

Planning, Policy,
and Programming

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Project Title:

Enhancing the Structure of Caltrans' Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP)

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Enhancing the Structure of Caltrans' Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP)

Augmenting the focus and strengthening major points in the Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) to ensure clarity, consistency, and structural coherence.

WHAT IS THE NEED?

The Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan (ITSP) is the long-range planning document developed by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) that helps prioritize transportation projects across the state and supports Caltrans' role in improving the interregional movement of people, vehicles, and goods. The ITSP guides Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) funds towards intercity rail corridors and a subset of routes identified in California's legislatively designated Interregional Road System (RRS).

Previously, ITSPs were internal Department documents, developed within and for use by Caltrans. But with the Department's new focus on transportation sustainability and public transparency into - and involvement in - the planning process, there is greater emphasis on involving the public in the planning process and producing reports that provide the public and other stakeholders with a more compelling and coherent message about the Department's long-term vision for travel within the state. The 2015 ITSP is the first to involve public input via workshops held for this purpose. With the successful structural enhancement of the California Transportation Plan (CTP) and the California Freight Mobility Plan (CFMP), it was determined that the ITSP should undergo the same process.

WHAT WAS OUR GOAL?

The goal of this work was to ensure consistency in tone, style, and structure within the ITSP and enhance consistency between the ITSP and the CTP and CFMP.



Caltrans provides a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system to enhance California's economy and livability.

WHAT DID WE DO?

Prior to the start of this project, the contractor compiled a document of approximately 30 pages from all the background materials for reference. This document allowed the contractor to make and implement numerous decisions about style, tone, and usage for this project.

Tasks included:

- Developing an understanding of the history, authorization, purpose, and objectives for the project.
- Ensuring correct grammar, spelling, punctuation and readability.
- Ensuring consistency in tone, style, and structure within and across all chapters written by numerous authors.
- Ensuring support (generally) of the ITSP Frameworks and MAP-21 guidelines
Providing substantive recommendations, as needed.

WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME?

The outcome of this work was the completion of an improved ITSP report document, which was approved by both the California Transportation Commission (CTC) and the Caltrans Director. The ITSP is one of several Caltrans modal plans that will be integrated within the CTP.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

The ITSP provides stakeholders and interested parties with a compelling vision of Caltrans' interregional planning efforts and how they fit within the larger California Transportation Plan (CTP) and the California Freight Mobility Plan (CFMP). The structurally enhanced ITSP is easier to read and understand and is therefore more likely to be used for its intended purpose within

the Department and find a wider audience of interested parties outside of it. The professionalism and consistency of the final ITSP makes it substantially more credible and compelling.

IMAGES

