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DANIEL LANDON, Executive Director  
 MICHAEL WOODMAN, Deputy Executive Director

Grass Valley • Nevada City

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Nevada County Transportation Commission

FROM: Daniel B. Landon, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report for the January 2019 Meeting

DATE: January 16, 2019

### 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) is a Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) created under the State of California Government Code, Section 67920. As the RTPA for Nevada County, NCTC coordinates transportation planning for Grass Valley, Nevada City, Nevada County, and the Town of Truckee.

NCTC has seven board members. Four members are appointed by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors, including two of its members and two County-at-large representatives. Grass Valley, Nevada City and Truckee each appoint one member.

The mission of NCTC is to plan, communicate, and coordinate with the citizens and decision-makers of Grass Valley, Nevada City, Nevada County, Truckee, and with Caltrans to identify transportation needs, propose solutions, and assist in implementing projects to create a balanced regional transportation system, while protecting the rural qualities and historic character of Nevada County.

Some of the activities to achieve NCTC's mission include:

- Develop a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) which includes the actions, funding recommendations, and policy direction necessary to meet the needs of each transportation system component in the region.
- Communicate with Caltrans on proposed projects to be developed in the County of Nevada to ensure that the policies and goals of the RTP are implemented.
- Administer Transportation Development Act funding to ensure all statutory requirements are met.
- Manage Regional Improvement Program funds, Regional Surface Transportation Program funds, and Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee funds. Select and fund eligible transportation improvement projects based on those that are most effective and beneficial to the region.

- NCTC has been designated as the Airport Land Use Commission for the Nevada County Airport and provides staff for the Truckee Tahoe Airport Land Use Commission. The purpose of airport land use commissions is to protect public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring the orderly expansion of airports and adoption of land use measures that minimize the public's exposure to excessive noise and safety hazards within the areas around the airports.

During 2018, NCTC provided funds to local agencies for transportation projects from the following sources:

**Local Transportation Fund (LTF)** - These funds are derived from one-quarter cent of the sales tax collected in Nevada County.

- Nevada County Transit Funding: \$1,069,950.
- Grass Valley Transit Funding: \$397,754.
- Nevada City Transit Funding: \$98,916.
- Truckee Transit Funding: \$356,401.
- Community Transit Services (CTS) projects - Nevada County: \$154,235, Truckee: \$24,820.
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Projects, Nevada City: \$31,100.

Total LTF projects in 2018: \$2,133,176.

**State Transit Assistance (STA) funds** - These funds are derived from the statewide sales tax on diesel fuel.

- Nevada County Transit Funding: \$726,990.
- Truckee Transit Funding: \$112,730.

Total STA projects in 2018: \$839,720.

**Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds** - This funding program was established by the State of California for a wide variety of transportation projects. These funds may be used for transportation planning, construction, improvement, maintenance, and operation of public streets and highways and pedestrian and bicycle projects.

Grass Valley:

- Murphy Street Intersection: \$200,000.
- Annual Street Rehabilitation: \$300,000.

Nevada City:

- Annual Street Rehabilitation: \$32,600.

Nevada County:

- Combie Corridor: \$56,484.
- Striping, Resurfacing Preparation, Snow Removal, Drainage and Shoulders, General Maintenance, and Vegetation Control: \$1,088,784.

Truckee:

- Donner Pass Road Phase: \$136,000.

Total RSTP Projects in 2018: \$1,813,868.

**Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) program** - This program was developed to collect impact fees from new development to help fund transportation improvement projects needed to accommodate growth in Western Nevada County.

Grass Valley:

- East Main/Bennett Street Intersection: \$476,057.
- Dorsey Drive Interchange: \$171,262.

Total RTMF projects in 2018: \$647,319.

**Total project funding disbursed by NCTC in 2018: \$5,434,083.**

**Planning projects completed in 2018:**

- Update of the Nevada County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) - The RTP is developed to document transportation policy, actions, and funding recommendations that will meet the short-term and long-term access and mobility needs of Nevada County residents over the next 20 years. This document is designed to guide systematic development of a comprehensive multimodal transportation system. The RTP is updated every four years. Projects identified in the RTP are eligible for State and Federal funding programs.

**Planning projects underway in 2018:**

- RTP Implementation: Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Thresholds - Senate Bill 743 mandated the development of a new metric for determining the level of significance of transportation impacts under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This project will utilize consultant services to develop sample estimations of VMT generated by residential and commercial land use projects and provide recommendations for the establishment of VMT thresholds by Nevada County, Grass Valley, Nevada City, and Truckee.

The next steps for the project include:

- Completing the modifications to the NCTC travel demand model
- Development of the VMT forecasting tool using local data
- Testing VMT methodologies and thresholds using local data and local project examples
- Conducting stakeholder meetings
- Preparation of guidance documents for jurisdictions
- Preparation of the Draft Report

This project will be completed by the end of FY 2018/19.

- Active Transportation Plan - The purpose of this project is to develop an Active Transportation Plan for the jurisdictions within Nevada County. Once completed, the project will assist jurisdictions in the implementation of transportation projects that improve bicycle and pedestrian mobility, consolidate pedestrian and bicycle plans, and will be utilized for grant applications for the Caltrans Active Transportation Funding program.

NCTC's consultant is currently developing the Draft Report, which is anticipated to be completed in January 2019. It is expected that the NCTC will be able to review and approve the Final Report at its March 2019 meeting.

- SR 49 Corridor System Management Plan Update - A Corridor System Management Plan (CSMP) is used to outline the multi-jurisdictional and multi-modal management of a corridor experiencing delay due to congestion. A CSMP results in a listing and phasing plan of recommended operational improvements, Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) strategies, and system expansion projects to preserve or improve performance measures within the corridor.

NCTC's consultant is currently developing the draft CSMP for SR 49 within Nevada County and it is planned that the final CSMP will be completed for the May 2019 NCTC meeting.

- SR 49 (West Broad Street-Uren Street) Multimodal Corridor Plan – The purpose of this project is to develop a plan to implement projects that will improve safety, connectivity between transportation modes, and expand mobility options along this corridor in a cost-effective manner.

NCTC is currently developing a scope of work and Request For Proposal for the project. It is anticipated that the final report will be completed by June 2019.

- Transit Funding Equity Study - This project is a review of the fiscal and operating characteristics of the Nevada County and Town of Truckee transit services to determine if the current NCTC distribution policies provide an equitable amount of funding to each transit service. This project will guide the allocation of funds for future transit operations.

The project consultant is currently integrating information from the working papers into a draft final report. The final report will be presented to the Commission at its May 2019 meeting.

- Local Road Safety Plan – The State of California encourages local agencies to have a Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) to competitively obtain Highway Safety Improvement Program funds. NCTC staff is assisting Nevada County with the development of a LRSP. The purpose of NCTC's participation is to engage other local agencies in this effort.

Nevada County is developing the draft LRSP, and this first LRSP will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for adoption and to the NCTC for endorsement.