

# Smith, Watts & Company, LLC.

## Consulting and Governmental Relations

October 4, 2021

TO: Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Mark Watts

SUBJECT: Sacramento Report –October TWIC Meeting

---

This report provides an update on activities related to virtual meetings for local agencies and activities under the California Transportation Commission.

### California Transportation Commission

#### *New Commissioner appointed*

Commissioner Kehoe has elected to depart from the Commission and on September 7 Governor Newsom appointed Clarissa Falcon to fill the position.

Clarissa Falcon is the President and Principal Consultant for Falcon Strategies. She previously worked for the California State Senate as a district director and as a public policy analyst for the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation.

#### *SB 1 Competitive Programs*

The guideline development workshops for the Local Partnership Program (LPP), the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP), and the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) are set for initial meetings during the period of September 21 through September 28.

The overall Schedule for programs under California Transportation Commission jurisdiction are:

September 2021      LPP    Tuesday, September 21, 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
                                 TCEP   Thursday, September 23, 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
                                 SCCP   Tuesday, September 28, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

October 2021        LPP    Tuesday, October 19, 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
                                 TCEP   Thursday, October 21, 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
                                 SCCP   Tuesday, October 26, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

# Smith, Watts & Company, LLC.

## Consulting and Governmental Relations

November 2021      LPP Monday, November 8, 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
TCEP Wednesday, November 10, 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
SCCP Tuesday, November 16, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

December 2021      TCEP Monday, December 13, 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
LPP Tuesday, December 14, 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
SCCP Thursday, December 16, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

### *Transit and Intercity Rail Program (TIRCP)*

This program remains under the sole jurisdiction of the Transportation Agency. The Guideline development process has just been initiated, with the distribution of Cycle 5 Draft Guidelines issues on September 30. Workshops are set for November 2 and 3, with final published guidelines effective November 19. This will be followed by the “call for projects” on November 19, with applications due March 3, 2022.

It is anticipated that even in the face of the reversion of earlier funding in the amount of \$2.5 billion, the TIRCP will provide a two year program of \$1.0 to \$1.2+ billion.

### **Key COVID-related Legislation**

#### *AB 361(Rivas)*

This bill allows local agencies to use teleconferencing for virtual board sessions in state declared emergencies, and provides similar authorizations for state agencies, as well.

The measure was approved in September and was effective immediately. To provide direction to local agencies during the period up to the close of the present COVID virtual meeting Executive Order on September 30<sup>th</sup>, the Governor provided another Executive Order to cover this period until the end of September 2021.

At this writing the provisions of AB 361 prevail for local agencies.