Measure T 2024
DRAFT Expenditure Plan

Madera County voters are being asked to renew Measure T as a 20-year, ½ cent sales tax to continue to maintain and improve local streets and roads and the overall transportation systems.

The 2024 Measure T Expenditure Plan ("Plan") was developed through a comprehensive public outreach program that asked residents to identify their priorities for future transportation programs and projects. The plan was developed by the Measure T Steering Committee which met between October 2023 and April of 2024. Four members from each supervisorial district were independently selected based on applications submitted.

Outreach included:

- Development of a Measure T website with all information relevant to past expenditures, plans, and impacts of Measure T on the County and the Cities of Chowchilla and Madera.
- Over 30 meetings with community organizations and leaders representing diverse viewpoints.
- A series of nine Town Hall Public Meetings.
- Online engagement, including the use of a participatory budgeting tool.
- Mailer to all County residents and businesses.
- Print ads in local newspapers promoting engagement opportunities.
- Social media ads and posts promoting engagement opportunities.

Additionally, two statistically valid telephone polls of all County residents were conducted. The Plan has been unanimously supported and approved by the Madera County Transportation Authority, the City of Chowchilla, the City of Madera, and the Madera County Board of Supervisors.

The renewal of Measure T will:

- Generate approximately $22 million per year based on ½ cent sales tax for an estimated total of $440 million throughout the measure's lifetime.
- Be used for LOCAL projects and LOCAL priorities, prohibiting Sacramento from taking possession of these funds.
- Allow local jurisdictions to continue to compete for State and Federal grants and leverage funds, thereby increasing revenues.
- Deliver an Expenditure Plan with an **increased** emphasis on local streets and roads maintenance; and
- Include a Citizens Oversight Committee (COC) to ensure projects and programs in the Plan are funded and/or completed.

DRAFT

The Expenditure Plan

Revenue Estimates and Distribution

Over the 20-year plan, it is estimated that $440 million will be generated for local transportation investments. The estimated $440 million was calculated based on a five-year average of sales tax revenues throughout the county, which was then reduced to reflect a conservative estimate.

The estimated revenue and allocation among categories are based on the 2024 value of money and are not binding or controlling. Transportation sales tax funds shall be allocated based on the percentage of revenue received.

This funding will serve as an investment that will leverage future local, State, and Federal grant opportunities. Funds will be used for all phases of project implementation, including planning, environmental, permits, design, right-of-way, and/or construction capital and operations projects. State and Federal fund sources that may also be used to implement transportation projects and programs in the next decade include the State Regional Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), Inter-Regional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP), Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, [BIL]), Federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality, Regional Surface Transportation Funds, and Local Funding (e.g., developer fees, general funds, and Transportation Development Act funds.

All revenue estimates and allocations in this Plan are for illustrative purposes. Actual net revenues may fall above or below the projections in the Expenditure Plan; therefore, actual revenue allocations to each category will be based on the percentages contained herein.

No revenue generated from this tax shall be used to replace fair share contribution from new development.

> Revenues provided from this measure shall not be used to replace private developer funding that has been or will be committed for any project to help alleviate the direct traffic impacts of any new or redeveloped residential, commercial, or industrial development in Madera County or its cities.

Maintaining Local Transportation Funding Efforts

> The local jurisdictions will certify in an annual verification submitted to Madera County Transportation Authority (MCTA) that these transportation funds will be used to augment and not supplant local resources spent. For purposes of this calculation an average of the prior three (3) years spent for local transportation purposes as defined in the Ordinance will be used.

DRAFT

Eligibility Verification

The cities and County will select transportation projects that meet the eligibility criteria identified in this Plan. The local jurisdictions will certify in the annual verification submitted to the MCTA that these transportation funds were used for eligible expenses.

Local Streets and Roads, 80% with 10% Set Aside for Disadvantaged Communities

$352 Million Total with $35.2 Million for Disadvantaged Communities

Recognizing that streets are the backbone of our transportation system, this Plan provides funds to local cities and Madera County, distributed primarily based on population adjusted annually based on Census Data from the State Department of Finance.

Each jurisdiction will annually identify specific streets and roads that will be prioritized for repair and/or refurbishment and hold annual public meetings to review the proposed plan prior to adoption by the local jurisdiction and the MCTA board.

Each jurisdiction shall have the flexibility to allocate funds based on the unique needs of its communities to address:

- *Local Street and Road Maintenance*
- *Evacuation Planning*
- *Safe Routes to School*
- *Bike and Pedestrian/Active Transportation*

Definition of Local Streets and Roads

Local Streets and Roads include roads that primarily serve local and regional traffic in the City and County areas, including Local neighborhood/residential streets, Major/Minor Collectors, Principal/Minor Arterials, and Local Expressways, as well as local alley ways.

These funds may be used for:

- Repair and maintenance of local roadways. These funds must be used to augment current transportation spending and cannot be used to replace a local jurisdiction's general fund expenditures.
- Upgrades to local intersections, road widening, signalization, bridge replacements and/or traffic calming methods.
- Projects that include local connectivity between communities, local schools, trails, and recreation facilities.
- Evacuation planning and preparedness.

DRAFT

- Maintaining, improving, or constructing streets, roads, bridges, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- Community enhancements, such as downtown streetscapes, transportation enhancements, wayfinding, and accessibility improvements, street lighting, street furniture, and trees.
- Safety improvements.
- Programs that reduce transportation demand.
- Storm damage repair to transportation facilities.
- Roadway facilities.
- Traffic signal coordination, intersection and channelization, and traffic management.
- Alleys, pathways, and other routes.
- Stormwater collection management to prevent roadway flooding, prioritizing locations of historic flooding and/or washouts.
- Funds may be used for regional or transit projects as defined in the plan at the discretion of the jurisdiction.

Definition of Disadvantaged Communities

For purposes of this measure, MCTA will use screening from the US Climate and Economic Justice Screening tool (CEJST). The tool uses datasets as indicators of burdens. The burdens are organized into categories. A community is highlighted as disadvantaged on the CEJST map if it is in a census tract that is (1) at or above the threshold for one or more environmental, climate, or other burdens, and (2) at or above the threshold for an associated socioeconomic burden.

In addition, a census tract that is completely surrounded by disadvantaged communities and is at or above the 50% percentile for low income is also considered disadvantaged. Jurisdictions may also use California Climate Investments Priority Populations 2023, Enviro-screen, or other recognized data collector.

Regional Projects, 14.5%

$63.8 Million

These funds will be used for planning, project development, right-of-way, and/or construction of major corridor capital projects. Proposed regional projects may be at different stages of implementation. All proposed projects will have been included in the most recently adopted MCTC Regional Transportation Plan. Local jurisdictions will submit projects for consideration and/or approval by the MCTA Board.

Transit, 4%

$17.6 Million

Funds will be used for public transit operations, maintenance, and infrastructure

improvements. They may also supplement local, state, and federal funds for cost of transit service. These funds will be allocated by population to public transit providers to support or enhance public transit service throughout the region. This may include increasing frequency of service, identifying new routes, and/or investing in ride sharing services. These funds may be used for specialized need-based door-through-door transportation and other services for all residents including students, seniors, veterans, and persons with disabilities.

1.5% Administrative Expense Cap

$6.6 Million

These funds may be used for the following tasks:

- Contracting with an independent financial auditor to review all annual Measure T revenues and expenses.
- Contracting with any additional auditor, consultant, etc. to perform additional reviews as needed.
- Maintenance of a Measure T specific website which will include information regarding the actions of the COC and updates as to how Measure T funds were used by local agencies.
- Staffing and support for the COC, including agendas, staff reports, minutes, and financial statements.
- General public outreach and support to provide transparency regarding Measure T expenditures and work performed by the jurisdictions.
- An annual bilingual report to include investments made by each jurisdiction using Measure T funds, including specific projects, tasks, or work performed:
    - Including project status (completions, milestones)
    - Specific references to actual investments made by jurisdiction, by project, and by location.
- Any other required or necessary administrative task.
- Reimbursement for travel to and from COC meetings at the current Federal rate for mileage and public transit.
- Relevant training for members.

Expenditures on staff salaries, wages, benefits, and overhead necessary to administer the program will be limited to no more than one percent (1%) of the annual gross revenues provided by the measure.

Safeguards Built Into The Plan

This Expenditure Plan includes taxpayer safeguards to ensure that the projects and programs allowed by voters are funded and delivered.

DRAFT

Citizens Oversight Committee (COC)

An independent Citizens Oversight Committee will be created to provide an enhanced level of accountability for expenditures made under the Plan to ensure that the financial integrity and performance of the program(s) are maintained. The committee will include one representative and one alternate from each Supervisorial District. These are all volunteer positions. Members will be selected based on a review of applications and/or interviews conducted by the current COC Chair, the finance officer from the Madera County Transportation Commission (MCTC), and a third mutually agreed upon individual preferably with a background in accounting and/or citizen oversight. Applicants with accounting, transportation, or government experience are encouraged to apply but this experience is not a requirement. Members will then be approved by the MCTA Board. Members must meet the following criteria:

- Be a United States citizen, over 18, and a resident of the District represented.
- Not be a current or former elected official less than three years out of office.
- Not be a public employee, spouse, or child of any of the MCTC member agencies or MCTC.
- Not be a former public employee of any of the MCTC member agencies or MCTC with less than three years from separation.
- Agree to complete California Statements of Economic Interest (Form 700) on an annual basis.

Appointments will be for four years with the first committee members from District 2 and 4 serving two years and four years thereafter. The COC will select a Chair every two years who will be responsible for conducting the meeting; however, this position has no greater authority than any other member. The Chair will make formal presentations to the MCTA Board on not less than a quarterly basis.

The Citizens Oversight Committee will be governed by its own bylaws which will be adopted by the Citizens Oversight Committee.

Annual Independent Audit and Annual Reporting

The COC may select qualified firms to provide an additional review of the completed annual fiscal and compliance audits, submitted expenditure reports, and any other available information to assure that the revenues expended are reasonable and compliant with the approved Expenditure Plan. The audits and the Annual Report must be published and made available to the public.

Sunset Date

DRAFT

This measure terminates in 20 years.

DRAFT