

TEHAMA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Board Chambers
Tehama County Board of Supervisors Chambers
727 Oak Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080
<https://tehamacounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

AGENDA FOR MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026

Chairman: Jim Bacquet Vice-Chairman: Patrick Hurton
Commissioners: Rob Burroughs, Matt Hansen, Tom Walker, Dave Demo

Tom Provine, Interim Executive Director
Jessica Riske-Gomez, Deputy Director

This meeting conforms to the Brown Act Open Meeting Requirements, in that actions and deliberations of the TCTC created to conduct the people's business are taken openly; and that the people remain fully informed about the conduct of its business. Any written materials related to an open session item on this agenda that are submitted to the Deputy County Clerk less than 72 hours prior to this meeting, and that are not exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act, will promptly be made available for public inspection at Tehama County Transportation Commission, 1509 Schwab St., Red Bluff, CA 96080.

Standing Items

1. **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Introductions**
2. **Public Comment**

This time is set aside for citizens to address this Board on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of this Board provided the matter is not on the agenda or pending before this Board. The Chair reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes. Disclosure of the speaker's identity is purely voluntary during the public comment period.

3. **Announcement of Agenda Corrections**

4. Announcements

a. In accordance with AB23, it is hereby announced, the Transportation Commissioners and Transit Directors in attendance at today's meeting shall receive a stipend of \$100, per the adopted Bylaws.

b. The next scheduled Tehama County Transportation Commission and Tehama County Transit Agency Board regular meetings are scheduled for April 27, 2026 at 8:30 AM and 8:45 AM respectively.

Regular Items

5. **Monthly Staff Report - Deputy Director Riske Gomez** [26-0415](#)

6. **Approval of Minutes - Associate Transportation Planner Houghtby** [26-0403](#)

Attachments: [2-23-26 TCTC Minutes](#)

7. **Approval of Claims - Accountant Jensen** [26-0341](#)

Attachments: [TCTC Feb Claims](#)

8. **Transfer of Funds - Local Transportation Funds - Accountant Jensen** [26-0401](#)

Attachments: [A-117-Budget-Appropriation-Transfer-Request-Increase LTF to TCTC and TRAX 03.23.26](#)

9. **SB 125 Program Amendment - Deputy Director Riske-Gomez** [26-0402](#)

Attachments: [SB125 Fund Amendement Request - TRAX](#)
[TCTC Resolution 02-2026](#)
[TRAX Programing Request](#)
[Current Cost Sheets](#)

10. **Items for Future Agenda**

11. **Closing Comments**

12. **Adjourn**

The County of Tehama does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its buildings, facilities, programs, services, or activities. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) may be forwarded to the County's ADA Coordinator: Tom Provine, County of Tehama, 727 Oak St., Red Bluff, CA 96080, Phone: (530) 527-4655. Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and/or services or other accommodations for effective communication in the County's programs and services are invited to make their needs and preferences known to the affected department or the ADA Coordinator. For aids or services needed for effective communication during Tehama County Transportation Commission meetings, please contact the ADA Coordinator prior to the day of the meeting. This notice is available in accessible alternate formats from the affected department or the ADA Coordinator.



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 26-0415

Agenda Date: 3/23/2026

Agenda #: 5.

Monthly Staff Report - Deputy Director Riske Gomez

Requested Action(s)

Monthly update on active projects and topics within Tehama County. This item is informational only, no Commission action is required.

Financial Impact:

None.

Background Information:

TCTC staff provides monthly updates to keep the Commission informed about ongoing projects, funding activities, and coordination with local, state, and federal partners. This report summarizes recent work, key developments, and any items that may require follow-up or direction.



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 26-0403

Agenda Date: 3/23/2026

Agenda #: 6.

Approval of Minutes - Associate Transportation Planner Houghtby

Requested Action(s)

Waive the reading and approve the minutes from the February 23, 2026 Tehama County Transportation Commission regular meeting.

Financial Impact:

None.

Background Information:

See attached minutes.

Tehama County

*Tehama County Board of Supervisors Chambers
727 Oak Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080
<https://tehamacounty.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 23, 2026

8:30 AM

Board Chambers

Transportation Commission

Chairman: Jim Bacquet Vice-Chairman: Patrick Hurton
Commissioners: Rob Burroughs, Matt Hansen, Tom Walker, Dave Demo

Tom Provine, Interim Executive Director
Jessica Riske-Gomez, Deputy Director

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Standing Items

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Introductions

The meeting of the Tehama County Transportation Commission was called to order at 8:30 AM.

Present: Chairperson Jim Bacquet, Commissioner Matt Hansen, Vice Chair Patrick Hurton, Commissioner Dave Demo, Commissioner Rob Burroughs, and Commissioner Tom Walker

2. Public Comment

Scott Miller, Director of Red Bluff Public Works reported their grant writer had submitted for the BUILD grant.

3. Announcement of Agenda Corrections

There were no agenda corrections.

4. Announcements

The announcements were read by Chairman Bacquet.

Regular Items

5. Monthly Staff Report - Deputy Director Riske Gomez

Monthly staff report provided by Deputy Director Jessica Riske-Gomez.

6. Approval of Minutes - Associate Transportation Planner Houghtby

Waive the reading and approve the minutes from the January 26, 2026 Tehama County Transportation Commission regular meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs, to APPROVE this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Chairperson Bacquet, Commissioner Hansen, Vice Chair Hurton, Commissioner Demo, Commissioner Burroughs, and Commissioner Walker

7. Approval of Claims - Accountant Jensen

Approve Tehama County Transportation Commission claims for January 2026, in the amount of \$27,742.34.

A motion was made by Commissioner Demo, seconded by Vice Chair Hurton, to APPROVE this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

RESULT: APPROVE
MOVER: Dave Demo
SECONDER: Patrick Hurton
AYES: Chairperson Bacquet, Commissioner Hansen, Vice Chair Hurton, Commissioner Demo, Commissioner Burroughs, and Commissioner Walker

8. Unmet Needs Processes and Recommendation - Deputy Director Riske-Gomez

An informational presentation was provided by Deputy Director Jessica Riske-Gomez. The unmet needs submitted by the public were reviewed with the Commission.

Commissioner Walker asked to have desire to split routes 1 and 2 explained. Sharron Young General Manager of TRAX replied that currently for routes 1 and 2 the buses arrive at each stop once an hour. By splitting the routes, we could potentially have a bus arrive at each stop once every 30 minutes.

Commissioner Hansen stated that it appears that this process always comes up with unmet needs that are contingent on funding. Deputy Director Riske-Gomez replied that this is expected and is typically addressed with the matrix that allows us to assess each request to determine if they are reasonable to meet.

Commissioner Demo asked if there would be any reason to consider reducing the bus sizes if the buses are at capacity? Staff responded that the reduction of vehicle size is something that could be investigated.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hansen, seconded by Commissioner Walker, to ADOPT this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

- RESULT:** ADOPT
- MOVER:** Matt Hansen
- SECONDER:** Tom Walker
- AYES:** Chairperson Bacquet, Commissioner Hansen, Vice Chair Hurton, Commissioner Demo, Commissioner Burroughs, and Commissioner Walker

9. Local Transportation Fund Distribution - Accountant Jensen

An informational presentation was provided by Accountant Jensen.

A motion was made by Commissioner Burroughs, seconded by Commissioner Demo, to APPROVE this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

- RESULT:** APPROVE
- MOVER:** Rob Burroughs
- SECONDER:** Dave Demo
- AYES:** Chairperson Bacquet, Commissioner Hansen, Vice Chair Hurton, Commissioner Demo, Commissioner Burroughs, and Commissioner Walker

10. Transfer of Funds - Local Transportation Funds - Accountant Jensen

Authorize Chairman to sign the Increase of Funds Request of \$91,552.87 from Local Transportation Fund (LTF) 50710-50710-410081 (LTF ¼ Sales Tax) Transfer to Admin 527-3033-4712201 (LTF Contribution); This is the annual LTF disbursement.

An informational presentation was provided by Accountant Jensen.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hansen, seconded by Commissioner Walker, to APPROVE this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

- RESULT:** APPROVE
- MOVER:** Matt Hansen
- SECONDER:** Tom Walker
- AYES:** Chairperson Bacquet, Commissioner Hansen, Vice Chair Hurton, Commissioner Demo, Commissioner Burroughs, and Commissioner Walker

11. Funding Authorization Letter - Deputy Director Riske-Gomez

- a) Authorize the Interim Executive Director to sign the Funding Commitment Letter and required federal match certifications associated with the Lake California Drive Reconstruction Project BUILD Grant application.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hansen, seconded by Vice Chair Hurton, to APPROVE this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

RESULT: APPROVE
MOVER: Matt Hansen
SECONDER: Patrick Hurton
AYES: Chairperson Bacquet, Commissioner Hansen, Vice Chair Hurton, Commissioner Demo, Commissioner Burroughs, and Commissioner Walker

- b) Authorize the Deputy Director to submit the Funding Commitment Letter required for the U.S. Department of Transportation BUILD Grant application; and

A motion was made by Commissioner Hansen, seconded by Commissioner Demo, to APPROVE this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

RESULT: APPROVE
MOVER: Matt Hansen
SECONDER: Dave Demo
AYES: Chairperson Bacquet, Commissioner Hansen, Vice Chair Hurton, Commissioner Demo, Commissioner Burroughs, and Commissioner Walker

- c) All required federal match certifications, assurances, and related application documents necessary to submit the Lake California Drive Reconstruction Project for BUILD funding consideration.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hansen, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs, to APPROVE this item. The motion carried by the following vote:

RESULT: APPROVE
MOVER: Matt Hansen
SECONDER: Rob Burroughs
AYES: Chairperson Bacquet, Commissioner Hansen, Vice Chair Hurton, Commissioner Demo, Commissioner Burroughs, and Commissioner Walker

An informational presentation was provided by Deputy Director Jessica Riske-Gomez.

Commissioner Demo asked how much of the total \$40 million is construction costs. Deputy Director Riske-Gomez replied approximately 30-35 million, and that she could return next meeting with a more accurate estimate.

Chairman Bacquet asked have planning staff been interacting with the members of the public that will be affected by this project? Deputy Director Riske-Gomez responded that staff have been engaging with the community extensively.

12. Items for Future Agenda

Deputy Director Riske-Gomez advised next meeting staff would seek to have Public Works staff present on the Lake California project.

13. Closing Comments

There were no closing comments.

14. Adjourn

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 AM.

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Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 26-0341

Agenda Date: 3/23/2026

Agenda #: 7.

Approval of Claims - Accountant Jensen

Requested Action(s)

Approve Tehama County Transportation Commission claims for February 2026, in the amount of \$1,114,048.44.

Financial Impact:

Click here to enter Financial Impact.

Background Information:

See attached claims summary for February 2026.

Tehama County Transportation Commission Claims

Meeting Date: 3/23/26

Claimant	Invoice Description	Amount
CLAIMS PAID IN FEBRUARY 2026		
Cal-Card	University of the Pacific - Training	1,500.00
City of Corning	25/26 LTF Disbursement	118,822.13
City of Red Bluff	25/26 LTF Disbursement	215,166.99
City of Tehama	25/26 LTF Disbursement	25,000.00
Copy Center	Maps	160.00
ESRI	GIS Software/Maintenance	45,000.00
Green DOT	Professional Services 9/1-30/25	33,066.90
Green DOT	Professional Services 11/01-12/31/25	37,348.01
Obsidian IT	IT Support Services February '26	1,842.37
Obsidian IT	SanDisk Extreme Portable 1TB	201.76
O'Connor & Company	TCTC Auditing Services	2,231.25
O'Connor & Company	TRAX Auditing Services	1,026.25
Stipends: Walker, Hansen, Burroughs, Hurton, Demo	Meeting Stipends 01/26/26	500.00
Stipends: Walker, Hansen, Burroughs, Hurton, Demo, Bacquet	Meeting Stipends 02/23/26	600.00
Tehama County Counsel	2nd Qtr. Billing	452.63
Tehama County Public Works	2nd Qtr. Billing	40.00
Tehama County Public Works	25/26 LTF Disbursement	629,459.56
Time Warner Cable	Fiber Internet February '26	719.00
UBEO	TCTC Lease Agreement 02/01-28/26	269.91
Verizon Wireless	12 iPad Pro 11 inch - Park Fire	456.12
Verizon Wireless	Communications 12/24-01/23/26	185.56
GRAND TOTAL:		\$ 1,114,048.44



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 26-0401

Agenda Date: 3/23/2026

Agenda #: 8.

Transfer of Funds - Local Transportation Funds - Accountant Jensen

Requested Action(s)

Authorize Chairman to sign the Increase of Funds Request of \$260,000 from Local Transportation Fund (LTF) 50710-55628 (Cont. to TRAX) to Admin 527-3033-53230 (Prof. Special Services) \$200,000, to Admin 527-3033-53290 (Employee Travel/Training) \$20,000, and to TRAX 117-3037-53170 (Maintenance of Equipment) \$40,000; to cover current and future expenses.

Financial Impact:

This transfer will be funded by LTF Reserves and will not result in a net increase to the overall budget.

Background Information:

The requested increase in funds is necessary to ensure adequate budget capacity to cover current and anticipated expenses within TCTC administrative functions and TRAX operations as the agency approaches the end of the fiscal year.

TRAX - Maintenance of Equipment (117-3037-53170) - \$40,000

TRAX fleet vehicles are in the process of phased replacement; however, several aging buses remain in service pending delivery of replacement units. In the interim, the agency has experienced elevated maintenance needs, including several major overhauls during the current fiscal year. These expenditures are necessary to maintain safe and reliable operations and to extend the service life of existing vehicles until replacements are deployed.

Employee Travel/Training (527-3033-53290) - \$20,000

This fiscal year includes an increase in training and professional development activities to support staff capacity, regulatory compliance, and program delivery. Anticipated travel and training includes participation in:

- California Association for Coordinated Transportation (CalACT) trainings and conferences
- California Special Districts Association Annual Conference
- Caltrans Transportation Planning Academy
- Federal procurement and grant compliance training

These activities are essential to maintaining compliance with state and federal requirements and ensuring continued effectiveness in program implementation.

Professional Special Services (527-3033-53230) - \$200,000

Funding in this category supports project-related expenses, consultant services, and end-of-year financial reconciliation activities. As projects advance toward completion, there is an increase in expenditures associated with project closeout, invoicing, compliance documentation, and financial reconciliation. This allocation ensures sufficient capacity to complete these activities in a timely and compliant manner.



Tehama County

Agenda Request Form

File #: 26-0402

Agenda Date: 3/23/2026

Agenda #: 9.

SB 125 Program Amendment - Deputy Director Riske-Gomez

Requested Action(s)

- a.) Adopt Resolution No. 02-2026 approving an amendment to the previously adopted SB 125 transit program funding allocation to support TRAX transit operations stabilization; and
- b.) Authorize the Deputy Director to process and submit all required documentation to the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) and any other relevant agencies necessary to implement the approved SB 125 program amendment.

Financial Impact:

The proposed amendment does not change the overall SB 125 funding allocation to the region. The action only updates the distribution of funds among program categories and fiscal years within the existing allocation framework.

Background Information:

Senate Bill 125 (2023) established a formula-based transit funding program to support transit agencies through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) and the Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP). As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for Tehama County, the Tehama County Transportation Commission (TCTC) is responsible for developing and submitting the regional allocation package for these funds to the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA).

In December 2023, the Commission approved the original SB 125 allocation package supporting the TRAX Transit Facility and Fleet Conversion Plan and the TRAX Transit Facility Zero Emission Conversion Project. These projects were intended to support the County’s long-term transition to a zero-emission transit fleet and associated facility improvements.

Since that time, staff have continued to review the financial programming associated with the SB 125 allocation package and the funding request worksheets required for submission to CalSTA. During this review, staff identified the need to amend the previously adopted allocation in order to adjust the distribution of funding between program categories and fiscal years to ensure consistency with the updated request documentation.

The proposed amendment does not change the overall SB 125 allocation available to the region. Instead, the amendment updates the programming structure to reflect current transit operating conditions and to allow a portion of the SB 125 funds to support TRAX transit operations stabilization while maintaining the County’s long-term goal of transitioning the fleet to zero-emission vehicles.

TRAX provides essential public transportation services throughout Tehama County, including transportation for seniors, persons with disabilities, and residents of rural and disadvantaged communities. During the COVID-19 pandemic, transit operations were sustained through temporary federal relief funding provided through the CARES Act, CRRSAA, and ARPA programs administered by the Federal Transit Administration. These funds allowed the County to maintain transit service levels during the pandemic recovery period but were temporary in nature and have now largely been expended.

At the same time, the cost of operating the TRAX system has increased due to rising labor costs, insurance premiums, maintenance expenses, and administrative support requirements. As a result, a structural funding gap has emerged between available operating revenues and the cost required to maintain existing transit service levels.

The proposed amendment to the SB 125 allocation will allow a portion of available funds to be programmed toward TRAX transit operations stabilization in order to maintain existing service levels while the County continues to pursue long-term funding solutions and future zero-emission transit investments.

Upon Commission approval of the amendment and adoption of the accompanying resolution, staff will finalize the revised SB 125 allocation package and submit the updated documentation to the California State Transportation Agency for consideration.

**Tehama County Transportation Commission
Resolution No. 02-2026:**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT
TO THE SB125 TRANSIT PROGRAM FUNDING ALLOCATION
TO SUPPORT TRAX OPERATIONS**

WHEREAS the Tehama County Transportation Commission serves as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Tehama County and is responsible for programming SB125 transit funds for the region; **and**

WHEREAS the Tehama County Transit Agency Board operates the TRAX transit system and is requesting that the Tehama County Transportation Commission amend the previously adopted SB125 funding allocation to allow a portion of the funds to be used for transit operations stabilization; **and**

WHEREAS TRAX provides essential public transportation services throughout Tehama County, including service for seniors, persons with disabilities, and residents of rural and disadvantaged communities; **and**

WHEREAS during the COVID-19 pandemic, TRAX transit operations were sustained through temporary federal relief funding provided through the CARES Act, CRRSAA, and ARPA programs administered by the Federal Transit Administration; **and**

WHEREAS these federal relief funds allowed the County to maintain transit service levels during the pandemic recovery period but were temporary in nature and have now been substantially expended; **and**

WHEREAS since the first full year of the current transit operations contract in FY 2020-21, the cost of operating the TRAX system has steadily increased due to rising labor costs, insurance premiums, maintenance expenses, and administrative support requirements; **and**

WHEREAS the expiration of federal pandemic relief funding combined with rising operating costs has created a structural funding gap between available operating revenues and the cost required to maintain existing transit service levels; **and**

WHEREAS without supplemental funding, the County would be forced to consider reductions in service hours, service coverage, or other operational adjustments in order to maintain a balanced transit operating budget; **and**

WHEREAS the State of California established Senate Bill 125 (SB125) to provide funding to regional transportation planning agencies and transit providers to support transit operations, capital improvements, and implementation of zero-emission transit initiatives; **and**

WHEREAS the Tehama County Transportation Commission and the Tehama County Transit Agency Board have previously adopted an SB125 funding allocation strategy focused on long-term fleet transition and transit facility improvements; **and**

WHEREAS the Board now desires to request that the previously adopted SB125 allocation be amended to allow a portion of the funds to be used for transit operations stabilization in order to maintain existing service levels during the transition away from federal pandemic relief funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

The Tehama County Transit Agency Board hereby requests that the Tehama County Transportation Commission amend the previously adopted SB125 program funding allocation to allow a portion of available SB125 funds to be programmed toward TRAX transit operations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That the purpose of this request is to stabilize transit operations and maintain existing service levels for Tehama County residents while the County continues pursuing long-term funding solutions and implementation of future zero-emission transit initiatives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That staff is authorized and directed to transmit this request to the Tehama County Transportation Commission and prepare any necessary documentation required by the California State Transportation Agency and other relevant agencies to support consideration of the SB125 program amendment.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Commissioner _____ and seconded by Commissioner _____ on April 23, 2026 and adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

)ss

COUNTY OF TEHAMA)

I, SEAN HOUGHTBY, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Tehama, State of California, hereby certify the above and foregoing to be full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by said Tehama County Transit Agency Board on this 23rd day of April 2026.

SEAN HOUGHTBY, County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Tehama, State of California

BY: _____
Deputy

JIM BACQUET, - City of Tehama
PATRICK HURTON- City of Red Bluff,
TOM WALKER - Tehama County
MATT HANSEN - Tehama County
DAVE DEMO – City of Corning
ROB BURROUGHS - Tehama County



VACANT, Executive Director
JESSICA RISKE-GOMEZ, Deputy Director - Transportation

Red Bluff • Corning • Tehama • Tehama County
1509 Schwab Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080 • (530) 602-8282

Tehama County Transportation Commission SB 125 Allocation Amendment – TRAX Operations Support

Summary of Changes

The Tehama County Transportation Commission is requesting approval of an amendment to its previously submitted SB125 Transit Program Allocation.

Under the original SB125 allocation plan, funds were programmed primarily to support transit facility planning and future zero-emission vehicle transition activities.

Due to the expiration of federal COVID-19 transit relief funding and significant increases in transit operating costs, the Commission is requesting approval to reprioritize a portion of the County's SB125 allocation to support ongoing operations of the Tehama Rural Area eXpress (TRAX) transit system.

The proposed amendment would program approximately \$600,000 annually in SB125 funds toward transit operations for four fiscal years (FY 2025-26 through FY 2028-29), totaling \$2,400,000.

This amendment does not increase the County's total SB125 allocation but instead reallocates previously programmed funds in order to stabilize transit operations while the County continues planning for long-term transit system improvements, including zero-emission fleet transition and facility development.

Introduction

The Tehama County Transportation Commission respectfully requests approval of an amendment to the County's SB125 transit funding allocation to support continued operations of the Tehama Rural Area eXpress (TRAX) transit system. TRAX provides essential public transportation services throughout Tehama County, connecting rural communities to employment centers, healthcare services, education, and other critical destinations.

With federal pandemic relief funding that previously supported transit operations now fully expended and operating costs continuing to increase, the Commission is proposing to utilize a portion of its SB125 allocation to stabilize transit operations during this transition period. This approach will allow the County to maintain existing service levels while continuing to advance long-term transit system improvements, including planning for the transition to zero-emission vehicles and identifying sustainable funding sources to support those investments.

Maintaining stable transit operations is critical to preserving mobility for transit-dependent populations and ensuring the long-term viability of the County’s public transportation network.

Background

Federal COVID-19 Transit Relief Funding

Between 2020 and 2021, the Tehama Rural Area eXpress (TRAX) transit system received federal pandemic relief funding through several emergency programs administered by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), including the CARES Act, CRRSAA, and ARPA programs. These funds were intended to support transit agencies in maintaining operations and workforce stability during the COVID-19 emergency and subsequent recovery period.

The funding allowed the County to sustain transit services despite severe disruptions in ridership, economic uncertainty, and increasing operating costs. The funds were reimbursed over multiple fiscal years as operating expenses were incurred, allowing TRAX to maintain service levels and avoid significant service reductions during the pandemic.

All federal pandemic relief grants have now been fully drawn down through the Federal Transit Administration grant reimbursement system, with the final reimbursement occurring in July 2025.

Program	Grant ID	Total Award	First Drawdown	Final Drawdown	Status
CARES Act	CA-2020-054	\$669,719	Dec 8, 2020	Jan 12, 2023	Fully Expended
CARES Act	CA-2020-285	\$772,018	Jan 17, 2023	Jul 14, 2025	Fully Expended
CRRSAA	CA-2021-136	\$37,674	Jun 15, 2022	Jun 15, 2022	Fully Expended
CRRSAA	CA-2022-053	\$1,054,601	May 9, 2024	May 9, 2024	Fully Expended
ARPA	CA-2022-051	\$680,000	Oct 19, 2023	Jan 10, 2024	Fully Expended
Section 5310 Expansion	CA-2022-235	\$375,000	Oct 17, 2023	Oct 17, 2023	Fully Expended

**Total Federal Pandemic Relief Funding:
\$3,589,012**

With the expiration of these one-time federal funding sources, the County is now transitioning back to a traditional transit funding structure primarily supported by Transportation Development Act revenues and other state and local transportation funding programs.

Increasing Cost of Transit Operations

TRAX transit services are operated through a contract with Paratransit Services, which provides fixed-route and demand-response operations for the County.

Since the beginning of the current operations contract in FY 2020-21, the cost of operating the TRAX system has steadily increased due to rising labor costs, insurance premiums, vehicle maintenance expenses, and administrative support requirements.

Fiscal Year	Maximum Contract Cost	YoY Increase
2020-21	\$1.53M	—
2021-22	\$1.57M	+2.6%
2022-23	\$1.61M	+2.5%
2023-24	\$1.66M	+3.1%
2025-26	\$2.13M	+28.3%

The FY 2025-26 contract amendment increased the County’s maximum obligation for transit operations to \$2,125,758.83, representing a significant increase compared to prior contract years.

Contractor cost breakdowns indicate that the increases are primarily driven by:

- Increased workers’ compensation costs
- Higher vehicle maintenance and repair costs associated with an aging fleet
- Increased administrative, dispatch, and software costs required to operate the system
- Significant increases in liability and vehicle insurance premiums

These increases have occurred simultaneously with the expiration of federal COVID-19 stimulus funding that previously supported TRAX operations.

As a result, the County now faces a structural gap between available transit operating revenues and the cost required to maintain current service levels.

TRAX Service Description

The TRAX transit system provides both fixed-route and demand-response public transportation services throughout Tehama County.

Fixed-route service primarily operates along the State Route 99 corridor, connecting the communities of:

- Red Bluff
- Corning
- Los Molinos
- Tehama
- Shasta & Butte Counties

These routes also provide connections to regional destinations, including Orland and the Rolling Hills Casino employment center.

In addition to fixed-route service, TRAX operates ParaTRAX demand-response service, which provides door-to-door transportation for seniors and persons with disabilities who are unable to utilize fixed-route transit.

Together, these services form the backbone of public transportation in Tehama County and provide essential mobility for residents who may not otherwise have access to reliable transportation.

Ridership Trends and Recovery

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the TRAX transit system experienced steady demand across both fixed-route and demand-response services. During FY 2019-20, the ParaTRAX demand-response program provided 12,605 passenger trips, while the fixed-route network carried approximately 82,796 passenger boardings across routes serving communities throughout Tehama County.

Ridership declined during FY 2020-21 as travel patterns were affected by pandemic-related restrictions and economic disruption.

Year	Fixed Route	ParaTRAX	Total Riders
FY 2019-20 (Pre-COVID)	82,796	12,605	95,401
FY 2020-21 (COVID)	61,954	8,974	70,928
FY 2025-26 (Projected)	~124,700	~15,400	~140,100

Ridership has since steadily recovered as economic activity and community travel patterns have stabilized. Between July 2025 and January 2026, the ParaTRAX program provided 9,013 passenger trips, already exceeding the total number of trips provided during FY 2020-21 in only seven months. Based on current monthly trends, ParaTRAX ridership is projected to reach approximately 15,400 trips during FY 2025-26, representing a significant increase compared to both pandemic-era ridership and pre-pandemic levels.

Fixed-route ridership has also remained strong. Between July 2025 and January 2026, the TRAX fixed-route system recorded approximately 72,714 passenger boardings across all routes, including Route 1, Route 2, Routes 3A and 3B, Route 5, Glenn Connect, and the Red Bluff Transit Center circulator. Based on current monthly trends, fixed-route ridership is projected to reach approximately 124,700 passenger trips during FY 2025-26.

Combined ridership across both fixed-route and demand-response services is therefore projected to exceed 140,000 passenger trips during FY 2025-26, demonstrating continued demand for public transportation services throughout Tehama County.

The continued growth in ridership reflects the importance of the TRAX system in providing access to employment, healthcare, education, and other essential services throughout the County's rural communities.

Service to Transit-Dependent and Disadvantaged Communities

TRAX serves a wide range of transit-dependent populations, including:

- Seniors
- Veterans
- Students
- Residents without reliable access to private vehicles

Demand-response services are particularly important for seniors and persons with disabilities who rely on door-to-door transportation to access:

- Medical appointments
- Grocery stores
- Social services
- Community activities

TRAX routes also serve several communities identified as disadvantaged communities under California environmental justice screening tools, including:

- Red Bluff
- Corning
- Los Molinos
- Tehama
- Gerber
- Rancho Tehama Reserve

Maintaining reliable transit service for these communities is essential to supporting transportation equity and access to employment, healthcare, and education.

Commitment to Zero-Emission Transit Transition

The Tehama County Transportation Commission and the Tehama County Transit Agency Board remain committed to transitioning the TRAX transit system toward zero-emission vehicles and supporting infrastructure in accordance with California's Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) regulation.

As a rural transit provider, TRAX faces unique challenges in implementing this transition due to long travel distances, limited charging infrastructure, and the financial constraints associated with operating transit service in rural environments.

Despite these challenges, zero-emission fleet transition and supporting facility improvements remain long-term priorities identified in the County's transit planning documents, including the Short Range Transit Plan and Regional Transportation Plan.

Maintaining stable transit operations today is essential to preserving the service platform required to successfully implement future zero-emission transit investments.

Proposed SB125 Programming Amendment

The Tehama County Transportation Commission is considering an amendment to the County’s SB125 program funding request to address the operating funding shortfall facing the TRAX transit system.

This amendment would allow the County to program a portion of available SB125 funds toward transit operations during the transition period following the expiration of federal pandemic relief funding.

Programming SB125 funding toward operations would allow the County to:

- Maintain existing transit service levels for rural residents
- Stabilize transit operations during the transition away from federal relief funding
- Avoid immediate service reductions
- Continue progress toward long-term system improvements, including zero-emission transit fleet transition

This amendment is intended as a temporary stabilization measure while the County continues pursuing long-term funding solutions and implementing planned transit system modernization initiatives.

To support this transition, the Commission proposes programming approximately \$600,000 annually in SB125 funds toward TRAX transit operations for a period of up to four fiscal years. These funds will supplement existing Transportation Development Act revenues and other local funding sources in order to maintain current service levels during the transition away from federal pandemic relief funding.

Fiscal Year	SB125 Operations Support
FY 2025-26	\$600,000
FY 2026-27	\$600,000
FY 2027-28	\$600,000
FY 2028-29	\$600,000

Total Proposed SB125 Programming \$2,400,000

I. Proposal Form A

Proposal Form

A. Price Proposal	Year 1 (8mo) FY 19/20	Year 2 FY 20/21	Year 3 FY 21/22	Year 4 FY 22/23	Year 5 FY 23/24	Year 6 Jun-24	Year 6 7.1.24 - 6.30.25	Year 7 FY 25/26	Year 8 FY 26/27	Year 9 FY 27/28
Forecast	0.00%	0.00%	2.50%	3.00%	3.00%	3.25%	3.25%	3.50%	3.75%	4.00%
Service Level	15,637	23,456	23,456	23,456	23,456	1,955	21,501	23,456	23,456	23,456
Vehicle Revenue Service Hours	Hours ±20%	Hours ±20%	Hours ±20%	Hours ±20%	Hours ±20%	Hours ±20%	Hours ±20%	Hours ±20%	Hours ±20%	Hours ±20%
Price Formula										
Fixed Hourly Rate	\$ 32.63	\$ 32.63	\$ 33.45	\$ 34.46	\$ 35.49	\$ 36.64	\$ 36.64	\$ 37.92	\$ 36.33	\$ 37.78
Fixed Monthly Rate	\$ 63,679	\$ 63,679	\$ 65,271	\$ 67,219	\$ 69,236	\$ 71,486	\$ 99,538	\$ 103,022	\$ 106,885	\$ 111,160
Calculation of Maximum Annual Cost										
Fixed Hourly Rate X Vehicle Revenue Hours	\$ 510,219.67	\$ 765,369.28	\$ 784,626.66	\$ 808,176.48	\$ 832,359.62	\$ 71,631.20	\$ 787,796.64	\$ 889,498.43	\$ 852,133.02	\$ 886,214.59
Fixed Monthly Rate X 12 Months	\$ 509,429.36	\$ 764,144.04	\$ 783,247.92	\$ 806,631.48	\$ 830,830.20	\$ 71,485.98	\$ 1,094,916.78	\$ 1,236,260.40	\$ 1,282,620.00	\$ 1,333,925.16
TOTAL MAXIMUM ANNUAL COST	\$ 1,019,649.03	\$ 1,529,513.32	\$ 1,567,874.58	\$ 1,614,807.96	\$ 1,663,189.82	\$ 143,117.18	\$ 1,882,713.42	\$ 2,125,758.83	\$ 2,134,753.02	\$ 2,220,139.75
Cost per Revenue Service Hour	\$ 65.21	\$ 65.21	\$ 66.84	\$ 68.84	\$ 70.91	\$ 73.21	\$ 87.56	\$ 90.63	\$ 91.01	\$ 94.65
					Yr 6 Annualized	\$ 1,717,259.60	\$ 2,025,830.60	\$ 2,125,758.83	Yr 7 Total	
							\$ 308,571.00	\$ 99,928.23	Variance to Yr 6	

The below items are excluded from the above-mentioned annual not to exceed amount.

- Fuel costs will be reimbursed by COUNTY at CONTRACTOR's actual cost as set forth in the RFP section 3.16
- Engine, transmission, or differential replacement or major overhaul, as directed by COUNTY, will be reimbursed by COUNTY at CONTRACTOR's actual cost as set forth in the RFP section 3.10
- CONTRACTOR shall reimburse METS volunteers at the IRS mileage rate for all miles driven under the METS program. COUNTY will reimburse CONTRACTOR for the actual amount of all mileage reimbursements made to volunteers under this subsection.
- COUNTY will reimburse CONTRACTOR for the actual cost of any meals provided to METS volunteers at the quarterly METS safety meeting.
- COUNTY will reimburse CONTRACTOR for the actual cost of obtaining any additional liability or workers compensation insurance related to the METS program (beyond the insurance required under Section 6.19).
- For technical transit planning requested by COUNTY under Section 3.01, CONTRACTOR shall be compensated at the "Fixed Hourly Rate" set forth in Proposal Form "A,".
- For mobility training as set forth in the RFP, CONTRACTOR shall be compensated at the "Fixed Hourly Rate" set forth in Proposal Form "A,".
- Costs and/or charges for relocation to a future facility are not covered under this Agreement and will not be reimbursed or otherwise paid by the COUNTY unless this Agreement is amended to provide for such payment.
- If the COUNTY requires additional General Liability Insurance and/or Automobile Insurance liability insurance (beyond the insurance required under Section 6.19), COUNTY will reimburse CONTRACTOR for the incremental actual cost of obtaining such additional insurance.

Offeror: Paratransit Services

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Title: President/CEO

Phone: 360-377-7176

Fax: 360-620-0449

Date: 6/26/2025

E-mail: dwb@paratransit.net

Signature: 