

California Local HSIP Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2025, 1:00pm – 3:30 pm Via Webex

Attendees:

Richard Ke, Bob Baca, Kelly Mar, Simrit Dhillon, Angel Araiza, Blossom Scott-Heim, Karen Sampson, Mallory Atkinson, Maria Bhatti, Mina Kim, Rafael Cobian, Colleen Vidinoff, Bill Sandhu, Ryan Mak, Sukhcharn Sunak, Tuongvy Nguyen, Krista Ly, Dennis Acuna, Daniel Burke, Tom Mattson, Shelly Quan

Item 1: Welcome and Committee Updates

- Roll call and Introduction
- Bob Baca is the new acting chief

Item 2: Project Time Extension Updates

- None

Item 3: Model Inventory of Roadway Elements (MIRE) - Fundamental Data Element (FDE) requirements; Contract for collecting traffic counts on local roads; and TSNR Updates

- FHWA is requesting all states to have this data set available for them.
- MIRE has over 100 elements and FDE had 38 elements
- The data will help with safety improvements, design, and operation of all public roadways. There are efforts to collect intersection information and contracts to collect geometry, control type, surface type, and ADT data at the local level. The deadline is September 2026.
- Also working on replacing the current TSN data system with the new TSNR project system which is more of a GIS environment.
- TSNR is developing a component where data from local agencies can be submitted. The External Partner Portal will be a work in progress.
- For more questions contact Ryan Mak or Richard Ke

Committee Questions/Feedback:

Colleen asked if they had reached out to local agencies because they usually have the requested data mapped in a GIS layout. Ryan stated they have not but reached out recently but reached out to some local agencies a couple years ago. Their contract with UC Berkeley SafeTREC reached out to local agencies to participate and will continue to reach out.

Bill Sandhu also confirms they have data to contribute.

Maria Bhatti asked about the September 2026 deadline and how much data would be provided by the deadline. Ryan confirmed they have quite a bit. Maria also asked if they reached out to Tribal Agencies. Ryan confirmed it has been done before.

Richard added that when the portal is ready, there could be an email sent to local agencies and districts. Also asked when the portal will be ready, Ryan confirmed December 2025 along with the TSNR system. Richard also asked if Caltrans could take data from the Pavement Management System and Ryan confirmed the data has been tested.

Item 4: Rural Road Safety Peer Exchange

- Office of Traffic Safety, California Highway Patrol, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, multiple California Reps (FHWA, CALTAP), Federal Railroad Administration, and 7 other states (California, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming) attended.
- Pre-hospital care, post-crash, and blood transfusions.
- From the exchange, there was valuable information that was not only engineering, but another way to take precautions for safety. Maria added how much it takes to get to rural areas and how the pre-hospital care could help increase survival rates. Georgia distributed “Stop the Bleed Kits” to local schools, police, and fire to help rural areas.

Committee Questions/Feedback:

None

Item 5: Safety Circuit Riders (SCRs) Proposal

- Local HSIP Funding would be used by part time SCRs in each Caltrans Region from the Division of Safety Programs from January 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027. This pilot period will be close to \$1M total funding for 21 months of work.
- The program would provide overall safety related support and road safety while advocating a Safe Systems Approach. The program relates to training technology transfer and technical assistance and would be provided to local agencies and tribes through the local technical assistance program through Cal State Long Beach.
- The program would include:
 - Crash data analysis
 - Road safety audits
 - Field reviews
 - Assistance with safety plans
- Deliverables:
 - 30 new or updated Local Road Safety Plans and Tribal Transportation Safety Plans combined
 - 30 road safety audits or field reviews
 - 50 referrals that enroll in the California LTAP center (CALTAP) Road Safety Champion Program (RSCP)
 - 30 applications for Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funding
 - 30 requests for crash data summaries or profiles.
- Resources Considering:
 - Assistance from 2 regions to reach out to local public agencies and tribes to improve safety.

- HSIP team will help with project management and knowledge sharing, follow ups, etc.
- Track successes and things we could work on.

Committee Questions/Feedback:

Bill asked if its only for rural areas or urban. Daniel confirmed the priority is for rural areas because they don't have a system in place, but we are willing to enable all agencies. Bill asked how it will work for safety for all grants? Colleen clarified SS4A is a vision zero and Maria offered to share a document for all comprehensive questions. Shelly clarified the pilot would be through HSIP and Daniel confirmed, and it will be close to \$1 million. Richard added that Safety Circuit Riders will help answer questions and advise local agencies. Richard also added this proposal will be using federal funds and asked how to determine which agencies will be picked or prioritized. Daniel explained that rural roads and implementing the Safe Systems Approach and LRSP coming up for renewal and it will be discussed more at the next meeting. Angel asked if local agency match will be a 1:1 match. Daniel explained this will be done at the state level and not put too much burden on our local public agency. Angel mentioned because it is rural, the funds aren't always there. Daniel wants to emphasize a priority to rural and disadvantaged entities.

Item 6: HSIP Funding Obligation/Allocation Status

- Federal Funds obligated: \$21 million
- E76: \$12 million waiting
- \$41 million federal funding obligated without new requests
- State Funds: Allocated \$56 million
- Federal and State: \$90 million obligated

Committee Questions/Feedback:

Bob Baca shared the request for obligation by FHWA, FMIS system will be shutting down 2 weeks earlier than usual and requests need to be in by August 11, 2025.

Angel asked if YS60 projects will be funded with State AC and when will they be converted. Richard clarified YS60 is for HRRR projects and California receives \$17.5 million each FFY. Because only certain projects are eligible and now all funding has been used, then State AC is used and until the end of this FFY. All projects that use State AC will be on the list and during the new FFY in mid-November the money will be converted. Once the E76 is received, work can begin, and the funds are invoiced by state funds.

Maria asked to clarify the special rule funding. Richard clarified \$17.5 million for HRRR and \$42 million for VRU have all been obligated.

Item 7: July 1st Safe Roads Letter

- Letter from the Secretary of Transportation states the national SAFE ROADS initiative will focus on non-freeway arterials, including safety and operations.
- Submit a list of locations 60 days from July 1st, 2025.

- Maria offered clarification that a FAQ, location template, and website will be coming soon. The letter is to address concerns at existing locations.
- Existing efforts can be used, and more information will be coming.
- <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:0dbe6226-284e-4a68-a433-e9f82fe05f5f>

Committee Questions/Feedback:

Bob clarified that the letter includes different parts of Caltrans and MPOs will be reaching out to identify any other concerns that may not be identified on our list. Richard agreed and added it is nice to incorporate existing locations. Mallory appreciated the feedback and shared knowledge. Maria added the letter should be looked at as an opportunity to coordinate with other divisions and MPOs, since the non-freeway arterials have a higher fatality rate. Maria shared that she will keep Richard posted of any updates.

Item 8: Roundtable Discussion

- Maria shared the SS4A grant is now going to move forward, and there have been language changes in the agreements and to get them submitted. Bill asked if the changes are final, and Maria hopes it will be final soon.

Committee Questions/Feedback:

None

Next Meeting:

September 11, 2025

Meeting Adjourned:

2:30pm