

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	September 26, 2024
SUBJECT:	Approve Revising Fiscal Years 2022/23 and 2023/24 Local Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Allocations for Regional Projects
AGENDA ITEM:	11
STAFF CONTACT:	Mehdi Moeinaddini, Associate Transportation Planner

SUMMARY:

SRTA manages the “local” portion of federally funded Carbon Reduction Program (Local CRP) funds for the Shasta Region. City of Redding staff requested that SRTA revoke their Local CRP allocation for the California Street Bikeway project and allocate the same amount of Local CRP to the Victor Avenue and Cypress Avenue Active Transportation (VCAT) project (Attachment A). City staff experienced challenges with federal requirements for the California Street Bikeway project, and they are already addressing federal requirements in VCAT because it includes other federal funds that the Local CRP will leverage. It is recommended that the board of directors approve transferring Local CRP funds to VCAT.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Approve revoking Local Carbon Reduction Program (Local CRP) funds allocated for the California Street Bikeway project and allocate the same amount to the Victor Avenue and Cypress Avenue Active Transportation (VCAT) project;
2. Authorize the executive director to initiate an eligibility review process of the VCAT project with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Caltrans; and
3. Authorize the executive director to make minor administrative amendments necessary to meet Local CRP requirements.

DISCUSSION:

Background – SRTA manages Local CRP funds for the Shasta Region, having received \$657,005 for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24. Partial funding was awarded to RABA's micro-transit services, while full funding was awarded to the California Street Bikeway project. The selection process focused on regional benefit, alignment with state priorities, and support for disadvantaged communities. A history of related SRTA Board of Directors agenda items is provided in Attachment B.

Current Situation – Challenges have arisen regarding the use of Local CRP funds for the California Street Bikeway project due to federal regulations and potential environmental implications under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Considering the complexities involved in using Local CRP funds for this project, city of Redding staff proposed redirecting the Local CRP funds to the VCAT project. VCAT is already subject to federal requirements due to Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds and offers a more straightforward path for utilizing Local CRP funds.

Proposal and Process – In response to Redding's request, SRTA asked city staff to complete a Local CRP project form for the VCAT project. This form outlines the specific components of the VCAT project that the Local CRP funds will support. SRTA staff verified that the Local CRP funds are allocated toward eligible project components and ensured that the VCAT project maintains sufficient scores to remain eligible for selection.

Staff Suggestions – Redirecting Local CRP funds from the California Street Bikeway to the VCAT project is recommended. The same amount of local funds initially designated for VCAT will be transferred to the California Street Bikeway project by the city of Redding. This will ensure that both projects maintain full funding and prevent the imposition of additional federal requirements. This move would enable efficient Local CRP fund utilization while ensuring both projects contribute to enhancing active transportation infrastructure in the Shasta Region.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may reject or modify the staff recommendation. The board of directors may request additional information and continue this item to the next board meeting.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The FHWA approves projects, Caltrans reviews eligibility, and SRTA manages Local CRP funds, selects projects, and tracks progress. */// The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on September 16, 2024, to receive an update and vote on the staff recommendation. ///*

FISCAL IMPACT:

This action allocates a total of \$500,000 in Local CRP funds for the VCAT project, subject to review and approval by Caltrans and FHWA. The same amount of local funds initially designated for VCAT will be transferred to the California Street Bikeway project by the city of Redding. SRTA's administrative costs of the Local CRP program are covered under Work Element 701.01 – Regional Transportation Planning in the Overall Work Program.

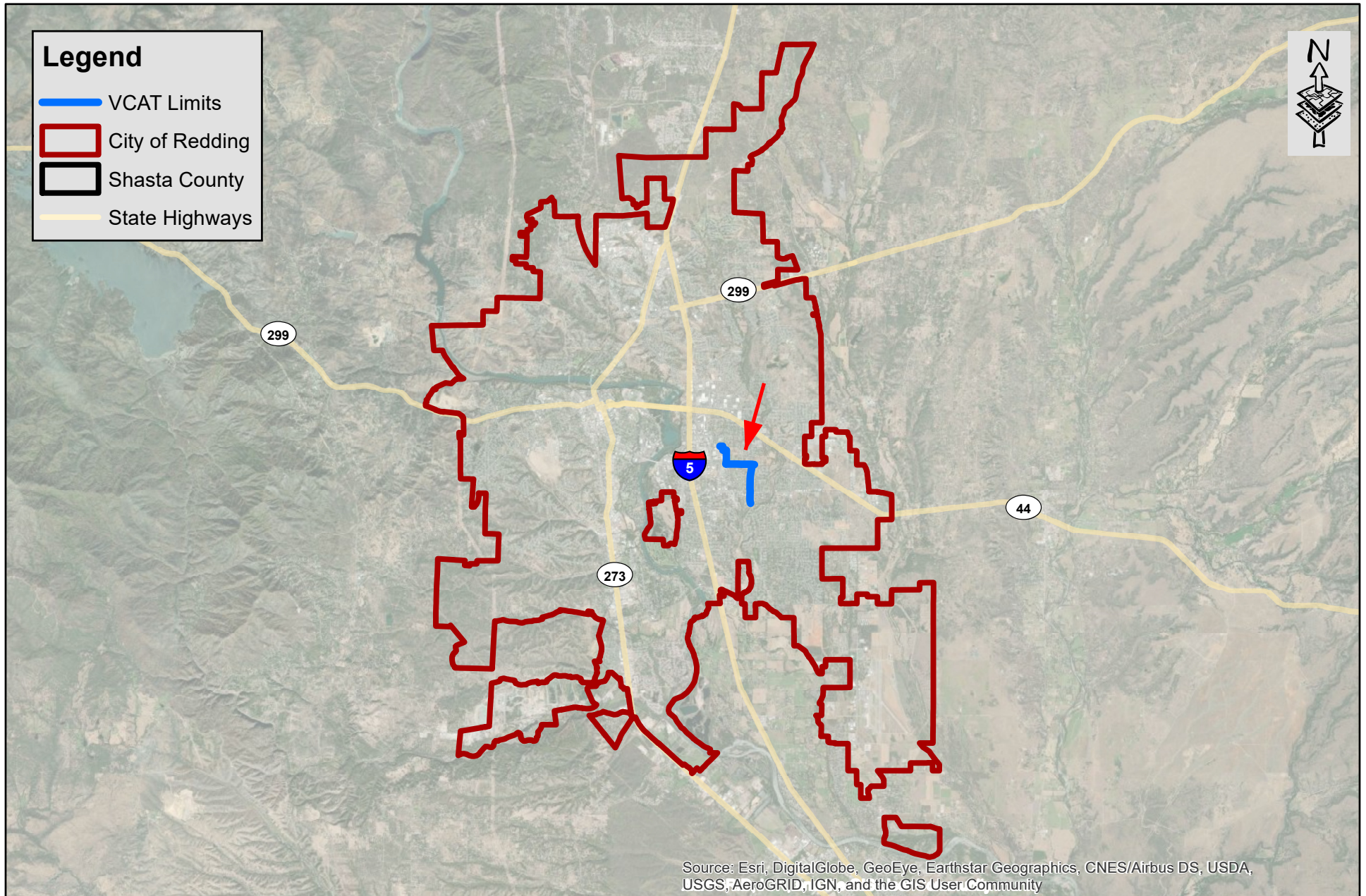
Jennifer Pollom, AICP, Senior Transportation Planner

Attachments:

A: VCAT project location and details

B: History of Related SRTA Board of Directors Agenda Items

Victor Ave & Cypress Ave Active Transportation (VCAT) Project City of Redding

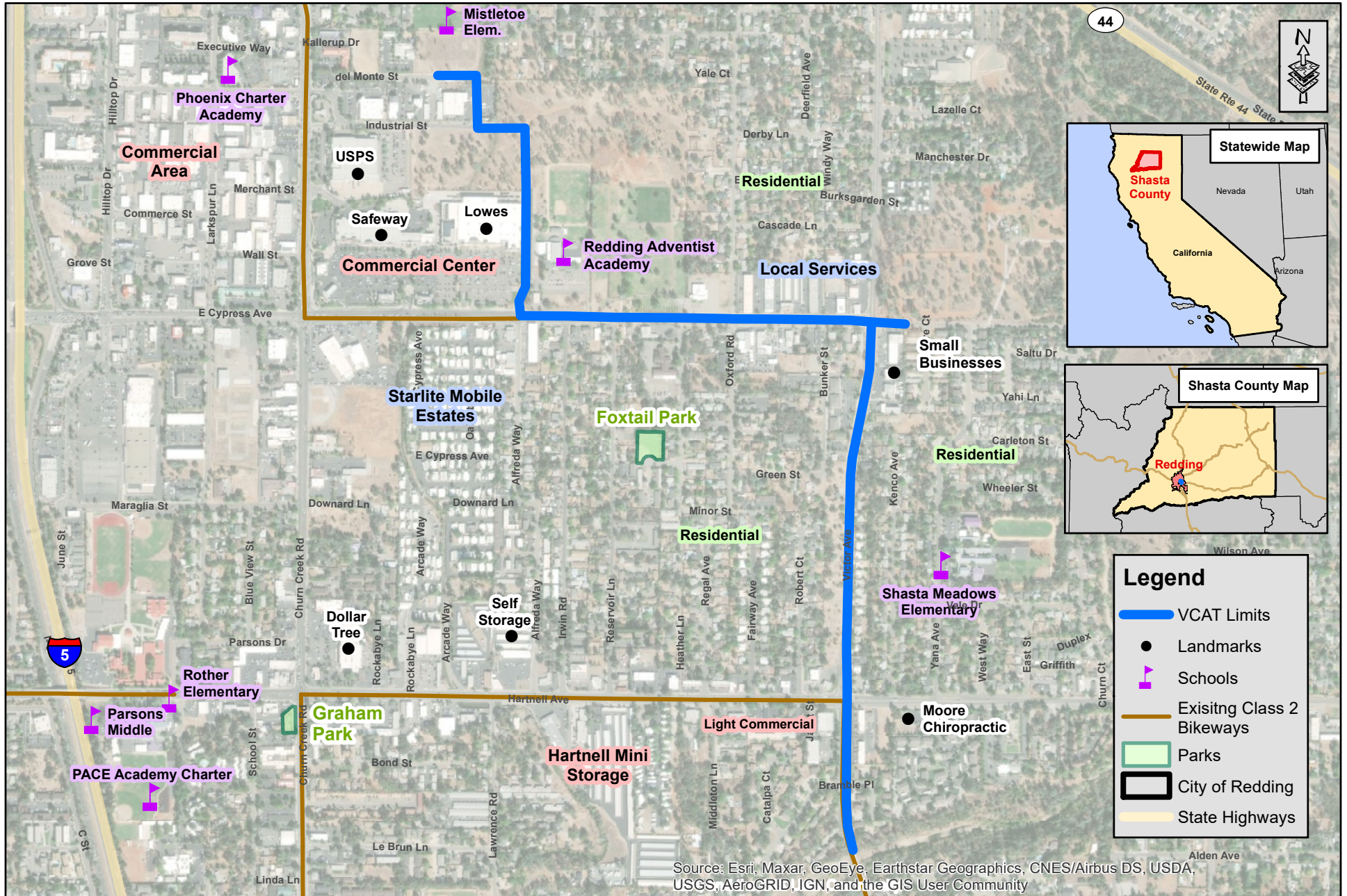


0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

Sources: Shasta County, Caltrans,
US Census Bureau.

Victor Ave & Cypress Ave Active Transportation (VCAT) Project

Project Location & New Routes Map



Sources: Shasta County, City of Redding, Caltrans & US Census Bureau.

LOCAL CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (LOCAL CRP)

HISTORY OF RELATED SRTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA ITEMS

Full staff reports are provided via hyperlink.

2023

MEETING ON JUNE 22, 2023, [AGENDA ITEM #15](#)

APPROVE NEW CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM POLICY

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Approve the attached Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) Policy to select and prioritize projects; and
2. Authorize the executive director to make administrative edits to the policy as necessary to meet federal or state guidelines.

By motion made, seconded (Jones/Kelstrom), by roll call vote, five (5) board members were in favor (Audette, Crye, Jones, Kelstrom, and Mezzano); and two (2) board members (Gallagher and Watkins) were opposed. Motion passes with a 5-2 vote.

MEETING ON OCTOBER 26, 2023, [AGENDA ITEM #15](#)

APPROVE AWARDING \$657,005 IN CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP) FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEARS 2022/23 AND 2023/24 TOWARD REGIONAL PROJECTS

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Approve providing \$325,250 in FY 2022/23 Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds and \$174,750 in FY 2023/24 CRP Funds toward the recommended California Street Bikeway project; and
2. Approve providing \$157,005 in FY 2023/24 Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds toward the Micro-Transit Service project; and
3. Authorize the executive director to initiate an eligibility review process with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Caltrans, make any administrative amendments necessary to meet the requirements, and prepare the corresponding amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) once the eligibility review is confirmed.

Table 1 – Project Funding Recommendations

Applicant	Score (out of 55)	Project	Requested Funds	Recommended Funding
RABA	47.5	Implementation of Micro-transit Services	\$300,000	\$157,005
Redding	44.5	California Street Bikeway	\$500,000	\$500,000
RABA	41.17	Implementation of a Reduced Fare Program	\$100,000	-
Redding	37.5	Oregon Street Improvements	\$500,000	-
Total				\$657,005

By motion made, seconded (Rickert/ Audette), and unanimously carried, the staff recommendation passed unanimously.

2024

MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2024, AGENDA ITEM #11

APPROVE REVISING FISCAL YEARS 2022/23 AND 2023/24 LOCAL CARBON REDUCTION PROGRAM (CRP) ALLOCATIONS FOR REGIONAL PROJECTS

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Approve revoking Local Carbon Reduction Program (Local CRP) funds allocated for the California Street Bikeway project and allocate the same amount to the Victor Avenue and Cypress Avenue Active Transportation (VCAT) project;
2. Authorize the executive director to initiate an eligibility review process of the VCAT project with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Caltrans; and
3. Authorize the executive director to make minor administrative amendments necessary to meet Local CRP requirements.

Pending results of the SRTA BOD meeting on September 26, 2024