

California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) 2023 Accomplishments Report

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Departments, Boards and Commissions

State of California, Gavin Newsom, Governor

California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), Toks Omishakin, Secretary

Board of Pilot Commissioners (BOPC), Allen Garfinkle, Executive Director

California Highway Patrol (CHP), Sean Duryee, Commissioner

California Transportation Commission (CTC), Tanisha Taylor, Executive Director

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Tony Tavares, Director

California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Steve Gordon, Director

California High-Speed Rail Authority, Brian P. Kelly, Chief Executive Officer

California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), Barbara Rooney, Director

California New Motor Vehicle Board (NMVB), Timothy M. Corcoran, Executive Director

Message from the Secretary

One thing is certain: The year 2023 gave us substantial evidence of just how impactful the results can be when we apply our Core Four priorities of Safety, Equity, Climate Action and Economic Prosperity to our everyday work. It’s been a remarkable year achieving many goals and persevering through challenges, and CalSTA takes great pride in our actions over the past 12 months that steadily, have led to equitable, safe, healthy and prosperous outcomes.

As you read through this accomplishments report, I have a single request. For each initiative we’ve implemented, every project that’s been completed and each dollar purposefully invested all within the past year, I’d like you to reflect on the direct connection each has to people. On the receiving end of

these measurable components of our transportation network are individuals, families and communities who rely on our team's tenacity through every step of the process. All people who live in and visit our incredible state deserve nothing less than a thriving quality of life every day; this is our intention guiding us in everything we do. Governor Gavin Newsom's administration, CalSTA and our eight transportation teams can be regarded as one mechanism linked to enhancing the lives of all people. We have a clear gauge for true success: leaving this invaluable legacy for future generations.

I hope you enjoy this first-ever CalSTA Accomplishments Report and its corresponding [Annual Accomplishments video](#). When I consider the range of significant accomplishments laid out in this document and this production, a common denominator leaps out at me: our teams' exceptional agility and determination when faced with challenges such as the extreme weather impacts at the start of the year, the Interstate-10 bridge fire crisis at the end of the year and everything else in-between.

Confronting any type of adversity, we must be unflappable and nimble, and our CalSTA teams continue to demonstrate this practice time and time again. And the many other impressive 2023 accomplishments laid out on the pages in this document are vital and expansive. DMV rolled out the transformative [mobile driver's license \(mDL\)](#), adding ease to processes such as getting through airport security or showing ID at participating retail establishments. The CHP drastically reduced organized retail theft by making more than 1,300 arrests and recovering more than \$10 million in stolen merchandise. And of course, funding plays a critical role in our accomplishments. The \$3.1 billion issued to the High-Speed Rail Authority for bringing the first fully electrified 220-mph high-speed rail system to our country places this grant in a historic category all its own.

So, it's not a surprise to hear that California leads the charge when it comes to inspiring the nation. Our state's strong leadership, visionary innovation and people-guided compass yield essential success with consistency.

Though we have much to celebrate, and noteworthy milestones often become standard practice, complacency is never an option. As we continue pushing forward in our collective work and extraordinary service, I already anticipate next year's Accomplishments Report sharing even more ongoing and life-changing wins for all Californians.

Thank you for being an integral part of our meaningful transportation footprint on California soil. It's an absolute privilege to be carrying out this powerful work together.

About

The California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) oversees the nation's largest and most complex transportation system. That work includes coordinating and managing critical funding, air quality and mobility issues and the work of our eight Departments, Boards and Commissions. We are guided by our Core Four priorities of Safety, Equity, Climate Action and Economic Prosperity.

Vision

Whoever you are, wherever you live, every person has access to a safe, sustainable and convenient transportation system throughout California.

Mission

We lead people-first transportation programs and policies to enhance safety, equity, climate action and economic prosperity for all Californians.

Core Four Priorities

Our CalSTA Core Four priorities drive the work we do. They encompass Safety, Equity, Climate Action and Economic Prosperity—the principles that guide us in delivering the services, programs and support every Californian needs to succeed and thrive. We hold ourselves accountable for serving all who live in and visit our great state. With historic funding, policy shifts, incredible partnerships and unwavering perseverance, we've made tangible headway, and it's an exciting time. Our goals, vision and funding have powerfully aligned during this unprecedented window of opportunity. Pushing ahead requires agility coupled with innovation. We will continue to be confronted by challenges—and as we are, we'll continue to meet them successfully. Each of us, as individuals and as organizations, has an essential role to play in improving the lives of others.

Safety

Nearly 10% of all 2021 traffic deaths in the U.S. occurred on California roadways. Fatalities for active transportation users were also at a 16-year high. We have the responsibility and the opportunity to achieve better outcomes by embedding the Safe System approach into our investments, planning, design and innovation. We are committed to the goal of zero traffic fatalities by 2050.

Equity

Historically, transportation decisions prioritized the movement of vehicles over the movement of people. For that reason, in some cases, the transportation system we created had detrimental impacts on some underserved communities. Going forward, we aim to create an equitable and accessible transportation network that provides opportunities for everyone.

Economic Prosperity

Transportation policy done right creates well-paying jobs, provides affordable options, supports housing opportunities and powers our economy. This must be our focus as we strive for everyone to be on equal footing, resulting in more thriving, robust communities.

Climate Action

Nearly half of all climate-changing pollution in California comes from its transportation sector, a fact that demands our decisive action if we are to create a cleaner future for all Californians. We must continue making our carbon footprint smaller by investing in a truly multimodal system, embracing smarter land use development guidelines and ramping up our use of innovative zero-emission vehicles.

Departments, Boards and Commissions

Accomplishments

In 2023, by implementing CalSTA's Core Four priorities of Safety, Equity, Climate Action and Economic Prosperity in all of its work, all eight CalSTA Departments, Boards and Commissions made significant and measurable contributions that have demonstrably improved California's transportation infrastructure.

We're Rebuilding California!

We proudly celebrate our accomplishments in this report, but we are just getting started. Momentum is strong, and we look forward to seeing continued, impactful results play out in our communities.

Improving transportation accessibility and safety for everyone, providing good jobs, being stewards of our environment and fostering economic growth benefits all Californians and those who visit our great state.

Safety Accomplishments Spotlight

Caltrans

Restoration of Interstate 10 after the blaze

On November 11, 2023, a fire engulfed several blocks underneath I-10 in downtown Los Angeles, forcing the freeway's closure for safety concerns. Local streets were also closed, and businesses were impacted. The suspected arson fire degraded the concrete beams, columns and steel rebar, which needed further evaluation to estimate the damages and repairs required to safely open the freeway to vehicles. The I-10 freeway is a major east-west corridor that serves as a significant conduit for state, national and global commerce, with 300,000 vehicles using the freeway daily. This made safely reopening the freeway as quickly as possible a Caltrans priority.

Initial estimates indicated that it could take weeks or months to repair the extensive damage to the highway and reconstruct the bridge. Because safety for roadway workers and the traveling public is always Caltrans' number one priority, its crews were on the scene while the blaze still smoldered. They worked around the clock to conduct structural testing and immediately deployed contractors to remove the fire's charred debris and hazardous materials. Caltrans determined the damage to the freeway was less than initially thought and worked night and day with emergency contractors and other partners to make the necessary repairs.

Crews shored up the freeway around the most severely damaged columns so repairs could be made concurrently and safely with traffic movement above. The ability of Caltrans to quickly assess damages, mobilize assets and secure partners to repair the freeway resulted in I-10 being safely restored and reopened on November 19, just eight days after the fire. Vice President Kamala Harris and Governor Gavin Newsom joined Secretary Toks Omishakin to tour the site and celebrate the freeway reopening. The November 19 reopening allowed goods movement and vehicle travel to resume safely during the Thanksgiving holiday week, one of the most traveled weeks for Californians of the year.

Caltrans

Mother Nature's worst brought out Caltrans' best

In response to the unprecedented series of atmospheric rivers that pummeled the state in the first months of 2023, Caltrans mobilized more than 4,000 crew members statewide, working 24/7 in shifts to keep roads open and quickly respond to emergencies.

Caltrans also accelerated repairs on storm-damaged roads in nearly 200 locations and prepositioned equipment at critical locations to prepare for additional flooding, slides and heavy snow.

CalSTA, Caltrans, OTS and CHP

Reducing roadway, bike and pedestrian fatalities

California has seen an increase in fatal and severe injury crashes on California's roadways in recent years, and CalSTA is working with Caltrans, the OTS and CHP to reverse the trend. The agencies are working to eliminate fatal and severe injury crashes on our state highway system by 2050. The CHP reports that between January 1, and November 30, 2023, there were 1,250 people killed in roadway crashes within CHP jurisdiction. This is an approximately 49% decrease from the same period in 2022. Also during 2023, the CHP developed sideshow and street racing enforcement training and implemented new, comprehensive training for officers involved in drug recognition and sobriety testing. To date, nearly \$36 million has been invested in Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) projects focused on safety for Vulnerable Road Users (VRUs), and \$297 million has been invested in safety projects and programs.

BOPC

New low-emission Golden Gate pilot vessel

The Board of Pilot Commissioners (BOPC) accomplished several milestones in 2023, supporting diversity goals, improving safety, protecting the environment and improving services. The Board approved the new pilot vessel, the Golden Gate, which entered service on September 13. The 73-foot vessel meets stringent emissions requirements and is designed to improve safety for pilots while reducing the high noise and high vibration found in their work environment.

CHP

1,300 arrested in Organized Retail Crime Task Force crackdown

In a significant blow to organized retail theft, the CHP conducted operations as part of the Organized Retail Crime Task Force (ORCTF). Accomplishments in 2023 include:

- Recovered more than \$10 million in stolen merchandise.
- Arrested 1,300 individuals during the crackdown, a 170% increase over the 482 arrests made in 2022.
- Conducted 406 proactive operations to combat organized retail crime. This is quadruple the number of operations that took place in 2022.
- Conducted 549 investigations into organized retail theft.

OTS

Go Safely Movement

The Office of Traffic Safety issued a statewide “call to action” to raise awareness about the road safety crisis and establish a strong safety culture. The public was encouraged to fill out a Community Call to Action Survey and join the movement as a volunteer “Traffic Safety Champion.” More than 2,300 people have taken the survey— which will be used to inform highway safety planning and community engagement teams, and more than 300 people have joined the Traffic Safety Champions movement. The OTS will connect them to ongoing traffic safety efforts and provide resources and support on how to make roads safer for their families and communities.

Responding to crisis together

The OTS brought together partners and stakeholders from across the state and country to address the road safety crisis.

In June, more than 300 law enforcement personnel convened for the OTS Law Enforcement Forum to discuss traffic safety challenges and actions to improve road safety.

In November, the OTS hosted more than 400 people at the California Traffic Safety Summit. The theme, “Responding to the Crisis Together: Prioritizing Safety and Achieving Equitable Outcomes,” focused on the importance of our collective and collaborative work in prioritizing safety initiatives and advancing more equitable outcomes on our roads.

Historic funding for safer transportation

In October, the OTS awarded approximately \$127 million for 442 grants, the largest in the department’s history. This includes \$73.6 million for law enforcement agencies across the state to conduct enforcement and education programs, \$11.7 million in funding to expand safe biking and walking options—a nearly 35% increase from the previous Federal Fiscal Year—of which \$2.27 million in bicycle and pedestrian safety grants supported nearly three dozen biking and walking safety assessments and training to implement bicycle and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure solutions.

Equity accomplishment spotlight

Caltrans and High-Speed Rail

Advancing Equity for Small, Disadvantaged and Disabled Veteran Businesses

Caltrans and the High-Speed Rail Authority are helping to grow California’s economy by creating the kinds of good jobs that expand economic opportunities for all Californians, promote safety and protect the environment.

In 2023, they specifically advanced equity in contracting and procurement by reaching out to and educating small businesses as well as women- and minority-owned firms through its disadvantaged Business Enterprise program and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBES) about the benefits of certification and how to successfully bid on government projects.

DVBES and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs) are diverse small businesses that power California's economy, generating billions in economic activity and significant tax revenues. In California alone, small businesses contribute nearly \$193 billion in economic output each year, greater than the annual GDPs of 18 U.S. states.

Caltrans

In 2023, for the first time ever, Caltrans committed \$1 billion in contracts to women- and minority-owned firms. Since California's SB 1 and SB 103 became law in 2017, Caltrans has increased the dollar value of the contracts it has awarded to small and disabled veteran-owned businesses by more than 100%.

Similarly, in Fiscal Year 2022-23, Caltrans awarded \$962 million to small businesses and \$99 million to DVBES, a 126% increase.

In October, Caltrans further reinforced its commitment to equity by hosting its third annual DBE Summit. The summit provided the 350 participants with resources, information and networking opportunities designed to benefit entrepreneurs and representatives of DBEs, small businesses and DVBES.

High-Speed Rail

The California High-Speed Rail Authority is committed to small, disabled, disadvantaged and diverse businesses that are playing a major role in building the statewide high-speed rail project. So far, \$5.5 billion of project expenditures have been spent in and directly benefitted disadvantaged communities. On average, the high-speed rail project has 1,500 workers on job sites every day, and of the 12,200 jobs created by the high-speed rail project, more than 70% have gone to individuals from disadvantaged communities. In addition to these new jobs, the Authority continues to create opportunities for small businesses in California. In 2023, 820 small businesses worked on the high-speed rail program statewide, a 13% increase over the previous year.

In recognition of the High-Speed Rail Authority's significant contribution to promoting diversity, inclusion and multicultural awareness, the Authority's student outreach program "I Will Ride" received the prestigious Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award from the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) Sacramento chapter.

CalSTA

Established a Transit Transformation Task Force

Secretary Toks Omishakin appointed 25 California transportation leaders to the state's Transit Transformation Task Force (TTTF). Established in the transit recovery package signed by Governor Gavin Newsom as part of the 2023-24 state budget, the Task Force will develop policy recommendations to grow transit ridership, improve the transit experience and address long-term operational needs. CalSTA, in consultation with the Task Force, will submit a report of findings and policy recommendations to the State Legislature by October 2025.

Caltrans

Grant for innovative Initiatives helps improve access

Caltrans improved historically underserved communities' access to public transportation by leveraging a \$7.7 million federal Advanced Transportation Technology and Innovation (ATTAIN) grant to support the

rollout of the Southern California Mobility Wallet, a seamless, “open-loop” payment system designed to advance multimodal options for all travelers.

CTC and Caltrans

Facilitating tribal involvement in transportation programs

Caltrans began administering the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program and the Climate Adaptation Planning Grant Program to the state’s tribal communities. When the programs’ awards were announced, seven tribes won grants totaling \$2 million. These funds will help Native American tribes be plan contributors to transportation projects involving ancestral territories. This is especially true for projects with potentially sensitive environmental and cultural aspects. Also, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 630 (Carrillo), which eliminates requiring tribes to adopt a limited waiver of sovereign immunity when contracting with Caltrans. This implements a recommendation from the CTC’s 2020 Annual Report to the Legislature and will streamline tribal contracting processes and increase tribal participation in transportation programs.

Caltrans

Attracting Californians from every background to strengthen the workforce

Caltrans’ success in delivering multimodal transportation and infrastructure projects to every corner of the state depends on its 22,000-strong team’s excellence, professionalism and capacity for hard work, which is why Caltrans constantly looks for ways to strengthen its workforce pipeline and deepen its talent pool by attracting Californians from every background— individuals with a wide range of passions, talents and training—to join its team. For example, in 2023, Caltrans’ Division of Local Assistance Office of Local Civil Compliance increased assistance and training to Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), established a DBE Coordinators Quarterly meeting to improve communications and share DBE program updates and conducted a 2-hour workshop for attendees from throughout the state on the DBE Program.

Driving high-speed internet access for all Californians

Since the Governor and the Legislature established the Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative (MMBI) in 2021—a statewide, open-access, middle-mile network that will bring high-speed broadband service to unserved and underserved communities—Caltrans has been working in partnership with the California Department of Technology to leverage its decades of expertise and innovation in managing the construction of the middle-mile infrastructure along state highways and right-of-way, including overseeing the Initiative’s permitting, design, construction, environmental analysis and right of way and land surveys.

During 2023, Caltrans continued construction on 20 miles of the MMBI network with projects in San Diego County on State Route 67, Siskiyou County on State Route 3 and Sonoma County on State Route 1; issued its first work order along SR-20 in Mendocino County and took the first steps to begin construction on more than 450 miles of the network.

CalSTA, CTC and Caltrans

Interagency Equity Advisory Committee

The Interagency Transportation Equity Advisory Committee held its first meeting in March. The 15-person Committee is intended to elevate diverse and historically marginalized voices to advise our agencies on achieving meaningful outcomes in transportation equity, environmental justice and equitable economic opportunities, especially related to transportation planning and programming. The Committee also adopted its charter and participated in the evaluation of projects, helping to ensure that the funding decisions provide more equitable outcomes.

This strategy has been developed through the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), the Commission's Equity Advisory Roundtable, stakeholder feedback, Statewide Equity Listening Sessions, interagency collaboration and public feedback.

DMV

Google Speech Translator

To enhance other interpreter assistance currently offered in field offices, DMV customers can scan a QR code and use their mobile device as a speech translator during a field office visit. The pilot rolled out in September 2022. Currently, 14 field offices are using this technology, with more locations soon to be added. Initial languages include Spanish, Filipino/Tagalog, Mandarin and Vietnamese, with more offerings in the future. The DMV is partnering with Google to implement Google Translation Services, in line with a solution utilized by the Judicial Council of California.

High-Speed Rail Authority

Station and train design underway

2023 saw tremendous progress on the high-speed rail project. Station design contractors were hard at work on extensive community outreach, modeling and design work for the nation's first high-speed rail stations in Merced, Fresno, Kings/ Tulare and Bakersfield. The station design team continues to engage in robust discussions at the local community level on how stations can best serve community needs and address longstanding issues such as restoring connections to historically underserved communities and improving transit access.

Work groups are now finalizing design specifications for the interiors of the high-speed rail trains. The team is working together to design train interiors that allow for the best possible access for all future riders, including those with mobility and accessibility constraints. Preliminary mockups are in place in Sacramento where groups provide real-time team feedback. Design efforts for both the stations and trains will continue into 2024.

NMVB

Building a more diverse workforce

The Board instituted a requirement that the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Justice and Inclusion first review any new policies or amendments to existing policies before the Board may act on them. To repair the damage done through past policies and to prevent future harm, equity work must be intentional and top of mind, and this policy demands such an approach.

According to U.S. Census data, 44% of California's residents speak a language other than English in their home. For that reason, to create an appropriately bilingual workforce, the Board directed recruitment and hiring practices be designed and implemented to fill at least 44% of Board public contact positions with bilingual employees.

CHP

Officer recruitment campaign

The CHP is committed to identifying and recruiting qualified candidates representing California and its diverse demographic makeup. In 2022, the CHP launched a multiyear recruiting campaign to fill 1,000 vacant officer positions.

Since the beginning of the multiyear recruitment effort, more than 600 cadets have completed the CHP Academy, with another class of 95 cadets sworn in as CHP officers in January 2024. In 2023, the Department also experienced a more than 40% increase in cadet applications from the previous year. Between January 1, and October 31, 2023, the CHP received more than 16,300 applications.

Climate Action Accomplishments Spotlight

CalSTA

Progress Implementing Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI)

CalSTA released the draft of its second annual report on CAPTI implementation in November, finding that California has nearly completed all the actions to align the state's transportation funding programs with its climate goals well ahead of schedule.

CalSTA adopted CAPTI in July 2021 as part of a redoubled commitment to investing billions of discretionary transportation dollars annually to aggressively combat and adapt to climate change while supporting public health, safety and equity. CAPTI builds on executive orders signed by Governor Newsom in 2019 and 2020 targeted at reducing greenhouse gas emissions in transportation—which account for more than 40% of all planet warming pollution—to reach the state's ambitious climate goals.

CAPTI lists 34 key action items for aligning California's discretionary investments in transportation infrastructure with the state's goals to rapidly cut planet-warming pollution. Of those 34 actions, 25 are already complete, and the remaining nine are on track to be completed by the end of June 2024. This is significantly sooner than expected, with the timeline in CAPTI originally ranging up to seven years.

Key findings include:

- The amount of funding going toward projects that increase Vehicle-miles Traveled (VMT) has declined significantly since 2019, with record levels of funding going to cleaner modes of transportation.
- While CAPTI implementation may shift the state's transportation investments, it did not negatively impact the number of jobs created or job quality throughout economic sectors impacted by state transportation improvement.
- Increasing multimodal, community-driven projects throughout all CAPTI funding programs also improved the transportation equity outcomes among disadvantaged communities.

CTC

\$1.7 billion in program funding to projects that support CAPTI

CTC adopted the first cycle of Senate Bill 1 competitive programs to incorporate every short-term Commission-led strategy in CAPTI, investing \$1.7 billion in program funding to projects that support the state's climate, public health, safety, equity and economic vitality goals. Selected projects include more than \$100 million invested in zero- emission freight infrastructure, more multimodal and active transportation improvements than previous cycles and mobility solutions that allow more travelers to opt out of congestion. Program-specific strategies included:

- Better prioritization of projects that provide travelers with options to opt out of congestion; a requirement that all projects are contained in Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plans; and inclusion of pro-housing principles into efficient land use criteria
- Inclusion of zero-emission vehicle infrastructure projects within the program's evaluation criteria
- Inclusion of pro-housing principles in the Regional and Local Transportation, Land Use and Housing Goals evaluation criteria

CalSTA

Historic Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) awards

With TIRCP grant announcements in January, April and July 2023, CalSTA awarded \$3.5 billion to public transportation projects to close out the first wave of a historic infusion of state funding to expand transit and passenger rail service throughout the state, helping to cut planet-warming pollution. The funding is part of a larger, multiyear, multibillion-dollar investment to upgrade the state's transit system to support equity, enhance mobility options, improve service and reduce overdependence on driving. The transit recovery package signed by Governor Newsom as part of the 2023-24 state budget provides an additional \$5.1 billion to regional transportation planning agencies, which will have the flexibility to use the money to fund transit operations or capital improvements. Through the six cycles of TIRCP funding, CalSTA has awarded more than \$10 billion in funding to 132 projects throughout the state.

Strengthening partnership with Japan and China to clean up the supply chain

In March, members of the Newsom administration met with Japanese representatives in Tokyo and signed a letter of intent to support port decarbonization and the establishment of green shipping corridors between California and Japanese ports, and to work together to cut pollution from this critical sector. This cross-Pacific relationship was further forged with a Port Decarbonization and Green Shipping Corridor Symposium at the Port of Los Angeles in October, closely followed by another event the following month during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit. That successful summit brought together some of California's most significant trade partners and could not have been possible without the diligent work of both Caltrans and CHP handling security and transportation logistics. Further, in August CalSTA signed an agreement on behalf of the Newsom administration with the Chinese Province of Hainan to cooperate on climate action and clean transportation. Additional climate engagement with China is planned for 2024.

California rated #1 in 50-state transportation scorecard

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) named California tops in a new state transportation scorecard, "Getting Transportation Right." The report evaluated transportation policy and spending in all

50 states to understand how federal funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act influences the clean transportation landscape. California has led the way nationally with clean vehicle standards and has taken pioneering legislative and executive action to align land use and transportation investments with its climate goals, putting it well ahead of other states to improve equity and climate outcomes from the transportation sector.

CTC

\$309.3 million for climate adaptation projects

The CTC adopted the first funding cycle of the Local Transportation Climate Adaptation Program (LTCAP), providing funding to local agencies to develop and implement transportation infrastructure projects intended to help communities adapt to the challenges of climate change. The Commission held five public workshops to solicit stakeholder input and provide information on developing the program guidelines. The first cycle awarded \$309.3 million to 15 projects with a total cost of more than \$1.1 billion in vulnerable and disadvantaged communities across California. These investments include critically needed resilience improvements, projects that enhance community evacuation routes and projects that address at-risk coastal infrastructure. Approximately \$90 million remains for a second funding cycle of the program.

CalSTA, Caltrans and the California Energy Commission

Building a network of fast EV chargers

CalSTA, Caltrans and the California Energy Commission anticipate awarding \$40.5 million to accelerate the buildout of 270 fast chargers at 26 locations through its first solicitation for the federal National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program (NEVI). NEVI will significantly increase the availability of fast EV chargers (150 kW+), more than doubling the number of these chargers along California's highways compared to today's infrastructure. This will make it easier to travel long distances with EVs and complements the billions in state funding for zero-emission cars, trucks, buses and infrastructure through California's Climate Commitment.

CalSTA and Caltrans

North America's first zero-emission, hydrogen intercity passenger trains

In October, Caltrans signed an \$80 million contract to replace diesel locomotives with North America's first zero-emission, hydrogen intercity passenger trains, furthering California's standing as a world leader in clean transportation. The purchase is funded through Governor Newsom's historic zero-emission vehicle package, which included \$407 million for CalSTA to demonstrate and purchase or lease state-of-the-art clean bus and rail equipment and infrastructure.

Economic Prosperity Accomplishment Spotlight

High-Speed Rail Authority

Grant powers progress for California's High-Speed Rail Project

In the single strongest show of federal support to date, the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded the California High-Speed Rail Authority nearly \$3.1 billion in grant funding for continued progress on the country's first electrified 220-mph high-speed rail system.

The December announcement represents the largest grant the Authority has received and was made possible by President Biden's Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The grant application was strongly supported at the state and national level, with more than 150 expressions of support being received. This influx of funding will build on the project's ongoing success, which has created thousands of good-paying union jobs in the region with 70% of those jobs going to Central Valley residents.

The \$3.073 billion will advance work in California's Central Valley, including:

- Fund six electric trains for testing and use
- Fund design and construction of trainset facilities
- Fund design and construction of the Fresno station
- Fund final design and right-of-way acquisition for the Merced and the Bakersfield extensions
- Fund construction in the Central Valley

In September, nearly \$202 million was awarded to advance the project's critical safety grade separation work. In August, the Authority was awarded another \$20 million for the historic Fresno Depot and station site.

Federal funding, existing state funding from cap-and-trade and Proposition 1A will help the Authority achieve its goal of creating an operational service in the Central Valley within the next nine years. Launching the full Phase 1 system between Los Angeles/Anaheim and San Francisco remains the overarching goal, a plan that will connect the mega-regions of the state via the Central Valley using 100% renewable energy and zero-emission technology.

CalSTA

Historic investment in nation-leading supply chain

In July, CalSTA awarded \$1.2 billion—including approximately \$450 million for zero-emission infrastructure, locomotives, vessels and vehicles—as part of the state's work to build a more efficient, sustainable and resilient supply chain.

The historic Port and Freight Infrastructure investment will fund 15 projects, create an estimated 20,000 jobs and increase the capacity to move goods throughout the state's global trade gateways while lessening environmental impacts on neighboring communities.

BOPC

Information Technology modernization

The Board of Pilot Commissioners staff launched an IT modernization project in 2023. The project will provide a roadmap to an IT solution, enabling board staff to move business operations from manual processes to digital solutions and increase the efficiency of processing licenses, pilot training, pension management and incident investigation.

Caltrans

Transforming roadsides into places of community pride

Clean California, Governor Newsom's sweeping \$1.2 billion, multiyear commitment led by Caltrans to clean up trash, generate jobs and empower communities to beautify their public spaces and keep them that way—shifted into high gear in 2023.

Since the initiative was launched in 2021, Clean California has funded nearly 320 projects. Whether the focus is on trash collections, graffiti removal, the incorporation of public art, the greening of public spaces, the improvement of lighting and landscaping—or, as is often the case, a combination of those aspects and more—the goal of all Clean California projects is to inspire community pride and strengthen a sense of shared ownership.

Clean California has created nearly 8,700 jobs. Two million cubic yards of litter have been removed from state highways, enough litter to span the length of the Golden Gate Bridge 670 times.

CalSTA, CTC and Caltrans

Transportation infrastructure removed from “high-risk” rating list

The California State Auditor removed the state’s transportation infrastructure from its “high-risk” rating list after 16 years in recognition of the substantial progress in rebuilding and upgrading the state transportation system in recent years. This is a significant recognition of the success of Senate Bill (SB) 1, our infrastructure investment plan to rebuild California.

DMV

CA DMV Wallet and Mobile Driver’s License

Californians can now have their driver’s license or identification card housed right in their smartphone as part of a DMV pilot program. The mobile driver’s license (mDL) offers a quick and secure identity confirmation at select airport checkpoints and a verifiable credential that can be used to buy age-restricted products at participating retail locations without sharing personal information. More than 300,000 Californians have downloaded the mDL since August.

Efficient commercial license testing

The DMV now offers commercial driver’s license (CDL) applicants a more efficient CDL testing experience, which also allows the DMV to conduct more daily tests. The improvements include examiners using tablets to input on-the-spot information during testing and eliminate the use of paper score sheets and computer data entry. It also enhances fraud protection and provides a modernized skills test that streamlines the exam process for applicants. These improvements help to get more qualified drivers on the road faster to benefit California’s economy.

REAL ID implementation

More than 2 million Californians opted for a REAL ID driver’s license or identification card in 2023, raising the total to more than 16.7 million Californians with the federal compliant card. Beginning May 7, 2025, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will require a REAL ID or other federally approved document to board flights within the United States and access secure federal facilities.

High-Speed Rail Authority

High-speed rail project creates 12,200 jobs

The California High-Speed Rail Authority continues to create jobs and invest in communities statewide. In spring 2023, the Authority was joined by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Railroad

Administration, Labor representatives and state leaders to celebrate the creation of 10,000 labor jobs since the project began construction.

As of late fall 2023, the job tally has grown to more than 12,200 jobs created, more than 70% going to individuals from disadvantaged communities. On average, the high-speed rail project has 1,500 workers on job sites every day. In addition to creating labor jobs, the Authority continues to create opportunities for small businesses. More than 820 small businesses are working on the program statewide.

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Worker installs conduit for a broadband project along Hwy 1 near Bodega Bay

OTS Director Barbara Rooney in Los Angeles announcing the #BetterSlowThanSorry anti- speeding campaign

OTS

Go Safely Movement

The Office of Traffic Safety issued a statewide “call to action” to raise awareness about the road safety crisis and establish a strong safety culture. The public was encouraged to fill out a Community Call to Action Survey and join the movement as a volunteer “Traffic Safety Champion.” More than 2,300 people have taken the survey— which will be used to inform highway safety planning and community engagement teams, and more than 300 people have joined the Traffic Safety Champions movement. The OTS will connect them to ongoing traffic safety efforts and provide resources and support on how to make roads safer for their families and communities.

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