



TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024
10:00 a.m.**

**CVAG Conference Room
73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104
Palm Desert, CA 92260**

Public comment is encouraged to be emailed to the Transportation Committee prior to the special meeting at cvag@cvag.org by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting.

THIS MEETING IS HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE. ACTION MAY RESULT ON ANY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, ALL ACTION ITEMS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR FINAL APPROVAL.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Steven Hernandez, Mayor, City of Coachella

2. **ROLL CALL**

A. **Member Roster**

P4

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

This is the time and place for members of the public to address the Transportation Committee on agenda items. At the discretion of the Chair, comments may be taken at the time items are presented. Please limit comments to three (3) minutes.

5. **CHAIR / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

6. **DISCUSSION / ACTION**

A. **Proposed Criteria for the 2025 Update of the Transportation Project Prioritization Study** – Tom Kirk

P5

Recommendation: Review proposed criteria and provide direction on prioritization of the criteria to be used for the 2025 update of the Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS)

7. **INFORMATION**

a) Transportation Committee Attendance Roster

P8

b) Recap from California Association of Councils of Governments

P9

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

This is the time and place for members of the public to address the Transportation Committee on items of general interest within the purview of this committee. Please limit comments to two (2) minutes.

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the **Transportation Committee** will be held on Monday, November 4, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring

Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, December 2, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
ROSTER**



Transportation Committee Members	
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Virginia Siva-Gillespie Tribal Councilmember
City of Blythe	Joseph DeConinck Mayor
City of Cathedral City	Raymond Gregory Councilmember
City of Coachella	Steven Hernandez, Chair Mayor
City of Desert Hot Springs	Scott Matas Mayor
City of Indian Wells	Dana Reed, Vice Chair Councilmember
City of Indio	Elaine Holmes Councilmember
City of La Quinta	Kathleen Fitzpatrick Councilmember
City of Palm Desert	Jan Harnik Mayor Pro Tem
City of Palm Springs	Lisa Middleton Councilmember
City of Rancho Mirage	Steve Downs Mayor
County of Riverside	V. Manuel Perez Supervisor Dennis Acuna Director of Transportation
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	Thomas Tortez Tribal Chair

ITEM 6A

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Transportation Committee
October 21, 2024**



STAFF REPORT

Subject: Proposed Criteria for the 2025 Update of the Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS)

Contact: Tom Kirk, Executive Director (tkirk@cvaq.org)

Recommendation: Review proposed criteria and provide direction on prioritization of the criteria to be used for the 2025 update of the Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS)

Background: CVAG's Transportation Project Prioritization Study (TPPS) serves as the guiding document to regional transportation investments. The TPPS ranks the regional arterial projects in the Coachella Valley based on a system of criteria adopted by CVAG's Transportation and Executive Committees. The accompanying Regional Arterial Cost Estimate (RACE) provides a cost estimate, in current dollars, of the segmented improvement projects. Once adopted, the TPPS, RACE and the Regional Active Transportation Plan (ATP) serve as the basis for the Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) Nexus Study. CVAG and its member agencies generally focus their efforts on the transportation projects ranked in the top 10 percent of the TPPS ranking, although factors such as the availability of state and federal funding also may determine how projects move forward for CVAG's consideration.

CVAG typically updates the TPPS and RACE every five years. The last update was completed in 2016. Amid the significant disruptions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 TPPS update was postponed.

Now that regional traffic patterns have returned to pre-COVID levels, data can be collected and used to analyze the regional transportation network. Additionally, with Riverside County Transportation Commission's adoption of the 2024 Traffic Relief Plan (TRP), there are new projects that should be considered for inclusion in the TPPS, such as CV Rail, managed lanes along Interstate 10, transit priority systems, and regional pavement management. The October meeting of the Transportation Committee will effectively launch the process of updating the TPPS, with the process anticipated to run through 2025.

Updating the TPPS is the critical first step in establishing an infrastructure funding strategy for the planning and construction of regional transportation infrastructure throughout the Coachella Valley. Once the TPPS update is complete, staff will proceed with updating the associated RACE, ATP and TUMF nexus study. Once the TPPS and RACE are updated, outside funding sources are accounted for, the RACE estimate is adjusted, and then the TUMF nexus study can be prepared to allocate project costs attributed to new development.

TPPS Criteria

Over the past three decades CVAG has used four principal criteria to “prioritize” investments. They are: Pavement Condition, System Continuity (Gaps), Congestion (Level of Service), and Accident Rates. However, there are many other criteria that have been used to guide transportation investments in the Coachella Valley and more broadly in California and the United States. Many of these criteria are used to assess funding applications for regional, state and federal dollars. Staff evaluated numerous criteria, eliminating those that appeared to overlap with others. This resulted in the addition of eight new criteria to be added to the original four, as shown below:

- Improve Pavement Condition
- Fill System Gaps
- Reduce Congestion
- Reduce Accidents
- Encourage Infill Development
- Improve Climate & Disaster Resiliency
- Improve Access In & Out of the Coachella Valley
- Add Pedestrian & Bicycle Routes
- Improve Air Quality, Environment, and Aesthetics
- Improve Access In & Out of Events
- Build Infrastructure in Disadvantaged Communities
- Improve Mobility for Disadvantaged People

The criteria listed above is not intended to be final or all-encompassing. Adding or removing criteria is open for discussion with the Committee members.

During the October meeting, staff will facilitate a comparative analysis exercise with Transportation Committee members, providing a structured approach to the evaluation and prioritization of this criteria. A comparison matrix will be used to assess how well each of the criteria meets the Committee’s transportation objectives. This is a policy level discussion, in which member engagement is crucial for gathering input and ensuring diverse perspectives are considered. The results will be synthesized into a final list of recommendations for prioritization. This list will then be circulated with member jurisdictions’ staff for their review, and the final recommendations will come back to the Transportation Committee for approval.

TPPS Update Next Steps

The recommended prioritization criteria will be used to generate a project evaluation methodology consistent with the goals of the committee. The prioritization criteria will also help staff identify the necessary data needed for this assessment. Staff will utilize data available from the CV Sync network of traffic signals and “big data” sources to capture data such as traffic counts and turning movements throughout CVAG’s regional transportation network. Other necessary data will be collected using vendors or subcontractors as required.

As the TPPS project evaluation methodology is developed, CVAG staff will engage with member jurisdictions, including public works and engineering staff. Any recommendations will be returned to the Transportation Committee for consideration.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no additional cost to CVAG at this time. Using the recommended criteria and finalized evaluation methodologies, a request for proposal (RFP) will be prepared to secure qualified consultants to assist with the 2025 TPPS Update. CVAG staff will engage with member agencies to coordinate this process and will return to the Transportation Committee and the Executive Committee for further consideration and approval.

ITEM 7a

FY 2024/2025 TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE ROSTER



CVAG JURISDICTION	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Blythe	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cathedral City	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coachella	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Desert Hot Springs	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indian Wells	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indio	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
La Quinta	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Palm Desert	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Palm Springs	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rancho Mirage	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Riverside County	-	-	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Absent	
No Meeting	-
Holiday	H
Vacancy	**
In Attendance	✓

ITEM 7b

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Transportation Committee
October 21, 2024**



STAFF REPORT

Subject: Recap from California Association of Councils of Governments

Contact: Erica Felci, Chief Operating Officer (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: The [California Association of Councils of Governments](#) (CALCOG) is a 49-member organization that serves councils of governments such as CVAG, metropolitan planning organizations, and regional transportation planning agencies. CALCOG works to improve the working relationships between member agencies, local governments, transit agencies, and state regulatory authorities. CALCOG also develops statewide consensus between its members on issues related to transportation, regional planning, climate change and funding. Additionally, CALCOG works to improve the inter-relationship between regional and local government by coordinating policy development with agencies such as the California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities.

CVAG has been a CALCOG member since 2014 and is represented by Palm Desert Mayor Pro Tem Jan Harnik on the CALCOG Board of Directors, where she serves as Second Vice President. The CALCOG Executive Director is Bill Higgins, who was the keynote speaker for the 2017 CVAG General Assembly. As CVAG's representative to CALCOG, Mayor Pro Tem Harnik provides updates to CVAG to help disseminate information and assist with making well informed decisions related to advocacy and funding and other issues that may affect operations of CVAG and its member agencies.

The following CALCOG updates were recently shared by Mayor Pro Tem Harnik:

- *Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Retained:* Helped direct the lobbying effort to retain \$270 million in REAP funding that will be awarded by regions to local agencies to support infill housing and sustainable transportation projects. As a result of this effort, MPOs will now have \$480 million to invest statewide.
- *Appropriate Target Setting:* Successfully opposed AB 6 (which would have set a new greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for the year 2045) by noting the limitations in the current target metric and how it will not work when most of the cars on the road are electric.
- *Developing Leadership:* Graduated the sixth cohort of the California Academy for Regional Leaders (CARL), which is a staff-level leadership program designed to train the next generation of regional agency directors. Registration just opened for the seventh cohort.
- *Legislative Action Day:* Met on May 22 with Legislators and administration staff to address challenges related to achieving state statutory objectives.
- *Preparing to Replace the Gas Tax:* CALCOG has teamed with Caltrans to work on public education materials relating to the need to replace the gas tax with a different funding mechanism.

- *Adopted New Programs in a Balanced Budget:* At the June meeting, the CALCOG Board approved a project-oriented budget that will focus on regional policy education related to infill, housing, vehicle miles traveled and climate policy.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no cost to CVAG for this update.