

Shovel-Ready

Year-End Tally: 239 Projects Ready for Construction



A backhoe removes pavement to replace a section of bridge deck on an elevated stretch of U.S. Highway 50 through Sacramento in 2014.

Project delivery, one of Caltrans' key performance measures, requires completing design work and engineering, lining up permits, engaging stakeholders and identifying funding so that it can be handed over to a contractor for construction. All of that has to be done before the first shovel hits the dirt.

Caltrans committed to make 244 projects shovel-ready for fiscal year 2015-16, with a total value of \$2.1 billion. By June 30, the close of the fiscal year, all but five of those projects (239) had met the delivery deadline. That is a 98-percent project delivery rate, just short of Caltrans' 100 percent goal. Similarly, the department did not meet its goals on another set of progress indicators (see chart, p.3)

Because most capital projects face unanticipated challenges along the way, the department provides the California Transportation Commission (CTC) a watch list of projects that are "at risk" of not conforming to budget or schedule expectations. Dozens of projects were added and removed from the watch list in 2015-16.

The list alerts the CTC to potential changes to the cost or schedule of a project. CTC approval is required for significant changes.

Before presenting changes to the CTC, Caltrans thoroughly examines each request to validate costs, evaluate options and justify actions.

In addition to bringing 239 more projects to construction, in fiscal year 2015-16, Caltrans completed construction on 183 projects, 99 percent of which were completed within the CTC's budgeted allocation and Caltrans' delegated funding authority. The costs of projects closed-out this year were \$1.85 million in State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) projects, 97 percent of total STIP funding, and \$1.44 million for the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) projects, 89 percent of total approved SHOPP funding. MM

Source: Rich Williams, Michael Whiteside / Division of Project Management

Planned Projects, Statewide 2015-16

Milestone	Planned	Actual	Goal	Percent	Goal Met
Draft Environmental Documents Completed	82	62	> 80%	76%	No
Projects Approved	263	223	> 90%	85%	No
Projects with Right of Way Certified	260	251	100%	97%	No
Projects Designed and Ready for Construction	244	239	100%	98%	No
Value of Projects Ready for Construction (millions)	\$2,052	\$1,721	100%	84%	No
Construction Contracts Accepted	209	183	> 95%	88%	No

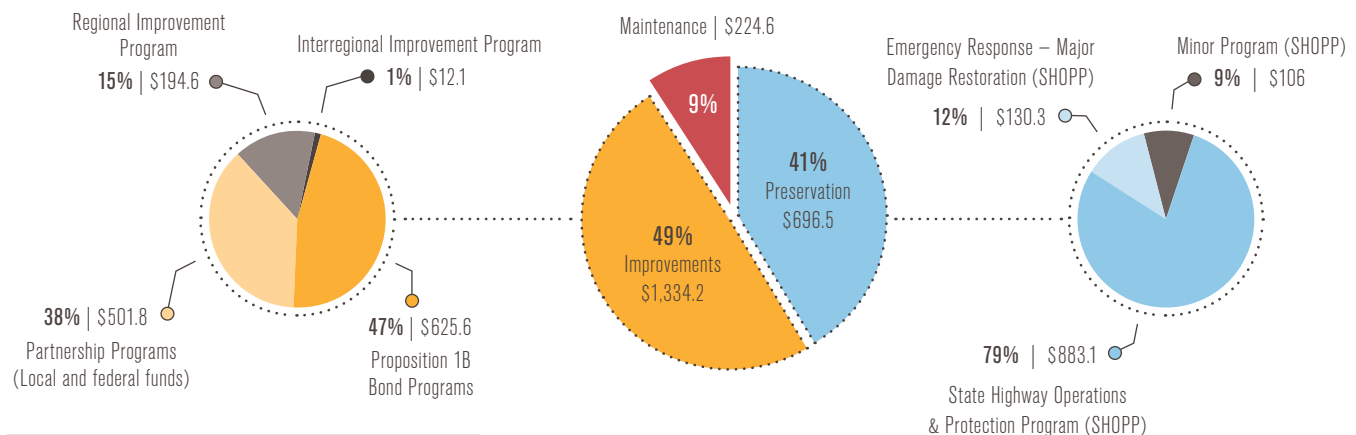
The 62 projects with completed draft environmental documents and the 223 projects that were approved this year will be shovel-ready in a future fiscal year. Of the 251 projects where Caltrans obtained right of way, most are now shovel-ready, the rest will be shovel-ready in FY 2016-17. The 239 designed and ready for construction are shovel-ready and will be put out to bid and begin construction during FY 2016-17.

Additional Projects, Statewide 2015-16

Milestone	Number
Draft Environmental Documents Completed	25
Projects Approved	64
Projects with Right of Way Certified	42
Projects Designed and Ready for Construction	48
Construction Contracts Accepted	131
Value of Projects Ready for Construction (millions)	\$383

Additional projects generally fall into the following categories: emergency projects, safety projects, projects from a prior year and projects from a future year delivered early. Source: Fiscal Year 2016-16 Project Delivery Report (to be submitted to California Transportation Commission Oct. 15, 2016)

Projects Constructed, 2015-16: Contract Value by Program Funding (*millions*)



Note: Total percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.