



**SACOG**

Sacramento Area  
Council of  
Governments

**2026 Regional Project Prioritization Program – SB 1**

**SB 1 Funding Program Applications Due:  
Friday, May 29, 2026**

This document contains the guidelines and applications for the **Regional Project Prioritization Program**.

## Schedule

Please note all dates are subject to change.

### SB 1 Programs:

<b>April 17, 2026</b>	Call for projects released.
<b>April 21 2026</b>	Begin local agency consultations
<b>April 22, 2026</b>	Webinar Kick-off
<b>May 29, 2026</b>	Project applications due by 4:00 p.m.
<b>July 20, 2026</b>	Staff releases priority project recommendations
<b>August 6, 2026</b>	Transportation Committee reviews staff recommendations and project nominations and provides a recommendation to the SACOG board for final approval
<b>August 20, 2026</b>	SACOG board takes final action on recommended projects and project nominations

## Program Contact

Please direct any questions regarding this program or the application process to the program manager below: **Dustin Foster, Program Manager**

E-mail: [dfoster@sacog.org](mailto:dfoster@sacog.org)

Program Email: [Grants@sacog.org](mailto:Grants@sacog.org)

## Program Objective

The Regional Project Prioritization Program aims to advance large regional projects that align with the implementation of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, also known as the 2025 Blueprint. The strategy is designed to increase the Sacramento region's share of discretionary state and federal funding and assist local project sponsors in applying for major federal or state grants. Enhancing competitiveness for large regional projects is one method used to implement the 2025 Blueprint, making it possible for regional funds to be allocated to smaller projects that may not meet criteria for certain funding programs. SACOG, in partnership with local agencies, develops the Regional Priority Projects list annually to provide a regional endorsement for identified funding programs and to provide letters of support and technical assistance for prioritized projects.

The program is currently inviting applications for projects actively seeking 2026 State Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) Grants, specifically Solutions for Congested Corridors (SCCP) and the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP). This process serves as the nomination procedure adopted by the SACOG Board for the TCEP, which requires SACOG endorsement. This process will also serve SACOG in identifying SCCP corridor project packages for SACOG to apply or co-apply if they meet the minimum scoring threshold. The program will only

intake project information for Local Partnership Program (LPP) to provide letters of consistency with the Blueprint. See process details for each below in Table 1. SB 1 Program Process:

**Table 1. SB 1 Program Process**

Program	SACOG Role	Process
SCCP	Applicant or Co-applicant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Applicant coordinates with lead agencies.</li> <li>2. SACOG and applicant discuss corridor project packages during CMCP process and consultation period.</li> <li>3. Applicant submits corridor project packages application for SACOG review.</li> <li>4. SACOG may apply or co-apply on corridor project packages with 20+ minimum score threshold for up to 2 applications this cycle.</li> <li>5. Board approval.</li> <li>6. SACOG coordinates with partners on priority corridor project packages.</li> </ol>
TCEP	Required to Nominate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lead Agencies Apply.</li> <li>2. SACOG Scores.</li> <li>3. SACOG prioritizes and ranks projects based on score.</li> <li>4. SACOG nominates project(s) to CTC.</li> </ol>
LPP	Check Blueprint Consistency	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SACOG Intakes project information only. This can be submitted in the Project Intake Form.</li> <li>2. No scoring – just reviewing for eligibility and Blueprint consistency.</li> <li>3. Consistency letters offered to submitted projects that are consistent with Blueprint.</li> </ol>

### 2026 Regional Project Prioritization Program Guidelines

The Regional Project Prioritization Program will serve as a regional endorsement to communicate to SB 1 programs the transportation funding priorities of the Sacramento Region. To maintain a balanced approach, the program is structured around primary principles of advancing the 2025 Blueprint, enhancing funding program competitiveness, and meeting both regional and state transportation goals. Projects will be

evaluated based on three primary factors: regional nature of the project and partnerships, competitiveness relative to the funding program identified, and project readiness.

### **Projects Actively Seeking SB 1 Grant Funds:**

All applications must specify the grant funding program and what types of funds are being requested. Eligible project phases vary by SB 1 program. SCCP and LPP submissions must seek construction funding. TCEP submissions may seek funding for PA&ED, PS&E, ROW, and/or construction, consistent with TCEP guidelines.

For projects seeking construction funding, the application must identify the project scope, timeline, funding requirements needed to complete construction and demonstrate project readiness.

For projects not yet ready for construction funding, it is expected that they are in either the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED), Plans Specifications and Estimates (PS&E), or Right of Way (ROW) phases. These projects will be evaluated according to the factors listed above; however, the assessment of project readiness will emphasize demonstrated progress, alignment with regional priorities, and the project's potential to support future implementation. Projects must have an anticipated funding plan that lists either secured or potential funding sources for each phase of the project, as well as a project timeline.

### **Program Process and Conditions**

The Regional Project Prioritization Program runs annually and will identify projects for the next calendar year of funding programs. In the case of the state programs under SB 1, the program will run ahead of the calls for projects, allowing for nominations and prioritization ahead of application due dates. If projects were previously prioritized or nominated for a state program but unsuccessful in securing funding in the last cycle, a new application must be submitted for evaluation and consideration.

For projects that are nominated to the state TCEP program, agencies must provide SACOG staff with a copy of the draft application for review of scope and feedback prior to submittal to the state. For projects seeking SACOG partnership through SCCP, agencies must include SACOG in scoping and application development. Failure to apply may result in removal from the Regional Priority Projects list.

### **SACOG Technical Assistance and Support**

Projects selected for the Regional Project Prioritization Program will have access to technical assistance and support from SACOG. Because of the diverse nature of the prioritized projects SACOG will use a broad set of support elements to increase the competitiveness of these projects. These elements include data support, grant application review and assistance, and access to lobbying services. The extent of these services will fluctuate depending on the project needs, local agency capacity, and SACOG staff capacity. Specific to the state programs, the Regional Project Prioritization Program allows for: SACOG to be an active partner in applications for the SCCP program, technical assistance for the SCCP and TCEP programs, and advocacy at the state level for supported projects under all three SB 1 programs.

### **Project Eligibility**

A complete application must be submitted to SACOG staff to be considered for project prioritization. All the following screening criteria must be met for a project to proceed to the evaluation phase. Projects that fail to meet **any** of these requirements will not be considered further.

## Eligibility Criteria

- Projects must be located within the six-county region and be listed in the 2025 Blueprint or fit within a lump-sum project category. Lump sum project categories are:
  - Road maintenance and reconstruction
  - Transit vehicle replacements
  - Operational improvements
  - Intelligent Transportation Systems
  - Bicycle and pedestrian investments

For projects that are not exempt from air quality conformity in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP), the open to traffic year must match the 2025 Blueprint or current MTIP. Projects exempt from air quality conformity are not subject to this requirement.

- Projects must be federal-aid eligible for federal funding programs or state transportation funding eligible, and applicant agencies must be able to receive federal funds.
- Lead agencies must be eligible to apply for the program. For TCEP, eligible applicants are public entities, such as cities, counties, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Regional Transportation Planning Agencies, port authorities, public construction authorities, and Caltrans. For SCCP, eligible applicants are Regional transportation planning agencies, County transportation commissions, and Caltrans. For LPP, eligible applicants are Jurisdictions with voter approved taxes, tolls, or fees, which are dedicated solely to transportation improvements or that have imposed fees, including uniform developer fees, which are dedicated solely to transportation improvements. Detailed information can be found in the Local Partnership Program Guidelines.
- The project sponsor must identify a specific SB 1 grant funding program in the project application; the project must meet the eligibility requirements of the grant funding program.

SACOG staff will advance any applications meeting all eligibility criteria into the project evaluation phase.

## Application Instructions

This section outlines the requirements for applying for a 2026 Regional Project Prioritization Program.

### Application and Intake Form Submittal

Applications are due by 4:00 p.m. PST on Friday, May 29, 2026. All submittals will receive a confirmation of receipt email within one business day, i.e., by 4:00 p.m. PST on Monday, June 1, 2026.

Applicants can submit project information through the Program Intake Form prior to consultations with SACOG staff and/or submitting application materials. Applicants who have applied to the program in the Fall 2025 Federal cycle can use the project's SACOG ID to carry over information to the 2026 SB 1 cycle.

The Program Intake Form is found at: <https://forms.office.com/r/6fV7UpPHCj>

Applications will be submitted via email to:

Program email: [grants@sacog.org](mailto:grants@sacog.org)

**Dustin Foster**, Regional Project Prioritization Program Manager

E-mail: [dfoster@sacog.org](mailto:dfoster@sacog.org)

Project applications will include the following:

- A completed project application form that includes a detailed description of the project and responses to all relevant narrative questions.
- A completed simplified Caltrans Project Programming Request (PPR) form.
- A map of the project location. The map should clearly show the location and extent of the proposed project.

## Project Evaluation Process

Applications will be evaluated by SACOG staff based on the responses to the questions listed below. Evaluation will focus on the project's regional significance, competitiveness for the identified SB 1 funding program, and readiness to advance the requested phase of work. Criteria will be applied consistent with the requirements and scoring priorities of the identified SB 1 program (SCCP or TCEP).

### Actively Pursuing Grants

#### *Senate Bill 1 Funding Programs*

##### **Important Note on Eligible Project Phases**

Eligible project phases vary by SB 1 program:

- SCCP and LPP submissions must seek construction funding.
- TCEP submissions may seek funding for PA&ED, PS&E, ROW, and/or construction, consistent with TCEP guidelines.

Readiness expectations will be assessed accordingly.

- **Regional Serving:** Projects should demonstrate a clear regional benefit relevant to the SB 1 program and support implementation of the 2025 Blueprint.
  - **Evaluation Questions**
    - How does the project address regionally significant transportation needs, such as congestion relief, goods movement, system performance, safety, or economic productivity?
    - How does the project advance applicable policies or strategies in the 2025 Blueprint?
    - How does the project support regional VMT and greenhouse gas reduction objectives consistent with the 2025 Blueprint?
    - Does the project involve partnerships across multiple jurisdictions or agencies, or address transportation challenges that extend beyond a single local jurisdiction?

Applicants are encouraged to reference relevant Blueprint policies and use available SACOG tools and data, such as the Project Performance Assessment (PPA) Tool, to support their responses.

- **Competitiveness:** Projects will be evaluated based on their competitiveness relative to the specific SB 1 program for which funding is being sought.
  - **Evaluation Questions**

- How does the project meet the goals and requirements of the identified SB1 program (i.e. the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program or Trade Corridor Enhancement Program)?
- How does the project align with statewide transportation goals and the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI)?
- What benefits will the project provide and to whom, and what potential barriers might exist to accessing these benefits?
- Are there potential barriers to accessing the project's benefits, and if so, how are those barriers addressed?
- Does the project add unmanaged vehicular capacity?

Applicants should reference the most 2026 program guidelines and clearly describe how the project addresses applicable scoring criteria.

- **Readiness:** Project readiness will be evaluated relative to the funding phase requested and the requirements of the identified SB 1 program. Project readiness is an important factor in competitiveness when seeking funding for final construction. CTC requires that the environmental phase of a project be cleared (or cleared within six months of award) for SCCP, LPP, and TCEP funding for design, right of way, and construction.
  - **Evaluation Questions**
    - Has the project cleared the environmental phase? If not, when does the project expect to clear the environmental phase?
    - Is this request for the final amount needed to fully fund and deliver the project?
    - Does the project have the needed matching funds or leverage for the funding program?

Project Programming Request (PPR) information on funding and project timeline will be used to evaluate project readiness.

### Helpful Resource Links

- [SACOG 2026 Regional Project Prioritization Program Webpage](#)
- [SACOG 2025 Blueprint](#)
- [SACOG Project Performance Assessment Tool](#)
- [SACOG SacTrak Home Page](#)
- [CTC SB 1 Programs:](#)
  - [Solutions for Congested Corridors Program \(SCCP\)](#)
  - [Trade Corridor Enhancement Program \(TCEP\)](#)
  - [Local Partnership Program \(LPP\)](#)
- [USDOT Grant Navigator](#)
- [Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations \(AMPO\) NOFO Tracker](#)