



STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting of February 18, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 4-C

PREPARED BY: Jeff Findley, Principal Regional Planner

SUBJECT:

California Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Principles

Enclosure: Yes

Action: Information and Discussion Only

SUMMARY:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) have developed California's Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Principles that represents a consensus framework developed by Caltrans and its partners to guide federal advocacy ahead of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) expiration in September 2026.

Key goals include prioritizing sustainable, multi-year funding to stabilize the Highway Trust Fund, aiming for zero traffic deaths by 2050 via the Safe Systems Approach, expanding freight infrastructure, utilizing new mobility technology, streamlining project delivery, ensuring equitable transportation access and funding for Tribal projects, and providing flexible, formula-based funding for state/local agencies.

The public comment period is open through February 27, 2026.

Comments or express interest in becoming a signatory, can be submitted by completing the public comment fields on the following website: <https://build.ca.gov/iija-reauthorization>

Caltrans and CalSTA will accept requests from organizations that would like to add their name/logo as signatories to this document until July 31, 2026.

FISCAL IMPACT:

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