



AGENDA

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Implementation Transit and Commuter Rail Sub Working Group Meeting #2

February 23, 2022

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

1:00 pm – 1:05 pm

Welcome and Agenda Review

Wendy King, Office Chief, Transit Grants and Contracts,
Division of Rail and Mass Transportation (DRMT), Caltrans

1:05 pm – 1:10 pm

Housekeeping Items and Action Items Review

Chad Riding and Andy Furillo, Office of Strategic Initiatives
and Management, Caltrans DRMT

1:10 pm – 1:25 pm

Innovative Clean Transit Rollout Plan and IIJA Transition Plan

Michael Pimentel, California Transit Association

1:25 pm – 1:45 pm

Transit and Commuter Rail Sub-Working Group Charter

Momo Tamaoki, Assistant Division Chief, Caltrans DRMT

1:45 pm – 1:55 pm

Transit Project List

Momo Tamaoki, Assistant Division Chief, Caltrans DRMT

- NOFO considerations
- Letters of Support for discretionary programs

1:55 pm – 2:00 pm

Recap and Action Items

Momo Tamaoki, Assistant Division Chief, Caltrans DRMT

**Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Implementation
Transit and Commuter Rail Sub Working Group Meeting #2**

MEETING NOTES

February 23, 2022

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Start time

Welcome and Agenda Review

Wendy King, Office Chief, Transit Grants and Contracts, Division of Rail and Mass Transportation (DRMT), Caltrans

- Welcome remarks and Agenda overview from Wendy
- Questions

Housekeeping Items and Action Items Review

Chad Riding and Andy Furillo, Office of Strategic Initiatives and Management, Caltrans
DRMT

Andy and Chad:

- Kick off on 1/28 for Intercity Rail SWG and Transit grants around the same time
- Main things were focusing on is creating a statewide project list for all Rail and Transit programs that were hoping to apply for discretionary grant funding.
- Grants are from discretionary programs from FTA (Intercity Rail) and FRA (Commuter Rail)
- The two groups will look to emphasize ZEV and equity as some of California and Caltrans, and CalSTA, main efforts
- There is a common concern around the lack of maintenance funding for large capital projects- we are looking at creative ways to support these projects.
- Response for RFI to Corridor Identification and Development program that recently had a webinar
- Upcoming IIJA Freight SWG meeting set for the 3/1 @ 1pm (3rd Meeting) Please contact Andy Furillo or Chad Riding
- CalSTA IIJA Main Working Group on Monday March 9th @ 11 am
- Webinar hosted by NOSSMAN 3/24 "Show Me the Money: How the IIJA Will Benefit Public Projects- [Webinar](#)

- EnergIIZE grants – Commercial Vehicles (Energy Infrastructure Incentives for Zero-Emissions Commercial Vehicles) is the nation's first commercial vehicle fleet incentive project.
 - Trans agencies are eligible if projects in disadvantaged communities
 - One of the main focuses is on helping applicants access this funding

Andy Furillo:

- FTA apportionment- released February 2022 based on Fast Act funding levels from Federal FY 21'
- 2022 amounts will be revealed when Congress approves new appropriations bill to official fund IIJA
- House and Senate approved continuation resolution that extended federal funding through March 11, 2022 (expected to pass)
- Action Items Tracker- template to track action plan items and ensure we get the most out of this SWG
- Roster revision- contact Andy Furillo

Innovative Clean Transit Rollout Plan and IIJA Transition Plan

Michael Pimentel, California Transit Association
Executive Director, CTA

- Represent 85 transit agencies in CA and 220 member organizations nationwide
- ICT Roll out Plans and IIJA Transition Plan
- **Background:** CA Resource Board Adopted ICT Regulation in December 2018. Requires CA trans agencies to transition to fully ZEV Bus fleets by 2040 with ZEV bus purchase requirements going into effect in 2023 (large agencies)
- Large Transit Agencies (agencies with more than 100 vehicles) required to submit to CARB ZEV roll out plans by June 30th, 2020
- As of Today, 22 agencies have submitted plans to CARB –
- As the IIJA was being developed, Congress looked at the ICT regulations to guide the nation's transition to zero emission buses including new requirements impacting the no and low bus facilities programs and required them to develop zero emissions plans
- Policy and planning perspective- makes sense but transition plans requirements do not track one for one with the requirements under the ICT ZEV roll out plans
- We have mobilized requests at the FTA which overseas low no and bus facilities simply allow CA trans agencies that have already adopted their ZEV roll out plans to use these plans to meet the new federal requirements
- Wendy and Momo provider two letters that we have been able to submit to FTA
 - One led by CTA

- Other led by Rep. Julia Brownley including 25 members of CA Congressional Delegation
 - CARB has also been involved with FTA- submitted their own level
 - Necessary that FTA allows this to CA agencies
 - Caltrans will also be submitting a letter that echoes these requests
- The drive here is to simply ensure that CA which has been the leader in ZEV bus transition- is not penalized for the early actions- our view is since we have served as the originator of many of the ideas in the IJJA we shouldn't see that our agencies/ low no bus facilities are disadvantage in their program application process

Questions or Feedback

- Does this effect the upcoming low-no grant application?
 - Yes, absolutely the new requirements would be in effect in the upcoming solicitation at the end of this month or at the start of next
 - Some agencies will have to start planning immediately and submit it part of their application
 - Our goal would be that you can submit the existing ICT roll out plan as "Check the Box" as part of that process
 - 22 agencies have submitted roll up plans to date to CARB and that leaves about 150 agencies that have not developed plans
 - If you plan to submit an application to low-no you would have to submit a ZEV transition plan as part of that process
- Do we anticipate if FTA will respond before grant application deadline?
 - We would anticipate and what we're driving towards is to have our requests as part of the NOFO and the guidance included there
 - NOFO is moving through Dept of Trans more generally and may not receive a clear perspective on where FTA will land
 - With 25 members of CA Congressional Delegation making this request including Member Julia Brownley who drafted the provisions in IJJA we would anticipate there will be a response to those members.

- Does this new requirement provide any guidance to small agencies who's plans are not due until June 30, 2023?
 - At this point no, we would anticipate that as part of the NOFO there will be degree of guidance on how agencies can meet requirements
 - The turnaround of NOFO and deadline is a matter of months- limits the agency's ability to develop transition plans
 - FTA is expected to release an outline of what agencies can use to meet the requirements of this plan
 - We have requested as part of our letter that FTA does provide some form enhanced support for small agencies- recognizing that they have limited resources and may not be able to meet the requirements

Wendy King:

- We are planning on coordinating with... in April anyone who can attend the conference can come we will go through templates and requirements of their transition plan.
- We ask everyone to bring their laptops and we will guide them through developing their transition plan and get it done that day

Any questions or comments?

- You mentioned that IIJA Transition and ICT roll out plan don't match
 - One of the things I heard is the workforce development plan required in IIJA but not requirement in ICT roll out plan
 - My understanding in ICT roll out we are assuming we will not be lay off workers in CA and everyone will be trained and be able to operate and maintain the Zero emissions vehicles
 - Maybe a Training plan in the ICT plan could be a substitute or complement the workforce development plan

Michael Pimentel:

- Lots of overlap between ICT plans and FTA ZEV transition plans- overlap in all elements virtually
- Requirements in ICT that speak to workforce training to transition to these technologies
- There is some deficiency with regards to workforce retention and potential cuts with this transition
- Transition to zero emissions technologies is not being done as a way of shedding workforce
- Labor at fed level wants to focused attention on potential for workforce cuts

- At this point we requested FTA allowed for roll out plans to satisfy requirements low-no and bus facilities programs
- There is potential for a request for additional info- something we will look out for and provide additional guidance
- We are looking at NOFO to see which areas may need additional focus
- **Questions?**
 - no other questions
 - we will continue to look out for these issues and continue to update our members on FTA response

Draft Charter

- **Scope:**
 - See Project Charter for Transit and Commuter Rail SWG Scope
 - Questions on scope? no
- **Goals:**
 - 7-14 are added based on Kickoff meeting feedback
 - See goals in Project Charter for Transit and Commuter Rail SWG

Eli Lipmen

- I like to suggest we add the issue of project delivery reform for major projects
- Two major reports INA report on delivery and the letter that went out from Bay Area organizations to finance the next generation of infrastructure projects
- SB 922 legislation that would make SB 288 permanent for particular transit projects
- I feel like there is a whole item there around those items across the state- we are looking at this in LA because a number of pf projects are tracking over budget
- I think we could use this group to think collaboratively to come up with a statewide solution
- The INA report provides some statewide reforms that could reduce costs
- Momo added this to the goals and future topics meetings

Otis Greer:

- Do you have thoughts on the process of determining the project list for discretionary programs?

Momo:

- For transit projects it's a little different than Intercity Rail- State rail plan is guiding document for them, and Caltrans take the lead in putting together list
- For Transit we are thinking of a different approach in putting the regional projects together
- We suggest we follow the existing process and external agencies request support from Caltrans through district office representative and then they notify Caltrans and HQ strategic investment planning and request letter of support
- Caltrans will not be putting list together that you are applying for but we will not be prioritizing. Instead, will provide letter of support or not.

Otis Greer:

- So, the statewide list is a list of projects is a list that will receive support?
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Momo:

- its different for transit we will take more of lead roll in Rail projects
- this we will provide letter of support

Alex Davis Metro Link:

- How will commuter rail goals and definitions be included in this project charter for this working group?

Momo:

- FRA will be Rail and FTA will be out of the Transit list
- I realize that this might not be that simple- Andy Cook was going to come talk more about rail project list details
- Item tagged for follow up later

Michael Pimentel:

- For the rail list its one that will be guided through district connections
- Here are all the applications for various opportunities
- The rail process will go through Caltrans DRMT HQ
- Will there be a ranking structure?

Momo:

- Not sure if we will rank them
- They should be prioritized in state rail plan- your project should be prioritized in state rail plan. We do outreach with agencies to build the list that's in the plan
- We won't re rank them however, we are trying to play the process
- If everything was done correctly your project already has prioritization

Key Milestones and Due Dates

- See Project Charter
- 4th meeting in April

Questions:

Michael Pimentel:

- Something that could help would be a calendar or prioritization chart because NOFOs are going to start being released.
- We should outline what opportunities are on the horizon and where we need to present unified front
- Just like pending NOFO on low-no program
- We continue to see these and make sure we are timely with intervention
- A list of programs we want to weigh in on and communicate as a state
- Capital investment program
- Timing for invention- list of things we want to weigh in on
- List of things we want to communicate as a unified front
- List of programs for discussions and key topics, resources, and focuses needed
- List on Calsta website- good starting point to itemize these

Action Item

- List of programs or discussions
- Key topics
- Resource and focuses needed
- Listed on CalSTA website

Alex Davis:

- For the 4th meeting discussion topics do you see that ZEV on or off-road technologies?

Momo:

- Might have to table this because
- We have been talking about transition ZEV for rail vehicle.
- I think the commuter rail and vehicle discussion should be part of Intercity Rail group because of the cross over collaboration and crossover with another group
- This group should focus more on buses
- Let's talk about locomotives in other group and buses or over the road here in this group

Barfjani, Shirin:

- Regarding this session and roll out plans we will provide list of data that trans agency can bring with them to the session to help provide the portion of the roll out plans
- Posted roll out plans on ICT website- great resource for trans agencies- guidance document to learn how other agencies have submitted plans
- Bring laptops and questions to submit the roll out plan

Momo:

- 4th meeting Transition to ZEV
- Can CARB attend this? Yes

Dan Phu:

- There was a mention of SB 922 that could change the future and may change landscape that we should be monitoring as time permits?
- Yes, this should be added as a risk
- Pending legislation RISK ITEM

Priscilla Freduah-Agyemang

- Curious as to any updates ICT Reporting Tool

Barfjani, Shirin:

- We have new features but a little restricted on the information we can record because we are implementing the regulation- cannot add or delete anything right now
- We try to make it so transit agencies are used to reporting formatting and tools
- We are open to suggestions to make tool more user-friendly
- Updated tool launching in mid-March open till June
- Transportation agencies will need to prepare data and go through learning curve

Collaboration

- Equity
- Intercity Rail
- Freight and Goods Movement
- Transition ZEV

Risks

See Project Charter

Recap and Action Items

Momo:

- Finalize Draft Project Charter by next SWG meeting
- Look out for/Complete doodle poll
- Start thinking about the ideas/recommendations to address COVID related challenges and lack of adequate operating and maintenance funding