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**Gavin Newsom**  
Governor

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**Elissa Konove**  
Acting Secretary

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBSACT (IIJA) WORKING GROUP MEETING NOTES – February 16, 2022

Start Time: 1100 am

End Time: 12:00 pm

Attendees: IIJA Contact Group

INTRODUCTION:

- Opening remarks from CalSTA Acting Secretary Elissa Konove

REMARKS:

- Jeanie Ward-Waller (CalTrans Deputy Director)
  - We appreciate your engagement!
- Paul Schneider (California Division Deputy Division Administrator at the Federal Highway Administration)
  - On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2 guidance memos were released by the FHWA
    - [Highway Safety Improvement Program \(HSIP\) Guidance Memo](#)
    - [Vulnerable Road Users special rule](#)
  - Announcement of the establishment of the [Joint Office of Energy and Transportation](#) to roll out National Electric Vehicle Initiative (NEVI) program
- Nicole Longoria (CalTrans Federal Liaison) and Jeanie Ward-Waller (CalTrans Deputy Director) updated the working group on efforts by the 13 sub-working groups
  - The Fix-it-First sub-working group had its kickoff meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup>, with its next meeting on Feb 18<sup>th</sup>
  - The Climate Adaptation and Resilience sub-working group will have its kickoff meeting soon; a survey on meeting times and objectives will be sent out shortly
  - The Transition to Zero-Emissions sub-working group, led by Tony Dang, will have its first meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>
  - The Transit Commuter Rail sub-working group, led by Momo Tamaoki, will have its first meeting on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>
    - The Intercity Rail sub-working group, also led by Momo, had its first meeting on Jan 28<sup>th</sup>
  - The Freight/Goods Movement sub-working group will meet on February 17<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 2:30 pm
  - Jeanie noted that equity policies and issues were emerging in every sub-group, which presented a challenge to the exact scope of the Equity sub-working group
    - Jeanie + Cory Binn’s programs waiting on guidance from FHWA
    - Climate Resilience also waiting on guidance
- Tony Dang (CalTrans Deputy Director for Sustainability, Lead for Active Transportation and Zero Emissions Sub-Working Groups)

- Tony discussed the new federal guidance for NEVI; the first point of discussion will be whether transit/freight electrification will be in this group or to focus on NEVI
- Alternative Fuel Corridor nominations were sent out last week, and will be due on May 13<sup>th</sup>
- Tony is organizing with partners at the California Transportation Commission to have coordinated nominating process
- The Transition to Zero Emissions sub-working group is developing state EV infrastructure deployment plan, due Aug 1<sup>st</sup>
  - No NEVI funds will be available until after the deployment plan is approved
- The state has newly specified standards for alternative fuel corridors; they must have at least 4 fast chargers spaced no more than 50 miles apart
- Suzanne Smith (Executive Director of SCTA) asks “How might local EV infrastructure deployment plans feed into the State plan?”
  - Tony says his Transition to Zero-Emissions group will discuss that matter
- Momo Tamaoki (CalTrans Principal Transportation Planner, Co-Lead for Intercity Passenger Rail and Transit/Commuter Rail Sub-Working Groups)
  - Initial meeting for both of her groups happened on January 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Some issues both groups are facing:
    - Tackling implementation challenges on ZE activities
    - Maximizing available funds
    - Discussing COVID issues (decreased ridership and revenues)
    - Administrative challenges, NEPA delegation and Nat Transit Database reporting
  - Both groups will be finalizing their respective charters soon
  - Transit/Commuter Rail will meet on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Intercity Passenger Rail met yesterday (February 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Michael Johnson (Co-Lead for the Fix-it-First Sub-Working Group)
  - All slides on CalSTA’s website, Feb 4<sup>th</sup> kickoff; Michael discussed asset vulnerability and resiliency
  - There have been side meetings with the Climate Adaptation and Resiliency team lead as well to make sure that the two groups aren’t duplicating each other’s work
  - The next meeting will take place on February 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 am, where it will begin with a virtual whiteboarding for Fix-it-First needs

OPEN DISCUSSION:

- Nicole mentions that Keith Duncan’s Overall Funding Split group will have its first meeting next week, and that he intends to maintain weekly communications to update everyone

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- Meeting adjourned at 11:50
- Eric, Nicole, and Giles to follow-up with participants
- A copy of this memo and all slide decks will be provided to working group members
- The next meeting will take place on **March 9<sup>th</sup> from 11 am – 12 pm PST**
- 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)