

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: 2023 Cycle 6 Regional Active Transportation Program Programming Recommendations

RECOMMENDED ACTION: (1) Approve Resolution R-23-101 and the ATP Evaluation Committee’s Recommendation to Program \$13,711,000 in Regional ATP Funds as shown in Table 1.

(2) Provide policy direction to staff regarding additional ATP funding prior to Cycle 7

SUMMARY:

The State of California’s Cycle 6 Active Transportation Program (ATP) announced a call-for-projects in early 2022. The San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) released separate call-for-projects for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) or regional component of the Cycle 6 ATP on March 23, 2022. A total of \$13,711,000 was allocated to the San Joaquin County region via SJCOG by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for the regional component of this program. A total of 15 applications were submitted to this program totaling \$76,171,793 of funds requested.

A scoring evaluation committee of seven volunteers was formed to review and score the submitted applications. A tremendous amount of effort has been put forth by the volunteers to score these projects in a timely manner. Following the evaluation of all projects, SJCOG staff aggregated the scores and convened the evaluation committee to garner feedback and solicit a recommendation from the group. The group agreed upon the recommendation of programming the top performing projects until there are no more funds to allocate.

Table 1: Evaluation Committee’s Recommendations for Programming in Cycle 6 Regional ATP

Agency	Project Type	Project Name	Funds Requested	Recommended Programming
SJRRC	Large	East Channel Street Streetscape and Connectivity Project	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
SJ County	Plan	Countywide Sidewalks Connectivity Plan	\$452,800	\$452,800
Stockton	Large	Main and Market Complete Streets	\$8,226,000	\$8,226,000
Tracy	Medium	East Schulte Safety and Multimodal Community Corridor*	\$4,684,210	\$1,532,200
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE IN CYCLE 6.				\$13,711,000

Note: *The City of Tracy initially requested \$4.6 million, but also provided a scaled-down version of the project, in case only a reduced amount of funds were available. Because of limited funds, and because the East Schulte Safety and Multimodal Community Corridor project was next in scoring, the project will receive approximately \$1.5 million for its scaled-down project alternative.

In addition, as customary at the end of a funding cycle, SJCOG staff seeks input on key takeaways to inform policy or process changes for future ATP cycles. The discussion and feedback from committees is summarized within this staff report.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (1) Approve Resolution R-23-101, and the ATP evaluation committee’s recommendation to program the \$13,711,000 in funding as shown in Table 1.
- (2) Provide policy direction to staff regarding additional ATP funding prior to Cycle 7.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Assignment of \$13,711,000 in Regional ATP funding.

DISCUSSION:

Applications Submitted

A total of 15 projects were submitted as part of the extended call-for-projects, requesting a total of \$76,171,793 in funds. The full list of project submissions is shown in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Projects submitted to the ATP Cycle 6 Regional Call-for-Projects (Including projects that secured funding from the statewide ATP program)

Agency	Project Type	Project Name	Funds Requested
Lathrop	Medium	Lathrop Sidewalk Gap Closure Project	\$5,784,000
Manteca	Small	Manteca Safe Routes to School - Pedestrian Safety Improvements	\$2,925,000
Manteca	Medium	City Sidewalk Gap Closure	\$8,906,000
SJ County	Small	Boggs Tract Community Improvements	\$3,193,516
SJ County	Medium	Burkett Garden Acres Sidewalk Improvements	\$2,935,458
SJ County	Plan	Countywide Sidewalk Connectivity Plan	\$452,800
SJ County	Medium	Harrison Elementary Active Transportation Improvements*	\$3,887,575
SJRRC	Large	East Channel Streetscape and Connectivity Project	\$3,500,000
Stockton	Medium	Eight Street-Houston Avenue-Manthey Road-Carolyn Weston	\$4,876,348
Stockton	Large	Main and Market Complete Streets	\$8,226,000
Stockton	Medium	Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Gap Closure	\$4,008,886
Stockton	Medium	Active Alpine Avenue for All	\$5,962,000
Stockton	Large	Alpine Pershing Mendocino Bicycle Pedestrian Connectivity*	\$7,403,000
Stockton	Medium	Downtown Stockton Weber Avenue Bike and Ped Connectivity*	\$9,427,000
Tracy	Medium	East Schulte Safety and Multimodal Community Corridor	\$4,684,210
TOTAL	----	----	\$76,171,793

Note: *Projects highlighted blue were successful in securing funds via the Statewide Cycle 6 ATP Call for Projects.

Statewide Cycle 6 ATP Awards

The state received 434 applications totaling \$4.3 billion for the statewide program and awarded 67 projects worth \$1.149 billion. Of these 67 projects, three were selected from the San Joaquin County region and were awarded a total of **\$20,717,575**. This is the most successful the region has been in recent ATP cycles. One project from San Joaquin County and two from the City of Stockton make up the winners. These projects are highlighted in blue in Table 2. Since these projects received their full funding request from the statewide program, they were removed from the regional process following the announcement from the CTC in late October 2022. This is the practice performed statewide because of the concurrent call for projects for the state and regional ATP cycles.

Multidisciplinary Evaluation Committee Review and Initial Recommendations

SJCOG staff recruited volunteers to participate in a scoring evaluation committee for the ATP Cycle 6 call-for-projects. The seven-member scoring evaluation committee was comprised of a representative from San Joaquin County, City of Lodi, City of Tracy, City of Stockton, two members from the Citizen's Advisory Committee, and one member of SJCOG staff. The seven-member committee was given the following tasks:

- Review applications for completeness and confirm project eligibility.
- Evaluate each application using the SJCOG and CTC adopted guidelines.
- Convene to develop a programming recommendation.

The members of the evaluation committee used the guidelines and rubrics approved by the SJCOG Board to carefully review and score each project. SJCOG staff collected the scores from each member of the committee, removed the highest and lowest score from each project, and aggregated the remaining totals. The average scores were then brought to the scoring evaluation committee for final review and discussion. During this discussion, the representative from San Joaquin County objected to the SJRRC East Channel Street project being awarded funds on the grounds that this project did not submit an application to the Statewide Call for Projects. However, it was noted that neither the Statewide nor the SJCOG Regional ATP guidelines require submission to the State to be eligible for Regional consideration. At the conclusion of the evaluation committee discussion, the committee recommended that the top performing projects be programmed for funding (as far as the \$13.711 million would allow). The projects and project totals recommended by the Evaluation Committee are in **Table 3**.

Table 3: Total project Scores and Projects Recommended for Programming via Cycle 6 Regional ATP

Agency	Project Type	Project Name	Funds Requested	Recommended Programming	Average Score
SJRRC	Large	East Channel Street Streetscape and Connectivity Project	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000	178.40
SJ County	Plan	Countywide Sidewalks Connectivity Plan	\$452,800	\$452,800	147.00
Stockton	Large	Main and Market Complete Streets	\$8,226,000	\$8,226,000	146.30
Tracy	Medium	East Schulte Safety and Multimodal Community Corridor*	\$4,684,210	\$1,532,200	132.10
SJ County	Small	Boggs Tract Community Improvements	\$3,193,516		126.00
Lathrop	Medium	Lathrop Sidewalk Gap Closure Project	\$5,784,000		125.20
Stockton	Medium	Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Gap	\$4,008,886		123.55
SJ County	Medium	Burkett Garden Acres Sidewalk Improvements	\$2,935,458		122.80
Stockton	Medium	Active Alpine Avenue For All	\$5,962,000		121.00
Stockton	Medium	8th Street/Houston Ave-Manthey Road-Carolyn Weston	\$4,876,348		114.40
Manteca	Medium	City Sidewalk Gap Closure	\$8,906,000		110.40
Manteca	Small	Safe Route To School - Pedestrian Safety Improvements	\$2,925,000		70.40
TOTAL	----	----	\$55,454,218	\$13,711,000	----

*Note: *The City of Tracy initially requested \$4.6 million, but also provided a scaled-down version of the project, in case only a reduced amount of funds were available. Because of limited funds, and because the East Schulte Safety and Multimodal Community Corridor project was next in scoring, the project will receive approximately \$1.5 million for its scaled-down project alternative.*

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 1 directs \$100 million annually from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account to the ATP. When combined with other state and federal funds, approximately \$650 million has been made available in ATP Cycle 6. The program splits the funding into the statewide, rural, and regional components. SJCOG originally received \$5.227 million for Cycle 6 ATP regional component. However, in July 2022, the CTC informed SJCOG of \$1.05 billion in ATP augmentation funds being made available, with SJCOG set to receive an additional \$8 million for Cycle 6. As a result, SJCOG was allocated a total of \$13,711,000 and extended the deadline for applications to September 30, 2022. This funding will be available in Fiscal Years 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26, and 2026/27.

The guidelines for the San Joaquin regional component of the Cycle 6 Active Transportation Program were approved by the SJCOG Board on June 23, 2022. Jurisdictions in San Joaquin County can apply for both the statewide application and the regional application. Unlike ATP Cycle 5, the total programmable funds for the San Joaquin regional component are made up of only state ATP funds. In 2021, different fund sources including Measure K and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) supplemented the total to increase the capacity of the program.

MPO or Regional Component

During ATP Cycle 4 in 2019, all applications considered by an MPO for its competitive program-specific call-for-projects were submitted through the statewide competitive program using an electronic application. This was to reduce the administrative burden for Caltrans and the CTC by avoiding applications in different formats that were never submitted to the state but were submitted to the MPOs.

CTC reversed its decision and allowed MPOs to have a separate call-for-projects. A MPO may elect to have a supplemental application that applicants must submit to be considered for their MPO competitive program-specific call-for-projects. A MPO may also, with CTC approval, use a different project selection criteria or weighting, minimum project size, match requirement, and/or definition of disadvantaged communities for its competitive selection process. In ATP Cycle 5, SJCOG adopted its own call-for-projects with a supplemental application that addressed multiple funding sources. A similar application was used for the Cycle 6 regional call-for-projects.

Near-Term ATP Considerations – Takeaways from this funding cycle

As part of each ATP cycle, SJCOG staff identifies lessons learned and takes feedback from partners to help improve future cycles. As part of its review, the scoring evaluation committee has provided some initial feedback, which should be considered for future policy development by the SJCOG Board in the next funding cycle of ATP. SJCOG staff also sought feedback from its technical committees. Specifically, SJCOG posed the following questions to inform future cycles:

- Should the SJCOG Board update Regional ATP guidelines to require applicants to submit for the Statewide ATP call for projects in order to be eligible for the Regional ATP call for projects?
- If ATP augmentation funding is made available, or if a programmed project is unable to proceed with ATP funds, should the SJCOG Board use the unfunded projects from the Regional ATP Cycle 6 as a “contingency list” to make use of these funds?

COMMITTEE ACTION:

As of the mailout of this agenda, the following committees had met, and their actions are described below:

Technical Advisory Committee

The Technical Advisory Committee approved the staff recommendation, with “no” votes from San Joaquin County and Manteca staff. San Joaquin County staff stated that the SJRRC should not be considered for regional funding since it did not apply for state funding. City of Manteca staff did not provide a reason for their no vote during the meeting.

Management and Finance Committee

The Management and Finance Committee approved the staff recommendation unanimously. They recommended the policy development process start immediately and not wait for the next funding

cycle to tackle the key takeaways. They also recommended the following areas be examined closely:

- Scoring criteria so that smaller and medium projects can be competitive; need to examine strategies for more equitable distribution of ATP funds across the varying community sizes in San Joaquin.
- Explore possibility of making more funds available to the ATP cycle (in addition to the state ATP funds) because the number of ATP project applications far exceed the amount of available funding.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee approved the staff recommendation unanimously. They recommended the policy development process start immediately and not wait for the next funding cycle to tackle the key takeaways. They also recommended that should additional funding be made available via another ATP augmentation, the region should make use of unfunded list of projects in Cycle 6 as a contingency list to make use of these funds – starting by completing the funding package for the City of Tracy’s East Schulte Safety and Multimodal Community Corridor project.

Prepared by Joel Campos, Associate Regional Planner & Jay Halva, Assistant Programming Analyst



RESOLUTION SAN JOAQUIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

R-23-101

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2023 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP) CYCLE 6 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) is a Regional Transportation Planning Agency and a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), pursuant to State and Federal designation; and

WHEREAS, the Active Transportation Program (ATP) is a four-year program covering fiscal years 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26, and 2026/27; and

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2022, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted the Amended 2023 ATP Fund Estimate; and

WHEREAS, the Amended 2023 ATP Fund Estimate identifies \$13,711,000 available in ATP funds for the San Joaquin Region; and

WHEREAS, a minimum of twenty five percent of the ATP funds distributed to the San Joaquin Region must benefit a disadvantaged community; and

WHEREAS, SJCOG has convened a multi-disciplinary scoring committee that developed the ATP programming recommendations in accordance with the CTC's adopted 2023 ATP Cycle 6 Guidelines; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2023 ATP Cycle 6 funding recommendation for fiscal years 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26, and 2026/27 is hereby adopted as follows:

1. San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission: East Channel Street Streetscape and Connectivity Project - \$3,500,000
2. San Joaquin County: Countywide Sidewalks Connectivity Plan - \$452,000
3. City of Stockton: Main and Market Complete Streets - \$8,226,000
4. City of Tracy: East Schulte Safety and Multimodal Community Corridor - \$1,532,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2023 ATP Cycle 6 contingency project list funding recommendation for fiscal years 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26, and 2026/27 is hereby adopted as follows:

1. City of Tracy: East Schulte Safety and Multimodal Community Corridor – \$3,152,210
2. San Joaquin County: Boggs Tract Community Improvements - \$3,193,516

3. City of Lathrop: Lathrop Sidewalk Gap Closure Project - \$5,784,000
4. City of Stockton: Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Gap - \$4,008,886
5. San Joaquin County: Burkett Garden Acres Sidewalk Improvements - \$2,935,458
6. City of Stockton: Active Alpine Avenue for All - \$5,962,000
7. City of Stockton: 8th Street/Houston Ave/Manthey Road/Carolyn Weston - \$4,876,348
8. City of Manteca: City Sidewalk Gap Closure - \$8,906,000
9. City of Manteca: Safe Route to School - Pedestrian Safety Improvements - \$2,925,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director is authorized to make administrative changes, as needed, to ensure that the projects are implemented in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 23rd day of February 2023, by the following votes of the San Joaquin Council of Governments, to wit;

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ROBERT RICKMAN
Chair