



MENDOCINO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

367 North State Street~Ukiah~California~95482
www.mendocinocog.org

PHILLIP J. DOW, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Administration: Suite 206
(707) 463-1859
Transportation Planning: Suite 204
(707) 234-3434

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2015
End Date: March 25, 2015

To: Mendocino County News Media

Contact: Phil Dow, Executive Director, Mendocino Council of Governments, 463-1859

MCOG Announces Bicycle and Pedestrian Project Partnering Opportunity

The Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) will consider requests from schools, tribal governments, private non-profit agencies and others to partner on bicycle and pedestrian projects that may be funded through the State's Active Transportation Program. Partnership requests must be received by March 25, 2015 to be considered by MCOG. The MCOG Board will meet April 6, 2015 in the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors chambers in Ukiah at 1:30 p.m.

It is expected that the California Transportation Commission will approve guidelines and announce a call for projects for Cycle 2 of the Active Transportation Program (ATP) at their meeting in southern California on March 26, 2015. Projects that meet the goals to increase bicycle and pedestrian trips, increase safety, increase mobility opportunities, and enhance public health will be considered for funding. The State's anticipated deadline for ATP proposals is June 1, 2015.

A key requirement of the ATP is that applicants must be capable of entering into a "master agreement" with the State of California to administer state or federal funds. Counties and most cities have such agreements in effect, but schools, Tribal governments and private non-profit agencies generally do not.

MCOG has a master fund agreement in place and is capable of serving as a partner in ATP projects, as the implementing agency, when no other partner has been identified. Since MCOG's staffing capacity is limited, the Board will carefully consider any new ATP partnerships. A proposed

project must be derived from an inclusive community process that clearly documents public involvement, alternatives considered, and how the candidate project was identified as a priority. It must also demonstrate cost effectiveness and how the project would result in improved public health and safety.

The Active Transportation Program goals, draft application form, and Draft 2015 ATP Guidelines can be found on the California Transportation Commission's website at www.catc.ca.gov/programs/ATP.htm. For more information please contact Phil Dow or James Sookne at 463-1859.

MCOG formed as a joint powers agreement in 1972, as mandated by state law, to disburse state and federal funds for transportation, to provide regional planning, and to serve as a regional forum. MCOG is overseen by a board consisting of two county supervisors, a countywide public appointee, and one council member from each of the four incorporated cities. Contact the MCOG office at 463-1859 or visit the agency's web site at www.mendocinocog.org.

* * * * *