



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of January 21, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 4-J

PREPARED BY: Patricia Taylor, Executive Director

SUBJECT:

MCTC State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Comment Letter and Public Hearings

Enclosure: Yes

Action: Information and Discussion Only

SUMMARY:

MCTC provided a comment letter for the Draft 2026 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) that strongly emphasized the need to maintain funding this fiscal year and avoid further delays to the State Route 99 (SR 99) South Madera 6 Lane project. This segment of SR 99 remains a critical corridor for our region, and recent events have underscored the urgency of advancing this project. A recent tragic double fatality in this section of the freeway underscores the very real and immediate safety risks faced by the traveling public.

Current SHOPP funding in the amount of \$54.7 million, allocated in FY 25-26 for the SR 99 South Madera 6 Lane project, should remain in this fiscal year and not be delayed to FY 2026-27. Additionally, current and proposed Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) funds should be advanced to FY 25-26.

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) will conduct public hearings for the proposed adoption of the 2026 State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP). As part of CTC's review of the program, CTC will hold one hearing in Northern California and one hearing in Southern California to solicit stakeholder input regarding the proposed program (see attached). The South hearing will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2026, in San Diego and the North hearing will be held in Stockton on Thursday, February 12, 2026. Virtual attendance for the hearings will be provided via Zoom.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact on the approved 2025-26 Overall Work Program and Budget.