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COMMISSION

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Nevada County Transportation Commission

FROM: Daniel B. Landon, Executive Director

SUBJECT: 2016 Nevada County Regional Transportation Plan – Public Draft

DATE: May 2, 2017

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff requests the Commission review and provide comments on the *2016 Nevada County Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Public Draft*.

**BACKGROUND:** Regional Transportation Planning Agencies are required by the state to prepare, adopt, and submit an updated RTP to the California Transportation Commission and to Caltrans every five years. The previously adopted Nevada County RTP was approved by the Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) in 2010.

The purpose of this update to the RTP is to document the short-term (2015-2025) and long-term (2025-2035) regional transportation policy direction, multi-modal regional transportation needs, and to set forth a financially constrained action plan to meet those needs. To qualify for federal and state funding, projects must be included in or be consistent with the plan. The Draft 2016 Nevada County RTP includes the projects that can reasonably be anticipated to be funded within the plan's fiscal constraints. The RTP also identifies projects that can be implemented if additional funding becomes available.

The Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration have placed an emphasis on the development and implementation of a performance management approach to transportation planning and programming that supports the achievement of transportation system performance outcomes. A key focus of the RTP update was to transform the document to a performance-based planning approach that will bring a more systematic method of using information on transportation system performance to develop investment priorities, guide outcomes for the transportation plan. The Draft 2016 Nevada County RTP has been prepared in compliance with the *California Transportation Commission 2017 Regional Transportation Plan Guidelines* and with the federal planning requirements.

The RTP is comprised of the following main elements:

- ◆ The *Policy Element* identifies transportation goals, objectives, performance measures, targets, and policies to meet the needs of the multi-modal transportation needs of the region, and is the basis for the development of the *Action Element*.

- ◆ The *Action Element* provides a discussion of each component of the regional transportation system and transportation related issues, and includes a short-term and long-term action plan.
- ◆ The *Financial Element* details the financial assumptions and revenue forecasts and presents a financially constrained funding scenario in correlation with the *Action Element* of the RTP.

Given the reductions in transportation funding revenues over the past five years, the additions or changes to the previously adopted Nevada County RTP are relatively minor and are listed below:

- ◆ Updated performance measures and development of performance targets.
- ◆ Updated state highway and regional transportation project costs.
- ◆ Changed project scopes and timeframes reflective of funding limitations.
- ◆ Updated transportation funding revenue forecasts.
- ◆ Updated air quality information and addressed recent greenhouse gas legislation.
- ◆ Updated information regarding goods movement, transit services, non-motorized transportation, aviation, rail, transportation systems management, and intelligent transportation systems.

The Draft 2016 Nevada County RTP is available for review on the NCTC website at [www.nctc.ca.gov](http://www.nctc.ca.gov). Public outreach to receive comments on the draft RTP will include posting it on the NCTC website, issuing press releases stating that the document is available for review, providing hard copies at local libraries, and distributing to member jurisdictions, neighboring RTPAs, Caltrans, and other state and federal agencies as appropriate.

Comments on the draft report are to be submitted to the Nevada County Transportation Commission no later than 5:00 P.M. on or before June 19, 2017. Comments are to be addressed to:

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A supplement to the previously certified Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is being prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. The supplement to the Program EIR will address the minor technical changes and additions to the previously certified document.

attachment