

JAN ARBUCKLE – Grass Valley City Council, Vice Chair
 SUSAN HOEK – Nevada County Board of Supervisors
 ED SCOFIELD – Nevada County Board of Supervisors, Chair
 JAY STRAUSS – Member-At-Large
 DUANE STRAWSER – Nevada City City Council
 JAN ZABRISKIE – Town of Truckee



MICHAEL WOODMAN, Executive Director
 AARON HOYT, Deputy Executive Director


Grass Valley • Nevada City

Nevada County • Truckee

File: 950.6

MEMORANDUM

TO: Nevada County Transportation Commission

FROM: Michael Woodman, Executive Director 

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report for the July 20, 2022 Meeting

DATE: July 20, 2022

STATE BUDGET ADOPTION - TRANSPORTATION SUMMARY

On June 30, 2022, Governor Newsom signed the Fiscal Year 2022/23 State Budget. The Budget includes approximately \$15 billion in additional state funded investments in transportation infrastructure over the next four years. The transportation infrastructure package focuses on increasing mobility options for Californians through rail, transit and active transportation projects; equity-related investments to reconnect communities; and enhanced safety projects.

In addition to funding for high-speed rail, the Budget establishes further oversight, review, and reporting processes for the High-Speed Rail Authority—including the creation of the High-Speed Rail Authority Office of the Inspector General. The Inspector General has the authority to initiate audits and reviews, conduct independent fiscal analysis of the Authority's plans and estimates, identify best practices, recommend efficiencies, and evaluate contracts and contracting practices. The Inspector General will report regularly to the Legislature and Governor with a summary of findings and on the Authority's progress in delivering the project.

THE BUDGET INCLUDES:

- Transit and Rail Projects—\$7.7 billion General Fund over four years to invest in high-priority transit and rail infrastructure projects throughout the state. Funding will be administered through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP).
- High Speed Rail—\$4.2 billion High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Fund (Proposition 1A) to complete high-speed rail construction in the Central Valley.
- Goods Movement and Ports—\$1.2 billion General Fund for port-specific projects that increase goods movement capacity on rail and roadways at port terminals, including railyard expansions, new bridges, and zero-emission modernization.

- Active Transportation—\$1 billion General Fund for Active Transportation Program projects that encourage the increased use of active modes of transportation, such as walking and biking, and increase the safety and mobility of non-motorized users.
- Grade Separations—\$350 million General Fund to support critical high priority grade separation safety improvements throughout the state.
- Climate Adaptation Programs—\$200 million General Fund to identify transportation-related climate vulnerabilities throughout the state and assist in developing and implementing projects to adapt infrastructure given climate change impacts. The Budget also allocates \$200 million federal funds for these purposes.
- Highways to Boulevards Pilot—\$150 million to establish the Reconnecting Communities: Highways to Boulevards Pilot Program, which will inform the future conversion of key underutilized highways into multimodal corridors that serve existing residents. The program will further the development of complete streets features as outlined in the Department of Transportation's Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure.
- Clean California Local Grants—\$100 million General Fund in additional funding for the Clean California Program grant program in 2023-24.

The budget also includes a funding package for Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV). The 2021-22 budget agreement included a total of \$3.9 billion over three years for various programs to support ZEVs. The Governor's budget includes \$660 million General Fund in 2022-23 consistent with this agreement. In addition, the budget proposes a total of \$6.1 billion over five years—\$2.7 billion in 2022-23 and \$3.4 billion in subsequent years—in additional funding for ZEV-related programs. This total includes \$3.5 billion from the General Fund, \$1.5 billion in Proposition 98 General Fund, \$676 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), and \$383 million in federal funds.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CYCLE 6 POTENTIAL FUNDING AUGMENTATION

The State Budget Bill signed by Governor Newsom on June 30, 2022 included a one-time \$1.05 billion dollar augmentation to the Active Transportation Program (ATP). It is anticipated that the California Transportation Commission will choose to utilize this additional funding to augment the current ATP grant funding available for Cycle 6.

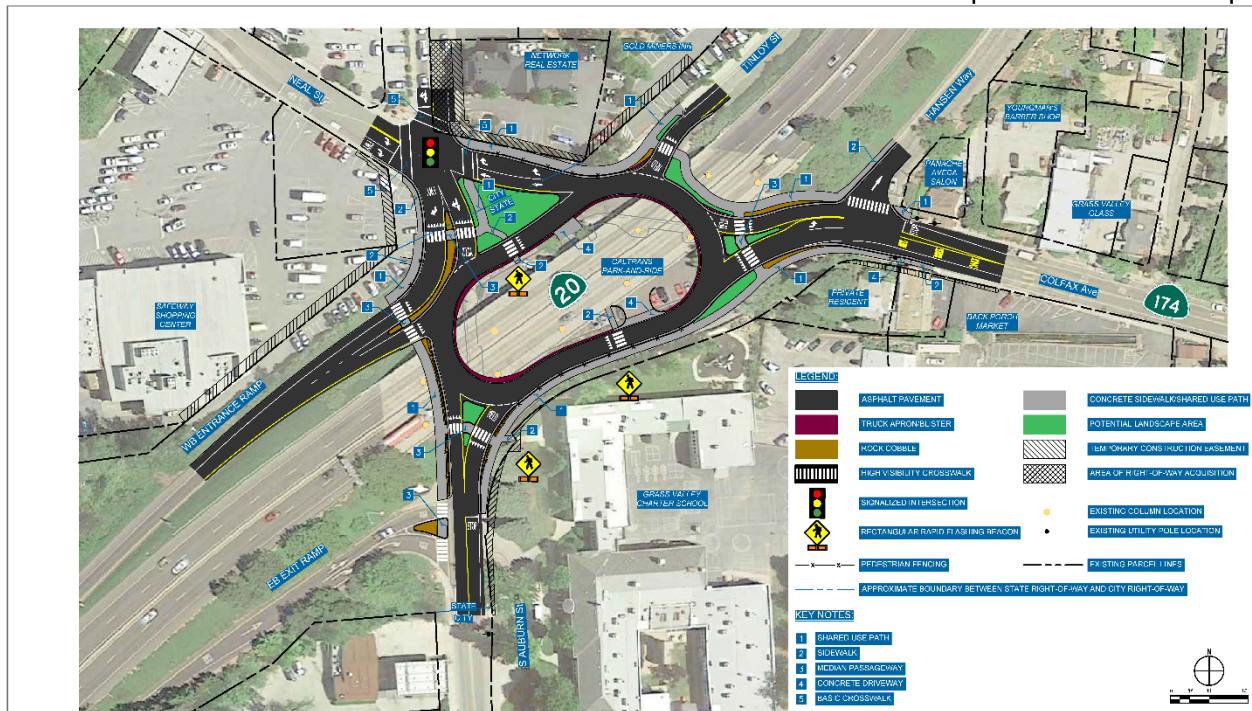
On June 15, 2022, the Nevada County Transportation Commission in coordination with Nevada County, Grass Valley, and Nevada City and with the assistance of the transportation consulting firm GHD Inc. submitted ATP Cycle 6 grant applications for the *State Route 49 Multi-modal Corridor Improvements*, *Nevada City* and the *SR 174/49/20 Roundabout & Active Transportation Safety Project*. Based on the improvements made to the application from the previous submittal, identification of matching funds (qualifies for additional points), and the announcement of the augmentation funds, staff is cautiously optimistic that both projects will be successfully awarded funding in this cycle.

The *SR 174/49/20 Roundabout & Active Transportation Safety Project* is intended to improve traffic operations and the safety and comfort for people walking and bicycling by simplifying a high-stress cluster of multiple intersections with an oblong single-lane roundabout that includes high-visibility

crossings on all legs and a shared-use path. The project area today consists of seven closely spaced intersections, known as the Triangle, at the interchange of SR 174 with SR 49/20. Intersections are a mix of traffic signals and side-street stop signs, and people bicycling or walking through the area must navigate multiple long crossings with varied markings and support features.

A new oblong roundabout will consolidate four intersections, offering safety improvements for all modes of transportation. High-visibility marked crosswalks will be provided on all approaches, including advance yield lines and refuge islands. A rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) will be installed across S. Auburn Street near Grass Valley Charter Elementary. Two marked crossings are also provided across the circulating lane to provide access to the Park and Ride lot, and will include RRFBs to support safe crossings for students and families to Grass Valley Charter Elementary. A new shared-use path will be constructed around the roundabout, offering a safe path of travel for people walking and bicycling that is completely separated from motor vehicle traffic. An existing traffic signal at Neal Street and Auburn Street will be upgraded to improve pedestrian safety and coordinate with the adjacent roundabout.

Improvement Concept



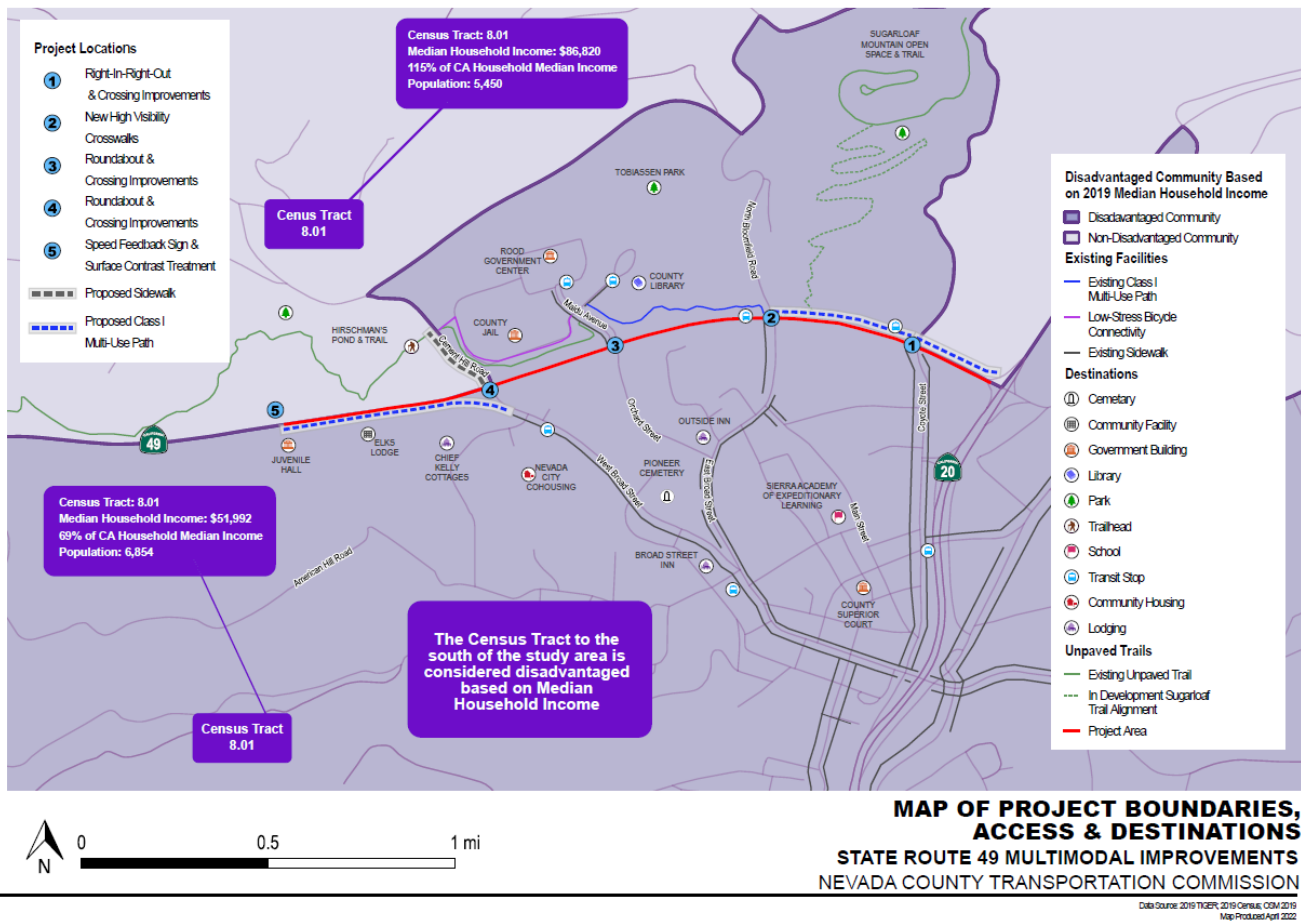
SR 174/SR 20 Intersection Analysis
 Grass Valley, California

The *State Route 49 Multi-modal Corridor Improvements, Nevada City* focuses on improving key intersections, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and improved crossings along the segment of SR 49 between the intersection of SR 20/49/Uren Street and County Juvenile Hall driveway/SR 49. The improvements will allow active transportation users to travel along and across this section of the SR 49 corridor safely and comfortably while accessing important destinations near the project area.

Intersection improvement locations include SR 49 and Coyote Street, North Bloomfield Road/East Broad Street, Maidu Ave/Orchard Street, and Cement Hill Road/West Broad Street. North Bloomfield/East Broad Street is signal-controlled, while the remaining three are side-stop controlled.

Safety concerns will be addressed at all four locations. SR 49/Coyote Street improvements include a right-in-right-out intersection reconfiguration, new lighting, and high-visibility crosswalks with refuge islands and rectangular rapid flashing beacons along both crossing legs. Crosswalks at North Bloomfield Road/East Broad Street will be improved with new high-visibility markings. Maidu Ave/Orchard Street and Cement Hill Road/West Broad Street improvements include single-lane roundabouts, new lighting, shared-use paths around the roundabout perimeter, and high-visibility crosswalks with median refuge islands at each intersection leg.

New shared-use paths and sidewalk in several locations will connect to existing and future trails. At the east end of the corridor, between SR 20 and North Bloomfield Road, a shared-use path will connect to the existing Rood Center Path at North Bloomfield Road, which extends to Helling Way. At the west end, a shared-use path will span from the Juvenile Hall driveway to West Broad Street. At Cement Hill Road/West Broad Street, the roundabout will connect to the shared-use path to the west at the southwest corner, and sidewalk along Cement Hill Road at the northeast corner. A sidewalk will also extend to the north to Hirschman's Trail.



SR 49 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - FEDERAL EARMARK REQUESTS UPDATE

NCTC staff in coordination with the County Board of Supervisors Office and Nevada County Department of Public Works submitted a federal earmark request in the amount of \$10 million necessary to fund the State Route (SR) 49 Corridor Improvement Project – Phase 1 & 2, for consideration by

Congressman Doug LaMalfa, Senator Alex Padilla, and Senator Diane Feinstein. NCTC staff have received confirmation that the project was not recommended for funding this cycle.

The SR 49 Corridor Improvement Project – Phases 1 & 2 includes construction of segments of northbound and southbound truck climbing lanes, auxiliary lanes, 10' shoulders, a 16' wide continuous two-way left turn-lane, and eliminates the existing merge points improving the highway segment between the terminus of the previous project at La Barr Meadows Road (Post Mile 10.8) and to the south of the McKnight Way Interchange (Post Mile 13.3) to four lanes. The project also includes right turn lanes in the southbound direction at Crestview Drive, Smith Road, Bethel Church Way, and Wellwood Way.

RURAL COUNTIES TASK FORCE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Rural Counties Task Force (RCTF) was formed in 1988 in partnership with California Transportation Commission (CTC) to serve as an advisory body to the CTC and to ensure rurals remain engaged and have a unified voice when addressing state and federal transportation funding and policy decisions. There are 26 rural county Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) or Local Transportation Commissions represented on the Rural Counties Task Force (RCTF). A member of the CTC usually acts as liaison to the RCTF, and CTC and Caltrans staff typically attend these meetings to explain and discuss changing statewide transportation issues that may be of concern to the rural counties.

At the May 20, 2022 RCTF meeting, Nephele Barrett, Executive Director of Mendocino Council of Governments was elected to serve as Chair and NCTC's Deputy Executive Director, Aaron Hoyt, was elected to serve a two-year term as Vice Chair of the RCTF.