INTRODUCTION:

- Opening remarks from CalSTA Secretary David Kim
  - CalSTA is kicking off this statewide IIJA Transportation Implementation Working Group.
  - Our Working Group is comprised of state and local transportation agencies, the Federal Highway Administration, and other transportation stakeholders.
  - All of us are involved with building and operating California’s transportation system—the State, local governments, tribal governments, the private sector and others. We all have role to play in implementing this new law. We will work collectively to develop a common understanding of IIJA, and we’ll develop actions plans for implementing it.
  - I anticipate that this Working Group will meet approximately every three weeks over the next few months.
  - We’ll also be forming several Sub Working Groups, led by Caltrans senior staff. These Sub Working Groups will be developing questions and answers for the U.S. Department of Transportation, discussing federal guidance and having in-depth discussions of specific policy areas like Active Transportation, Transit and Rail, Goods Movement and Tribal Government transportation. They’ll also develop IIJA Implementation Actions Plans for the federal programs and policy within their respective issue areas.

REMARKS:

- CalTrans Deputy Director Jeanie Ward-Waller and FHWA CA Division Administrator Vince Mammano

WORKING GROUP OVERVIEW:

- CalSTA Senior Advisor Giles Giovinazzi gives a high-level overview of IIJA funding for California
  - California will receive $29.9 billion in guaranteed federal highway formula/apportionment funding over the next five years. This represents a 54 percent increase above the $19.4 billion funding level provided by the FAST Act, which was the last five-year authorization of Federal-aid highway programs.
    - Several legacy programs such as the NHPP and STBG programs have been reauthorized with expanded funding eligibility to address climate resilience, as well as funding active transportation, intelligent transportation systems and emerging technologies.
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- New formula / apportionment programs have also been created for Carbon Pollution Reduction, PROTECT (climate resilience), Bridge Funding and Electric Vehicle Charging.
  - California will receive $9.45 billion in guaranteed funding over five years. This is a 17 percent increase above the $8.1 billion California received under the FAST Act.
  - Several legacy competitive grant programs have been reauthorized; the FRA’s Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Rail and FTA’s Low-No Emission Vehicle Program received significant funding increases. There are many new competitive programs for megaprojects, reconnecting communities, railroad crossing elimination and others. Discretionary programs are funded from $500 million to $15 billion (all over 5 years)
  - Introduction of meeting schedule, expectations for working group (open-door policy), and Sub Working Groups. Will develop a CalSTA IIJA Transportation Implementation Website with helpful materials, meeting notes and other information.

- Caltrans Assistant Federal Liaison Nicole Longoria listed the various Sub Working Groups:
  - Safety
  - Fix-it-first
  - Reimagining Highway Investments/ Carbon Reduction Program
  - Climate resilience and adaptation
  - Active transportation
  - Transition to Zero-Emissions
  - Local hire/Contracting
  - Transit
  - Commuter and Intercity Rail
  - Freight/Goods Movement
  - Overall funding split between state/local and across programs
  - Tribal Government

OPEN DISCUSSION:
- EV charging infrastructure money ($384 million) would fall under the mandate of “Transition to Zero Emissions” sub-working group
- Reinvesting Highway Investment Sub Working Group will focus on reduction of VMT and GHG, maybe price reduction or transit-only lanes
- Choice in Aging CEO Debbie Toth brings up equity regarding aging and disability, wondering if paratransit is the end goal or what direction it will head
- End goal for working groups
  - Flesh out legislative changes that need to be made
  - Greater goals for implementing new changes
- Update from California Transit Association on PEPRA issues with U.S. Department of Labor.
- LOSSAN Managing Director Rob Padgette suggested a separate Intercity Passenger Rail Sub Working Group be formed.
ACTION ITEMS

- Working Group members who would like to provide feedback on Sub Working Groups, such as recommending additional Sub Working Groups, or who would like to join a specific Sub Working Group – please email Nicole Longoria (nicole.longoria@dot.ca.gov) and Eric Furth (Eric.Furth@calsta.ca.gov) by COB Thursday December 23, 2021.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- CalSTA Executive Fellow Eric Furth followed up with participants, providing them copies of CalSTA Senior Advisor Giles Giovinazzi’s slide deck and Working Group participants in different Sub Working groups upon request.