

**Transportation, Water and  
Infrastructure Committee  
November 8, 2021**

# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SENATE BILL 743 IMPLEMENTATION

Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee

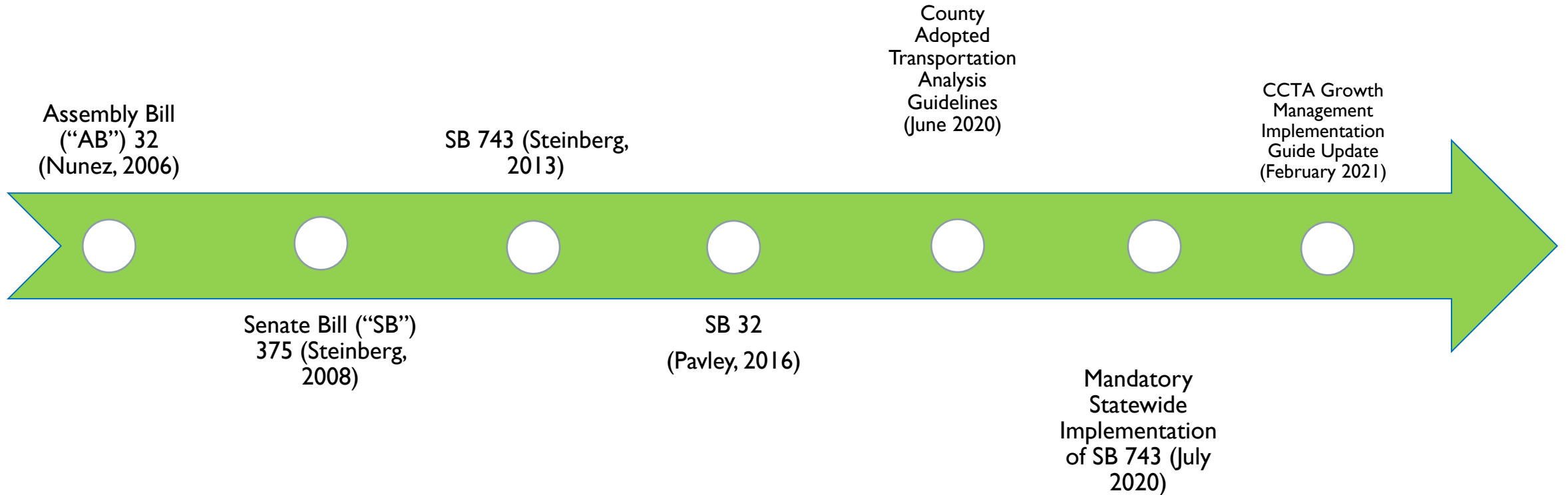
Conservation and Development Department

Monday, November 8, 2021

# AGENDA

- What is Senate Bill (“SB”) 743?
- SB 743 Implementation
  - Contra Costa Transportation Authority (“CCTA”)
  - Contra Costa County (CEQA Lead Agency)
- Questions/Discussion

# SENATE BILL (“SB”) 743 LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND



# SB 743 IMPLEMENTATION

- California Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts (2018)
  - Technical recommendations regarding assessment of VMT, thresholds of significance, and mitigation measures.
  - Technical Advisory is a resource for local agencies and the public to use at their discretion.
  - Thresholds of Significance:
    - OPR recommendation: A proposed project exceeding a level of 15 percent below existing VMT per capita may indicate a significant transportation impact.
    - Projects would need to mitigate impacts to less-than-significant levels or prepare an Environmental Impact Report.
  - Why 15 percent?
    - Various legislative mandates and state policies establish quantitative greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.
    - Consistent with SB 743's direction to OPR to select a threshold that will help the State achieve its climate goals.

# SB 743 IMPLEMENTATION (CONTRA COSTA COUNTY)

- Contra Costa County Transportation Analysis Guidelines (June 2020)
  - Developed by County Department of Conservation and Development and Public Works Department with assistance from Fehr & Peers (Envision Contra Costa 2040 and CCTA VMT Guidelines)
    - Follows State Office of Planning and Research Technical Advisory on Evaluating Transportation Impacts in CEQA (2018)
  - Evaluating VMT
    - Is the project subject to CEQA?
    - Screening Criteria
    - CEQA Thresholds of Significance
    - Estimating VMT

## CCTA GROWTH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ("GMP") IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE (2021)

- Guidance intended to assist lead agencies in their CEQA VMT analysis.
- Compliance with the requirements of this document is mandatory as part of fulfillment of local jurisdictions' requirements under the CCTA GMP.
- Local jurisdictions may choose to apply methods and thresholds that are more stringent than those outlined in the GMP Guide and would still be in compliance with CCTA GMP requirements.
- *Lead agencies have the ultimate responsibility for determining the most appropriate way to comply with CEQA when conducting environmental review of their projects; nothing in this memorandum should be construed as legal advice nor should it take the place of consultation with the lead agency's CEQA experts. (CCTA Implementation Guide, Appendix F (February 2021))*

THANK YOU

Questions/Discussion