



Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Meeting Date: 4/19/2018

Agenda Item No.: 2018-April-6.

SACOG Board of Directors

Subject: Approve Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts Pilot Program (Est. time: 0 minutes)

Consent

Prepared by: Victoria S. Cacciatore

Approved by: James Corless

Attachments: No

1. Issue:

Should the Board authorize release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) to launch a regional bicycle and pedestrian counts pilot program?

2. Recommendation:

The Transportation Committee unanimously recommends that the Board: 1) authorize SACOG to release a RFP to purchase bicycle and pedestrian counting equipment or technology with associated training and support; and 2) authorize the SACOG CEO to negotiate a contract with the selected vendor.

3. Background/Analysis:

Traffic counting programs provide a reliable data source for planning, engineering, and operations decisions for vehicles. However, there is no comparable, available data to inform active transportation investments and planned projects. Active transportation counts are an essential tool for capturing the current and potential contribution of bikeways and walkways toward achieving congestion reduction, air quality, and public health objectives. There is also a growing expectation that cities and counties provide quantitative information about people biking and walking when they apply for transportation funding.

SACOG, in partnership with Sacramento County Regional Parks, received a grant in 2014 to increase the quality and quantity of bicycle and pedestrian data used for transportation planning. The grant scope includes the development and launch of a regional bicycle and pedestrian counts program in Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties, the four-county area for which SACOG serves as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA).

4. Discussion/Analysis:

SACOG staff has been working with member cities and counties to determine what is most needed in a regional bicycle and pedestrian counts program. Given the nature of biking for transportation, staff is assuming that counts would need to be collected on trails, sidewalks, and on-road facilities. The program would include equipment or technology for permanent installation, and equipment for shorter-term installations—anywhere between two weeks to several months. Staff recommends acquiring counting equipment or technology that works with existing traffic systems over a one-time data purchase to enable cities and counties to continue collecting bicycle and pedestrian data to inform active transportation plans and investments.

The data collected through the counts program would be most effectively used to inform local plans and projects. Count data could also be used to validate other transportation data at the local and regional level. Short-term counts could be done to support applications to funding programs, such as the Active Transportation Program, that require pre-project bike and pedestrian counts to compete.

SACOG staff is interested in developing a cooperative purchasing agreement as part of this RFP release. Staff has reached out to cities, counties, and other partners in the six-county region to gauge and document interest in participating in such an agreement. Participation in the cooperative agreement would enable jurisdictions to buy their own equipment at the price negotiated by SACOG. To meet the requirements of federally funded projects, SACOG will conduct a competitive procurement through an RFP process to enter into a contract with the selected vendor.

5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

Funding from a SACOG regional funding award is included in the adopted SACOG operating budget and will be used towards this project. The revenues supporting the Pilot Program were secured through an earlier regional funding award SACOG received.