



**STAFF REPORT**  
Board Meeting of July 19, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM:** 5-Q

**PREPARED BY:** Sandy Ebersole, Administrative Analyst

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**SUBJECT:**

Reconnecting Communities: Highways to Boulevards Grant Program Application Workshop

**Enclosure:** No

**Action:** Information and Discussion Only

**SUMMARY:**

In response to the adoption of Streets & Highways Code 104.3, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is launching the Reconnecting Communities: Highways to Boulevards (RC:H2B) Pilot Program. \$149 million was established in the FY 22/23 State Budget to plan for and fund the conversion of key underutilized highways in the State into multi-modal corridors to reconnect communities divided by transportation infrastructure. These legacy impacts will be addressed through community-based transportation planning, design, demolition, and/or reconstruction of city streets, parks, or other infrastructure.

Goals of the program include:

- Restore community connectivity through the removal, retrofit, mitigation, or replacement of eligible transportation infrastructure facilities that create barriers to mobility, access, or economic development.
- Provide matching funding for potential federal grant funds.
- Advance health and equity outcomes for underserved communities by removing health, safety, and access barriers associated with transportation infrastructure within communities.
- Improve access to opportunity by improving travel options and reducing combined household transportation and housing costs for underserved communities.
- Create opportunities for implementation of affordable housing and furthering the advancement of fair housing.
- Prevent or minimize direct and indirect displacement effects from project implementation.
- Advance community-based or community-driven transportation planning.

The first Application Workshop will be held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, from 2:30pm to 4:00pm, to go over various application materials and key points to assist in filling out and submitting an RC:H2B application.

In addition to holding the upcoming application workshop, Caltrans Office Hours are being scheduled with those that have already submitted interest. Caltrans will host another Office Hour Session in late August/early September 2023 for any other requests received. If interested, submit an interest request to CRCP email ([CRCP@dot.ca.gov](mailto:CRCP@dot.ca.gov)) by Friday August 4th. For more information [Visit the Caltrans RC:H2B Website](#)

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact to the approved 2023-24 Overall Work Program and Budget.