Commission adopts MPO selected projects	June 2025



December 6, 2023

TO: Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC)

FROM: AHRON HAKIMI,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By: Robert M. Snoddy, Regional Planner

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION ITEM: D.**
FY 2023-24 KERN REGION ESTIMATED SB 125 TRANSIT OPERATIONS AND
CAPITAL PROJECT POPULATION-BASED APPORTIONMENT: \$51,329,661

DESCRIPTION:

Kern COG staff has prepared the final FY 2023-24 apportionment schedule for the TIRCP and ZETCP based solely on population only per CalSTA staff recommendation.

DISCUSSION:

On Tuesday, November 7, 2023, Kern COG staff received a response from CalSTA staff regarding the need to apportion TIRCP and ZETCP funds in two portions: 99313 regional and 99314 local (or member agency share). CalSTA staff informed Kern COG staff that the TIRCP and LETCP funds should be apportioned by population only.

SB 125 (Chapter 54, Statutes of 2023) guides the distribution of \$4 billion in state General Funds through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) on a population-based formula to regional transportation planning agencies, which will have the flexibility to use the money to fund transit operations or capital improvements. Kern COG staff estimates that SB 125 Transit funds will be apportioned over five consecutive years. However, Kern COG and member agencies are required to provide a four-year financial plan that illustrates how the funds will be spent in the fiscal year.

The transportation bill also establishes the \$1.1 billion Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP) to be allocated to regional transportation planning agencies on a population-based formula and another formula based on revenues to fund zero-emission transit equipment and operations. SB 125 includes an accountability program to govern the distribution of these funds, on which there is more detail below.

Eligible recipients of funding are the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs), as defined in Section 13987(j) of the Government Code. Kern COG is the RTPA for Kern County. Funding distributions will only be made to the RTPAs, using fund transfer instructions confirmed with CalSTA by the RTPA prior to transfer, which may in turn make funding available to public agencies in their jurisdiction. RTPAs have the discretion to suballocate or redistribute funds within their region based on local needs, existing procedures, policies, or priorities, if required SB 125 program requirements

and goals are met, including addressing how operating needs are expected to be met with SB 125 and/or other resources. **Funds should be apportioned to Kern COG between December 31, 2023, and April 2024.**

Kern COG staff received an apportionment estimate from Caltrans staff for the Kern Region for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP). Caltrans will administer the TIRCP funding program in two accounts by population.

TIRCP Objectives

The TIRCP was created to fund transformative capital improvements that modernize California's intercity rail, bus (including feeder buses to intercity rail service, as well as vanpool and microtransit services that are eligible to report as public transit to the Federal Transit Administration), to achieve all of the following policy objectives, as codified in Section 75220(a) of the Precythe rail service of the state's various rail operations, including integration with the high-speed rail system.

1. Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases
2. Expand and improve transit service to increase ridership
3. Integrate the rail service of the state's various rail operations, including integration w/ the HSR system
4. Improve transit safety

Further, as outlined in SB 125, which amended the Budget Act of 2023, it is the intent of the Legislature to:

1. Provide one-time multiyear bridge funding for transit operators to address operational costs until long-term transit sustainability solutions are defined. The availability of transit for riders who are transit dependent.
2. Assist transit operators in preventing service cuts and increasing ridership.
3. Prioritize the availability of transit for riders who are transit dependent.
4. Prioritize transit agencies representing a significant percentage of the region's ridership.

To that end, SB 125 specifies that the monies appropriated in the Budget Act of 2023 may be used either for high-priority transit capital projects or, subject to compliance with requirements described in Section 6 of the guidelines, to use those moneys to fund transit operating expenses within its jurisdiction in response to transit hardships (addressing the transit operational deficits due to ridership loss impacts lingering from the pandemic).

TIRCP Eligibility

Eligibility for TIRCP tracks with the existing competitive program: rail capital projects (including acquisition of rail cars and locomotives, that expand, enhance, and improve existing systems connectivity): intercity, commuter, and urban rail that increases service levels, improve reliability, or decrease travel times; rail, bus, and ferry integration; and bus rapid transit and other bus and ferry investments that increase ridership and reduce GHG emission. CalSTA will apportion TIRCP funds to Kern COG in two consecutive payments of \$46,278,687 during FY 2023-24 and \$46,394,777 in FY 2024-25.

TIRCP Final FY 2023-24 Regional Apportionment Schedule

	Population	Apportionment %	Total Apportionment
Arvin	22,014	2.4110%	\$1,108,563
California City	14,120	1.5465%	\$711,044
Delano	51,070	5.5933%	\$2,571,742
GET	552,749	60.5387%	\$27,834,899
McFarland	14,044	1.5381%	\$707,216
Ridgecrest	29,591	3.2409%	\$1,490,120
Shafter	20,448	2.2395%	\$1,029,704
Taft	7,142	.7822%	\$359,651
Tehachapi	12,008	1.3152%	\$604,689
Wasco	26,815	2.9369%	\$1,350,328
Kern Transit	163,050	17.8577%	\$8,210,741
Kern COG			\$300,000
Regional TIRCP Total			\$46,278,687

ZETCP Eligibility

Funds may be allocated for funding zero-emission transit equipment, including, but not limited to, zero-emission vehicles and refueling infrastructure; and funding transit operation expenditures that prevent service reduction or elimination to maintain or increase transit ridership (if consistent with an approved regional short-term or long-term financial plan.)

ZETCP Use

Projects may include new approaches to attracting increased ridership such as smart mobile ticketing, contactless payment, or other software and hardware solutions to reduce ticketing transaction costs, or a test of a concept related to integrated ticketing, as well as intercity rail/transit effectiveness or operational planning as a component of the capital investments in improved, expanded and or restructure service designed to cost-effectively increase ridership.

Pursuant to SB 125, clean fleet, facility, and network improvement projects that support agencies replacing aging vehicle fleets with Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs), and associated fueling or charging infrastructure or facility modifications, are also eligible under the Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program. ZETCP funds will be apportioned by CalSTA in four annual payments.

ZETCP Final FY 2023-24 Regional Apportionment Schedule

	Population	Apportionment %	Total Apportionment
Arvin	22,014	2.4110%	\$120,575
California City	14,120	1.5465%	\$77,338
Delano	51,070	5.5933%	\$279,721
GET	552,749	60.5387%	\$3,027,524
McFarland	14,044	1.5381%	\$76,922
Ridgecrest	29,591	3.2409%	\$162,076
Shafter	20,448	2.2395%	\$111,998
Taft	7,142	.7822%	\$39,119
Tehachapi	12,008	1.3152%	\$65,771
Wasco	26,815	2.9369%	\$146,871
Kern Transit	163,050	17.8577%	\$893,059
Kern COG			\$50,000
Kern Region Total	\$5,050,974		\$5,050,974

Kern COG staff will notify its member agencies as to when TIRCP and ZETCP funds have been received so that member agencies may know when to begin projects. Kern COG will be apportioned \$350,000 from the FY 2023-24 apportionment to administer the TIRCP and ZETCP funding programs. For further information, contact Bob Snoddy at 661-635-2916, 661-477-2205 (cellphone) or email bsnoddy@kerncog.org.

Help **address homelessness**
in our community.

Sign up to volunteer for the



2024 Point-in-Time Count

On Wednesday, January 24, 2024, from 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., teams of volunteers across Kern County will come together to count the number of people experiencing homelessness in our communities.

The Point-in-Time (PIT) Count provides a snapshot view of homelessness in our county. We depend on an accurate PIT Count to know the needs of our community.

Volunteers are an important part of our PIT Count. We depend on community members to survey our communities and make sure every one of our neighbors experiencing homelessness is counted.

Here's How You Can Help

1. Sign Up

**Register for
Training**

Register by
January 7, 2024

2. Attend Training

All volunteers are required to attend a mandatory 2-hour training. You can choose in person or zoom training during registration.

3. Show Up

Arrive on
Wednesday, January
24 at 4:00 a.m. to
survey the number of
people experiencing
homelessness in our
community.

For more information, including FAQs, visit <http://bkrhc.org/2024-pit-count>
or email coordinator@bkrhc.org.

Bakersfield-Kern Regional Homeless Collaborative | www.bkrhc.org

Building a future where every person in Kern County has a permanent place to call home.