



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE:	5/7/14
SUBJECT:	Amend the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan to Include Active Transportation Program Projects (Public Hearing)
AGENDA ITEM:	9
STAFF CONTACT:	Jennifer Pollom, Associate Transportation Planner

SUMMARY:

Amending projects into the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) will ensure project eligibility for non-motorized projects in the new Active Transportation Program (ATP).

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Hold a public hearing to amend the 2010 RTP;
2. Adopt Resolution 14-04 finding that the RTP amendment is consistent and within the scope of the 2010 RTP Environmental Impact Report; and
3. Amend the 2010 RTP to include new projects for ATP funding eligibility.

DISCUSSION:

Transportation projects that are included in the RTP are eligible to receive state and federal funding. The list of RTP projects is meant to be comprehensive but, on rare occasions, needs to be updated to reflect unanticipated needs.

The new ATP is for non-motorized projects such as bike lanes and pedestrian paths. Local agencies intend to submit ATP proposals for the following projects. Amending these projects into the 2010 RTP will ensure ATP program eligibility.

- Sacramento River Trail Lighting: This project will improve safety by installing solar lights on two sections of the river trail - between Caldwell Park and the Sundial Bridge and between the Sundial Bridge and the Highway 44 overpass.
- Henderson Trail: This project will construct roughly one mile of multi-use trail in the Henderson Open Space (behind Cobblestone Shopping Center on Hartnell Avenue). The project will connect the Cypress Street Bridge to residential areas on the southeast side of the river.
- Safe Routes to Schools (Infrastructure): These projects will improve safety and accessibility and reduce vehicle traffic in the vicinity of schools.
- Safe Routes to Schools (Non-Infrastructure): These projects will encourage walking and bicycling to school while providing public outreach concerning traffic safety.

Other candidate ATP projects that are presently listed in the 2010 RTP are the city of Shasta Lake's Churn Creek Trail and the city of Redding's Sacramento River Trail to Downtown, Browning Street Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements, and Candlewood Trail around Gregory Pond (north of Highway 44 between Victor Avenue and Shasta View Drive).

Staff recommends approval of the 2010 RTP Amendment. A public hearing is required.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may decline to amend the projects into the 2010 RTP which may make them ineligible for ATP funding.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Candidate ATP projects were identified in consultation local agencies, Caltrans District 2, and other interested organizations. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) concurs with the staff recommendation.

FINANCING:

Amending the projects into the 2010 RTP will have no fiscal impact on SRTA and may result in needed grant funding for the projects listed.



Daniel S. Little, AICP, Executive Director

Attachment: Resolution 14-04: Amend the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan to Include Active Transportation Program Projects

RESOLUTION



RESOLUTION NUMBER:	14-04
SUBJECT:	Amend the 2010 Regional Transportation Plan to Include Active Transportation Program Projects

WHEREAS, the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Shasta County region; and

WHEREAS, SRTA is the agency responsible for maintaining a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process which will result in a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP); and

WHEREAS, SRTA is the Lead Agency in preparing the RTP, that must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and

WHEREAS, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is the public document used by a governmental agency to analyze the significant environmental effects of a proposed project, to identify alternatives, and to disclose possible ways to reduce or avoid the potential environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, the EIR is a regional planning level analysis which analyzes environmental impacts of the 2010 RTP on a broad planning level, while presenting as much detailed information about the individual RTP projects that is available at this time; and

WHEREAS, project-specific impacts of the individual RTP project should be analyzed in detail by the implementing agencies as the individual projects are designed, engineered, and considered for approval at a later date; and

WHEREAS, the public was notified via legal notice in the Redding Record Searchlight and public notice was posted on SRTA's website at www.srta.ca.gov and in SRTA's office at 1255 East Street, Suite 202, Redding, CA, 14 days in advance of a public hearing on May 7, 2014, of an amendment to the 2010 RTP to include Active Transportation Program projects (ATP); and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on May 7th, 2014 to take public comment on an amendment to the 2010 RTP to include ATP projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency finds the amendment to the 2010 RTP to include ATP projects is consistent and within the scope of the 2010 RTP EIR (State Clearinghouse # 2008092090) and no further environmental documentation under CEQA is required; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board of directors hereby approves the amendment to the 2010 RTP to include ATP projects.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of May, 2014, by the Shasta Regional Transportation Agency.

Susie Baugh, Chair

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency