Climate Resilience and Adaptation IIJA Sub-Working Group

Kickoff Meeting #1
May 12, 2022

Leah Fisher
Office Chief, Air Quality & Climate Change
Division of Transportation Planning | Caltrans
Welcome & Session Overview

AGENDA

- Welcome & Participation
- State Adaptation Strategy and Approach
- Caltrans Highways Investment Approach: Adaptation and Resilience
- PROTECT Program
- Survey Results
- Questions and Discussion
- Next Steps
Ground Rules

- One conversation at a time
- Use ‘Chat’ feature as Parking lot for other topics
- Webcam when possible
- ‘Raise Hand’ and participate, participate, participate
State Adaptation Strategy and Approach
STATEWIDE CLIMATE ACTION PLANS
- Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure
- Putting California on the High Road: A Jobs & Climate Action Plan for 2030
- State Agency Sea-Level Rise Action Plan for California
- Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy
- State Hazard Mitigation Plan

REGIONALLY-FOCUSED STRATEGIES
- Central Valley Flood Protection Plan
- Salton Sea Management Program
- San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission's Bay Adapt
- Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project
- Regional Strategy
- The Delta Plan
- Lake Tahoe Climate Adaptation Action Portfolio

STATE STEWARDSHIP PLANS
- State Parks Sea Level Rise Strategy
- Department of General Services Sustainability Plan
- CalPERS' Investment Strategy on Climate Change
- California Water Plan
- Climate Resilience & California's Marine Protected Areas
- California Biodiversity Initiative: A Roadmap for Protecting the State's Natural Heritage

SECTOR-BASED STRATEGIES
- Wildfire & Forest Resilience Action Plan
- Water Resilience Portfolio
- California Department of Public Health's Strategic Plan
- Ocean Protection Council's Strategic Plan
- High-Speed Rail Authority Sustainability Policy

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY
- Actionable climate science, decision-support tools, & regional reports
- State resilience priorities, goals, actions, & metrics

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE CHANGE ASSESSMENTS

Figure 1: A summary snapshot of State climate adaptation and resilience initiatives. Plans listed are examples and not an exhaustive list. Refer to the California Climate Adaptation Strategy for additional details on ongoing State initiatives.
California Climate Adaptation Strategy: 2021 Update

**ACTION 4**

Increase community participation in planning transportation projects to build climate resilience.

*Success Metric:* Cultivate partnerships with, and build capacity of, community-based organizations and residents who engage in Caltrans’ funding programs and project development.

*Timeframe:* 2022–2023 and ongoing

*Agency:* State Transportation Agency – Caltrans | Natural Resources Agency – Coastal Commission

- AB 1482 (2015) requires the state to develop a comprehensive strategy to prepare for climate impacts and update this strategy every three years

- **2021 Update’s unique approach:**
  - Oriented around six priorities
  - Timebound success metrics
  - Available and updated on an interactive website

[https://climateresilience.ca.gov/](https://climateresilience.ca.gov/)
Six Climate Resilience Priorities

1. Strengthen Protections for Climate Vulnerable Communities
2. Bolster Public Health and Safety to Protect Against Increasing Climate Risks
3. Build a Climate Resilient Economy
4. Accelerate Nature-Based Climate Solutions and Strengthen Climate Resilience of Natural Systems
5. Make Decisions Based on the Best Available Climate Science
6. Partner and Collaborate to Leverage Resources
Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP)

- Created through SB 246 (2015) to drive a cohesive and holistic strategy for climate adaptation and resiliency
- Coordinates state and local adaptation efforts to promote comprehensive planning and accelerate implementation
- Centrally focused on climate equity and integrated solutions
Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP)

Coordination and alignment of California’s adaptation efforts:

- Policy and programmatic alignment
- 5th Climate Change Assessment
- Climate Services
- Investment Programs
  - Adaptation Planning Grants
  - Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grants
  - Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Grants
Caltrans Highways
Investment Approach: Adaptation and Resilience
Caltrans Highways Investment Approach

Based on Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), California Transportation Plan 2050, SB 1, SB 743, SB 375

- Guides investments on the State Highway System (SHS) to maximize use of the existing system to:
  - Improve travel and accessibility,
  - Advance equity, environmental, climate, health, and safety goals, and
  - Promote a shift away from single occupant vehicle use by providing competitive alternatives to driving

- Proactively working toward creating a more resilient transportation system → incorporating climate risk assessment as standard practice in transportation project development process.
  - E.g., updating competitive program guidelines; prioritization of climate vulnerable project areas; updated planning guidance.

- Will guide plans, guidance, projects going forward, as well as projects in pipeline
Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program
PROTECT Program

- **New Formula Program**
  - CA: ~$631 million over 5 years

- **Purpose**: Activities that assess and address vulnerabilities to current and future weather events and other natural disasters and changing conditions due to climate change.

- **Eligible projects**: highways and bridges, public transportation facilities, intercity rail, and port facilities including intermodal connectors.

- IIJA also includes a **PROTECT competitive grant program** that provides $1.4 billion over five years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formula Apportionment (in Millions)</th>
<th>FY22 (Est)</th>
<th>FY23 (Est)</th>
<th>FY24 (Est)</th>
<th>FY25 (Est)</th>
<th>FY26 (Est)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California approx.</td>
<td>121.3</td>
<td>123.8</td>
<td>126.2</td>
<td>128.8</td>
<td>131.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. CalSTA High Level IIJA Analysis
PROTECT Formula Program

PROTECT formula funds can be used for four types of projects:

- **Planning**, including projects that:
  - develop a resilience improvement plan;
  - resilience planning, predesign, design;
  - development of data tools;
  - technical capacity building;
  - evacuation planning and preparation

- **Community Resilience and Evacuation Routes**, including:
  - Support for emergency and recovery activities

- **Resilience Improvements**, including:
  - improving resilience of existing surface transportation infrastructure;
  - natural or nature-based infrastructure;
  - flood protection measures

- **At-Risk Coastal Infrastructure**:
  - Resilience of coastal highways and culverts to flood/waves/sea-level rise

1. FHWA Budget Estimates FY23 [transportation.gov]
Survey Results
Main Themes

- Desired outcomes and priorities for participants
- Challenges and Risks to implementation
- Questions for FHWA
**Desired Outcomes & Priorities**

- Information-sharing on adaptation planning and projects
- Guidance on Adaptation planning and how to prioritize and identify projects
- Grant support and resources for implementation of resiliency projects
- Equity considerations and framing policies to support disadvantaged communities
Challenges and Risks

- Staffing and resource constraints
- Funding Shortfall – high cost of adaptation
Federal Requirements

- Clarification on PROTECT program definitions, criteria, and timelines
- Resilience Improvement Plans
Questions and Discussion
Questions and Discussion

- Are there other desired outcomes and priorities for this working group?
- Are there challenges to your organization that should be addressed?
Next Steps
Thank you!

Leah.Fisher@dot.ca.gov
Sloane.Viola@opr.ca.gov
Erika.Espinosa.Araiza@dot.ca.gov