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**Elissa Konove**  
Acting Secretary

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBSACT (IIJA) WORKING GROUP MEETING NOTES—January 26, 2022

Start Time: 10:00 am

End Time: 11:00 am

Attendees: IIJA Contact Group (too many to list in doc)

INTRODUCTION:

- Opening remarks from CalSTA Acting Secretary Elissa Konove
  - Announcement of new Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs), key among them being \$1.5 billion in RAISE grants
  - CalSTA’s website now has a [devoted section](#) on IIJA matters

REMARKS:

- Jeanie Ward-Waller (CalTrans Deputy Director)
  - Spoke about sub-working group initiatives
- Giles Giovinazzi (CalSTA Senior Adviser)
  - CalSTA’s IIJA website has a dedicated NOFO tracker updated periodically, announcement from the White House, and will upload IIJA action plans once sub-working groups have developed them
- Paul Schneider (California Division Deputy Division Administrator at the Federal Highway Administration)
  - Some apportionment programs from the IIJA have not yet reached state coffers (ex. Surface Transportation block grants have not been fully funded yet)
  - FHWA posted 10 fact sheets on websites for various bill programs that show characteristics like descriptions, eligibility, general info, set-asides, transferability, and federal share
    - CalSTA website will have these fact sheets up soon
  - FHWA expects their field offices to offer support to those seeking grant funding hopefully by mid-summer

WORKING GROUP OVERVIEW:

- Jeanie Ward-Waller (CalTrans Deputy Director)
  - Sub-working groups have benefited from the creation of shared calendars
  - The Freight and Goods Movement Working Group met last week, led by CalTrans Chief of the Office of Sustainable Freight Planning Yatman Kwan
  - The Tribal Relations Working Group will first meet through the Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC) before a full sub-working group meeting

- Nicole Longoria (CalTrans Federal Liaison)
  - The Safety Working Sub-Working Group has been having internal coordination meetings, with Harsimran Bains and Robert Peterson reaching out soon
  - The Fix-it-First Sub-Working Group will have its first meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am – 10 am
  - The Overall Funding Split Working Group will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks of February
  - The Tribal Relations Working Group will meet on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, following a meeting with the Native American Advisory Committee
  - CalTrans is working with internal staff to be ready for May budget revise
- Yatman Kwan (Chief of the Office of Sustainable Freight Planning at CalTrans, Lead for the Freight/Goods Movement Sub-Working Group)
  - The Freight and Goods Movement (FGM) Sub-Working Group will have its meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup> with 50+ participants in attendance
  - Subsequent meetings will take place on February 10<sup>th</sup>, March 1<sup>st</sup>, March 24<sup>th</sup>, April 14<sup>th</sup>, and May 5<sup>th</sup>
  - The next steps for FGM are to develop implementation plan, strategies, priority themes
- Momo Tamaoki (CalTrans Principal Transportation Planner, Co-Lead for Intercity Passenger Rail and Transit/Commuter Rail Sub-Working Groups)
  - Her 2 sub-working groups will have their first meetings on January 28<sup>th</sup>, this coming Friday
    - The Intercity Passenger Rail Sub-Working Group will meet at 11 am
    - The Transit/Commuter Rail Sub-Working Group will meet at 2 pm
- Tony Dang (CalTrans Deputy Director for Sustainability, Lead for Active Transportation and Zero Emissions Sub-Working Groups)
  - Tony is focused on coordinating with state agencies for federal request for information (RFIs), which will be released on Friday
    - These RFIs will be circulated to the larger Working Group when ready
  - Federal guidance on ZEVs is expected in mid-February, meetings expected to be scheduled in late February
  - The electric vehicle funding program is general funding, contingent on Congressional action
- Mike Johnson (CalTrans State Asset Management Engineer, Co-Lead for the Fix-it-First Sub-Working Group)
  - First meeting will take place on February 4<sup>th</sup>

OPEN DISCUSSION:

- Kerry Cartwright (Port of Los Angeles) expressed interest in pursuing a strategy of leveraging both state and federal funds
- Hana Creger (Greenlining Institute) inquired about compliance with the Biden administration's Justice40 Initiative, and what work was being done within the sub-working groups
  - Jeanie Ward-Waller stated that she was not entirely sure yet which channels to go through, but is having conversations with Amar Cid (Lead for the Equity Sub-Working Group) and invited Hana to have an offline conversation to discuss details

- Jofil Borja (Sacramento Rapid Transit) asked how CalSTA would work with existing guidelines, such as CAPTI, transit-oriented development, and addressing geographic equity.
  - Jeanie Ward-Waller invited Jofil to an offline conversation to discuss details
- Andy Swanson (Airport Manager at City of Palo Alto) wondered if airports were being discussed in IJA implementation talks
  - Giles responded that most of the Working Group focus is surface transportation, but offered Andy a meeting with CalTrans's Aeronautics Division
- Michael Cano (Deputy Executive Officer for Goods Movement/State Policy/Programming at LA Metro) asked the following question in the chat: "Will there be performance evaluation metrics used during the [sub-working groups] that focus on economic competitiveness and evaluating how investments link to supporting/enhancing economic opportunity, multipliers, reducing barriers to economic competitiveness (like losing market share for container traffic to other ports)?"
  - Giles answered that examination of the federal standards for these grants is required, as well as coordination with the FHWA

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- Meeting adjourned at 10:50
- Eric, Nicole, and Giles will be following up with participants who have questions about further involvement with the Working Group or sub-working groups
- A copy of this memo, Giles's slide deck, and Yatman's slide deck will be provided to working group members
- The next meeting will take place in February (exact date TBD)
- For any further questions, please email [eric.furth@calsta.ca.gov](mailto:eric.furth@calsta.ca.gov) or [nicole.longoria@dot.ca.gov](mailto:nicole.longoria@dot.ca.gov)