

Tulare County Association of Governments

Sustainable Corridors

(Measure R Environmental)

Project Selection Guidelines

Purpose and need of project selection guidelines for the Sustainable Corridor Committees (TCAG – SCCs, SR 65, 99, 190, and 198)

TCAG Board authorized the formation of SCCs in December 2018. This decision originated from a common desire of concerned citizens, business leaders, and elected officials of Tulare County to improve the aesthetics of public spaces with transformative beautification projects along the state highway system. SCCs advise the TCAG Board on matters pertaining to the enhanced sustainability and beautification of these corridors. In August 2020, the Tulare County Transportation Authority (TCTA) approved an amendment to the Measure R expenditure plan setting aside \$2 million in funding that localities may use to best address highway beautification needs such as:

- debris pick-up;
- minimizing sign clutter;
- screening unsightly views;
- welcoming entrances at cities;
- public art such as murals, sculptures, and banners;
- consistent design features at new interchanges;
- recognizing residents and businesses in beautification efforts;
- complete streets.

*Example projects are listed below

Throughout 2019 and 2020 the SCCs held joint meetings and developed strategic priorities and a list of potential projects meeting those priorities. These were taken to the TCTA which approved them in December 2020. In July 2021, the Governor kicked-off the \$1.1 billion state-wide Clean California initiative. Funding became available for those Sustainable Corridor projects that were ready to move to implementation. Consequently, while many of the projects on the original list of the SCCs have been implemented, the \$2 million in Sustainable Corridors funding remains intact as of October 2022. In order to reallocate this funding, a regional grant program is proposed with the aim of leveraging and enhancing the Clean California initiative.

Eligible Recipients

Sustainable corridor funding is available to local agencies in the Tulare County region whose projects are located along highways for SR 65, 99, 190, and 198, this includes the following jurisdictions:

Project Selection Process

TCAG's project evaluation committee (an ad hoc committee of current members) will evaluate applications received **via a call for projects** and award projects in accordance with the following scoring criteria.

1. Project addresses highway beautification needs (45 points)
4. Project is construction ready (5 points)
5. Leveraging Funds (15 points)
6. Projects that were nominated in the Tier 1 project selection process and are on the master project list (10 points); (Attached)

Those projects not selected will be placed on a contingency list and will remain eligible for funding.

Projects are awarded in the order of the scores received (highest to lowest) until all funding is exhausted.

The following documents must be submitted:

1. Cover letter describing, in detail, the project and how the project qualifies for SC funding.
2. Engineer's cost estimate

Contingency List

TCAG will prepare a list of contingency projects, ranked in priority order based on the project's

evaluation score. Funding would be made available to projects on the contingency list should

there be any project failures or savings from projects selected for funding. This will ensure full use of all funds

Preliminary Phase Funding

To promote efficient and timely project delivery, agencies are encouraged to use local funds and/or regional measure funds for design.

Agencies are encouraged to use SC funds for construction only.

Example projects that could improve the aesthetics of public spaces with transformative beautification projects along the state highway system.

Install art, crosswalks, and street trees.

Funding for artists to paint utility boxes.

Install hardscaping on planter islands, and art, upgrade existing lighting for uniformity, install new lighting and utility pole art, and improve existing sidewalks.

Install zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) charging station, construct pit toilet facilities, pavement removal, install picnic area, improve lighting, plant native, drought-tolerant vegetation, install informational kiosks and painted trash receptacles.

Install traffic calming features to beautify Main Street, reduce litter, and improve safety and connectivity for non-motorized users.

Install murals on bridge columns.

Install fencing at various locations to restrict access to structures

Install gateway monuments

Beautify and improve public space in the vicinity of the highway through the addition of a permanent art installation.

Install decorative lighting, planters, and textured sidewalks and crosswalks.

Remove and/or install slope paving and paint bridges. Install mulch and inert materials.

Install art, inert materials, and slope paving.

Paint bridge structures, install decorative gore paving at ramps, and add pedestrian lighting under bridge structures.

Place inert material such as rock, gravel, or recycled glass in areas where there is no vegetation.

Install inert materials, metal art, aesthetic fencing, and artistic painting on retaining walls.

Install aesthetic fencing and art on bridge structures and pedestrian overcrossing structures.

Install artwork and aesthetic slope paving.

Install planting, irrigation, gateway monument, aesthetics enhancements, rock blanket and a 3-year plant establishment period.

Clean up, modification, or beautification of existing structures, lighting, enhanced paving, fencing, walls, inert material, green street elements, planters, planting/irrigation, signage or displays, public art installations such as murals or sculptures, improvement of public spaces in underserved communities, safety measures or alternative mode uses (ZEV Charging, transit stops, bike parking).

Install architectural lighting - The architectural lighting will be capable of colorful displays and/or white light that could be changed with seasonal interest.

Install safety measures at bridge structures including decorative security fencing, decorative paving, and natural rock groundcover.

Install improved and new sidewalks, fencing, buffer planting areas between the sidewalk and street including street trees, and infrastructure features to facilitate creation of community gardens and safe storage for unsheltered individuals.

Install safety measures at bridge structures including decorative security fencing, decorative paving, and natural rock groundcover.

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Provide enhancements to beautify and complement pedestrian/ bicycle use

Install pedestrian scale lighting to brighten the pedestrian experience and artwork to help enliven the space for the community..

Install low-water use plants, recycled water irrigation, plant establishment, community identification, fencing and inert groundcover.

Install custom fabricated artist-designed fencing, foreground enhancement of the planned museum sign, landscape planting with only native plants and with recycled water which is available, improved directional and reservation signage, pedestrian access improvements with aesthetic elements.

Restore a valued iconic landmark, in keeping with the aesthetics of its historic 'main street' architectural setting, replace an old support structure determined to be long past its useful life and in need of replacement for safety, include mast arms for colorful banners to highlight planned community events contributing to local economic vitality, repair sign lighting (possibly convert to solar), include brick bulb-outs to match other complete streets elements in the corridor.

Clean and prime structure and fencing, add mural or other aesthetic treatment on bridge walls, seal with anti-graffiti coating, add drought tolerant shade trees, add inert ground covers/mulch to suppress weeds, improve sidewalk and crosswalk aesthetics, add street furniture.

Plant shade trees and dense, colorful landscaping along pedestrian sidewalks and soundwalls, add street furniture, enhance sidewalk paving, add artistic bas relief elements on soundwalls highlighting neighborhood cross streets.

Paint soundwalls and seal w anti-graffiti coating, landscape along soundwalls, add rock blanket, low stone walls and inert materials to suppress weeds, install smart irrigation system, improve retaining curb and add decorative slope paving, add aesthetic treatment/artistic elements to structure.

Establish a windrow of drought tolerant, signature shade trees along highway 'main street'. Species to match local preference for seasonal spring flowers and fall color, install community identifiers, replace right-of-way fencing in poor condition with decorative wall, replaces wood Main Street fencing with more durable metal fencing with artistic accents appropriate to local history and native people of the

region, upgrade an existing historic monument to improve its aesthetic setting and its outdated inequitable narrative content, add gateway monuments with aesthetic elements.

Close redundant side street and repurpose as a community meeting place and parklet, remove asphalt and add decorative paving, add decorative crosswalk, plant shady street trees and/or install shade structures, add planters for seasonal color, add street furniture and lighted bollards, create new community information kiosk, incorporate artistic elements, add a pedestrian counter, add decorative low fencing.

Clean or paint structure, revitalize existing murals, add new murals or other tile or metal artwork, seal w anti-graffiti coating, add aesthetic treatments to sidewalks, add street furniture and lighting, replace or remove RW fence, add signature skyline/shade trees, improve the landscaping at corners, add inert materials or rock blanket.

Clean/paint structure, add mural on bridge walls, add decorative slope paving to fix erosion, replace worn-out RW fencing, add shade trees, suppress weeds with rock blanket or inert materials or mulch.

Improve landscape, add ZEV Charge Stations, restripe and repair AC as needed, repair RW fence, decorative bike locker and bollards, art elements on traffic boxes, and art events on ZEV media screens.

Enhance crosswalks with custom aesthetic design, improve intersection corners with bulb-outs and decorative sidewalks, improve paving and landscaping in existing medians, create landmark wayfinding artwork at key locations, add artwork sleeves on a sign or signal posts, add eBike Charging, add 'smart' street furniture, add eco-pedestrian counters.

Revitalize existing landscape median planting by replacing poor condition plants, improving soil health, and applying decorative paving, and rock blanket; make water-conserving irrigation upgrades; enhance existing sidewalk paving with colorful mosaic art; beautify existing retaining wall with paint or other aesthetic treatments; add signature street furniture; add free-standing art and/or a gateway monument at community entryways and along the corridor.

Enhance safety features for pedestrians with the improvement of current crosswalks and installation of new crosswalks; improve aesthetics of the existing medians and improve the visual character and identity of the city

Remove and replace vegetation; install radar feedback speed signs along SR 269 to enhance the safety of users along the corridor; install a gateway monument.

Install concrete masonry unit wall and drought-tolerant plantings

Removal and replacement of planting inside and outside of the central island; install decomposed granite or rock blanket within the central island to reduce maintenance; revision of the existing irrigation system, repair of existing hardscaping, rock blanket paving along sidewalk edge; install gateway monument inside of the central island.

Install oleander planting in front of the block wall to deter tagging; install a simple artistic design to further discourage tagging to the wall.

Install a public gathering space; install street furnishings such as benches, fencing, planting, and irrigation; install sculptures created in partnership with local artists; convert the space into a community garden if approved; install planter boxes and a community building.

Install planting along the west side of SR 33 where irrigation is already in place; install a gateway monument; install sidewalk; install radar feedback speed limit signs; install rectangular rapid flashing beacons at marked crosswalks; install benches; add green paint to bike lanes.

Enhance and beautify existing structures in San Pablo Park located under SR 180 in Fresno; remove and replace vegetation; install additional trash containers; install new signage, improved fencing, and public art in partnership with local artists.

SR 99 Enhance and beautify the SR 99 corridor in Tulare County for travelers along 99 and members of the communities; construct enhanced fencing and provide visual screening to decrease views of adjacent blighted areas; provide privacy screening for residents living adjacent to SR 99.

Install murals underneath Caltrans bridge structures located along the corridor; removal and replacement of vegetation on slopes; improved fencing; sidewalk gap closures and remediation; green bike lane paintings; utility box art wrappings; red stamped concrete replacement in the medians rock cobble in gores; screen planting; free-standing sculptural pieces and rock work on slopes.

Enhance and beautify the airspace under SR 41 next to F Street in the city of Fresno; add a mural to the California Avenue abutment wall.

Install new trees and vegetation; install tree wells and grates; install rectangular rapid flashing beacons at marked crosswalks; develop a new gateway monument for the city; median beautification along SR 233 corridor; quick build bulb outs; repair missing or damaged sidewalk sections

SR63 Construct road diet including traffic calming elements such as bulb-outs which could be expanded to create small pockets of public space for artwork placement; install rectangular rapid flashing beacons at marked crosswalks; install accent and shade tree planting to reduce heat island effects; develop safe bike lanes to promote active transportation; incorporate streetscape furnishings including an aesthetic related family of streetscape elements such as benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, bus stop furnishings; accent paving in sidewalks at spot locations of interest; add free-standing art and/or a gateway monument at community entryways and along the corridor.

Install improved fencing, curb ramps, new sidewalks, cobblestone paving, new seating, and murals; aesthetic fencing beneath bridges used as a safety enhancement to protect structure from potential fire; safety enhancements within the central space of the Garces Memorial circle with installation of rock blanket or similar in Caltrans right of way.

Create a new pedestrian trail system along the freeway for both the NB and SB frontage roads; install artwork and site appurtenances, benches, trash receptacles; reconstruct right of way fence; install slope paving beneath bridge

Install artwork in partnership with local artists; install rock blanket, and replace dead vegetation with drought tolerant plants.

Install rock blanket; install decorative fencing; paint existing retaining wall and columns on bridge structures

Install decorative rock design and California native planting; install artwork and new decorative colored concrete; replace barbed wire on overhead signs with more visually appropriate dimpled sleeves on columns; upgrade irrigation for water conservation and theft prevention

Install wall fencing & vines; restore irrigation systems; stabilize eroding soil areas with decorative and/or place rockscape at bridge abutments and abutment slopes; place metal cover at bridge openings to prevent access.

Upgrade/replace existing damaged fence; place rockscape at bridge abutments and abutment slopes.

Install rock cobble groundcover; install new decorative colored concrete to enhance existing artwork; install aesthetics on the chain link fence; paint bridge structures; remove barbed wire on overhead signs and replace with more visually appropriate dimpled sleeves on columns; install public dog park to Tiny Home Village.

Install trees, shrubs, ground covers to improve existing roadside conditions. Vine planting will be provided to prevent graffiti. On and off ramps to communities will be enhanced with soft and hardscape design.

Install trees, shrubs, ground cover; install artwork with a theme.

Install trees, shrubs, ground covers; install vine planting on walls to prevent graffiti.

Install wall fencing & vines, restore irrigation systems, stabilize eroding soil areas with decorative and/or colored RSP, rock blanket, stamped concrete & slope paving.

Install rock cobble groundcover; install native drought tolerant plants.