

# FEDERAL LAND ACCESS PROGRAM (FLAP)

55<sup>th</sup> ACE Annual Conference - 2016



# Topics to Share

## ➤ Federal Lands Access Program

- History
- Funding
- Type of Projects
- PDC
- FLMA Coordination
- Match

## ➤ Overview of Central Federal Lands as FLAP Program Manager

## ➤ Sample CA Projects

## ➤ 2016/2017 California Funding Cycle – What's Next

## ➤ Questions

# FLAP Basics - FAQs

---

- ◆ How are the FLAP funds allocated?
- ◆ Where can FLAP funds be spent?
- ◆ Who makes the programming decisions?
- ◆ What is the process utilized to make programming decisions for the FLAP program?

# FLAP Basics - FAQs

---

- ◆ How are Federal Land Management Agencies engaged?
- ◆ What types of projects are eligible?
- ◆ What is match and how does it work?
- ◆ What are some examples of projects that have been funded through the FLAP program?
- ◆ What are future actions for the program?

# Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21 Century Act (MAP-21)

- ▶ MAP-21 was signed into law on July 6, 2012 and sunset on September 30, 2015.
- ▶ MAP-21 authorized the Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Programs (FLTTP): )
  - ▶ Federal Tribal Transportation Program, (TTP)
  - ▶ Federal Lands Transportation Program, (FLTP)
  - ▶ Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)
  - ▶ Federal Lands Planning Program (FLPP)
- ▶ Replaces the Forest Highway and other Federal Land Programs through consolidation.

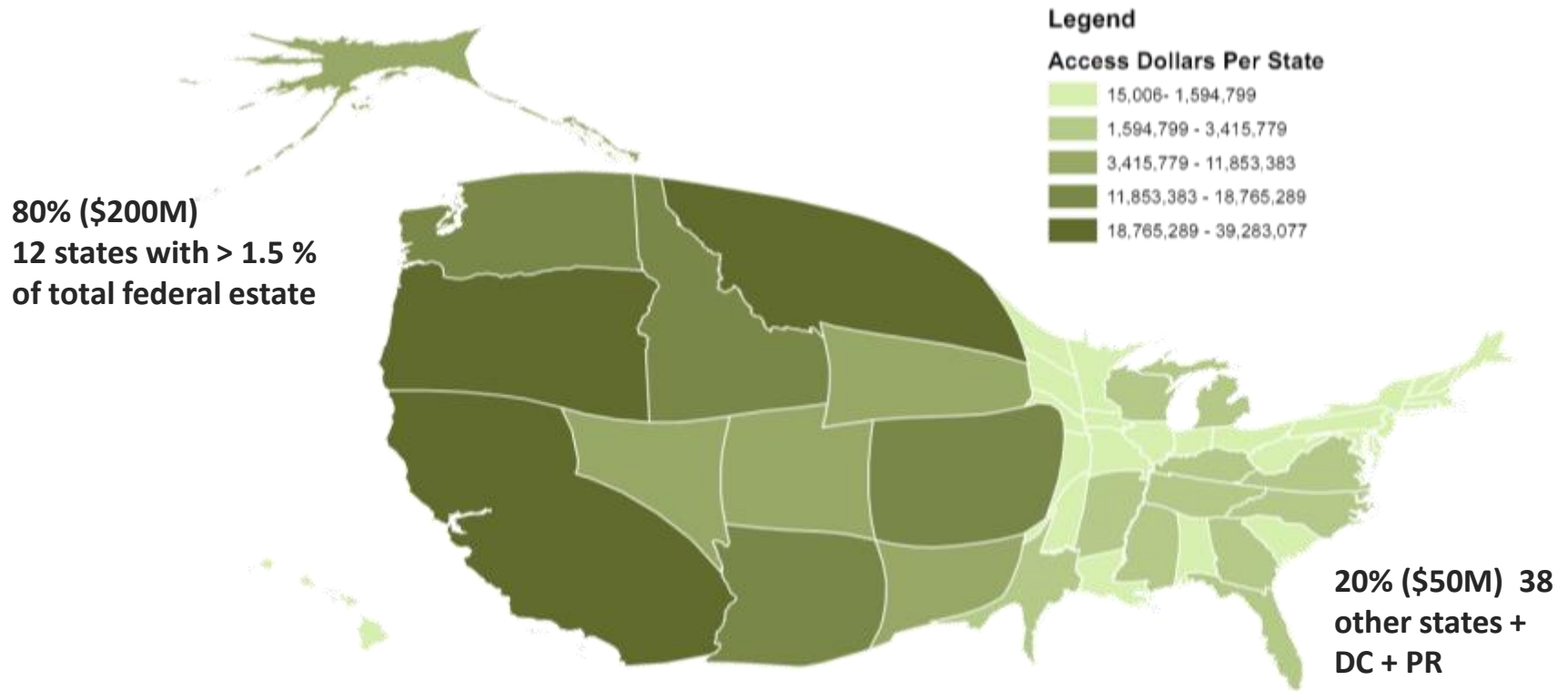
# Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST)

- ▶ FAST Act was signed into law on December 4, 2015 and was made retroactive to October 1, 2015.
- ▶ It provides 5 years of funding certainty for infrastructure, planning and investment, FY 2016-2020.
- ▶ Creates the Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Projects Program (**NEW**)
- ▶ Minor Changes to the overall FLTTP programs
- ▶ Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)- **NEW** - \$5 million increase per fiscal year authorized nationally
  - from \$250 million in FY 2016 up to \$270 million in FY 2020

# Federal Lands & Tribal Programs Funding

Program	Average Annual Funding (Millions)	Change from MAP-21 / FY2015
Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP)	\$355	+ 18%
National Park Service	(284)	
US Fish & Wildlife Service	(30)	
US Forest Service – <b>NEW</b>	(17)	
Remainder (competitive)	(24)	
Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)	\$260	+4%
Tribal Transportation Program (TTP)	\$485	+8%
Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects (General Fund) - <b>NEW</b>	\$100	

# Access Program Dollars by State



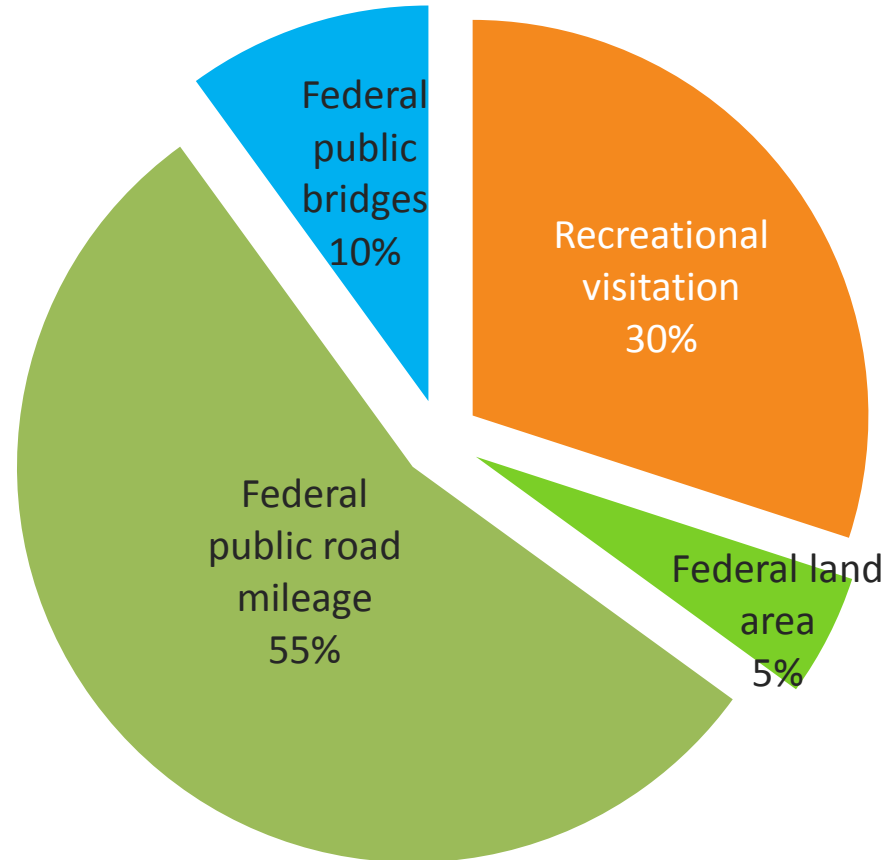
Sources:  
State Shapefile: US Census  
Access Dollars: FLHD, Access Program Funding Table Dated 10/26/2012

Puerto Rico is not represented, but will receive  
around \$78,000 per year in Access Funds

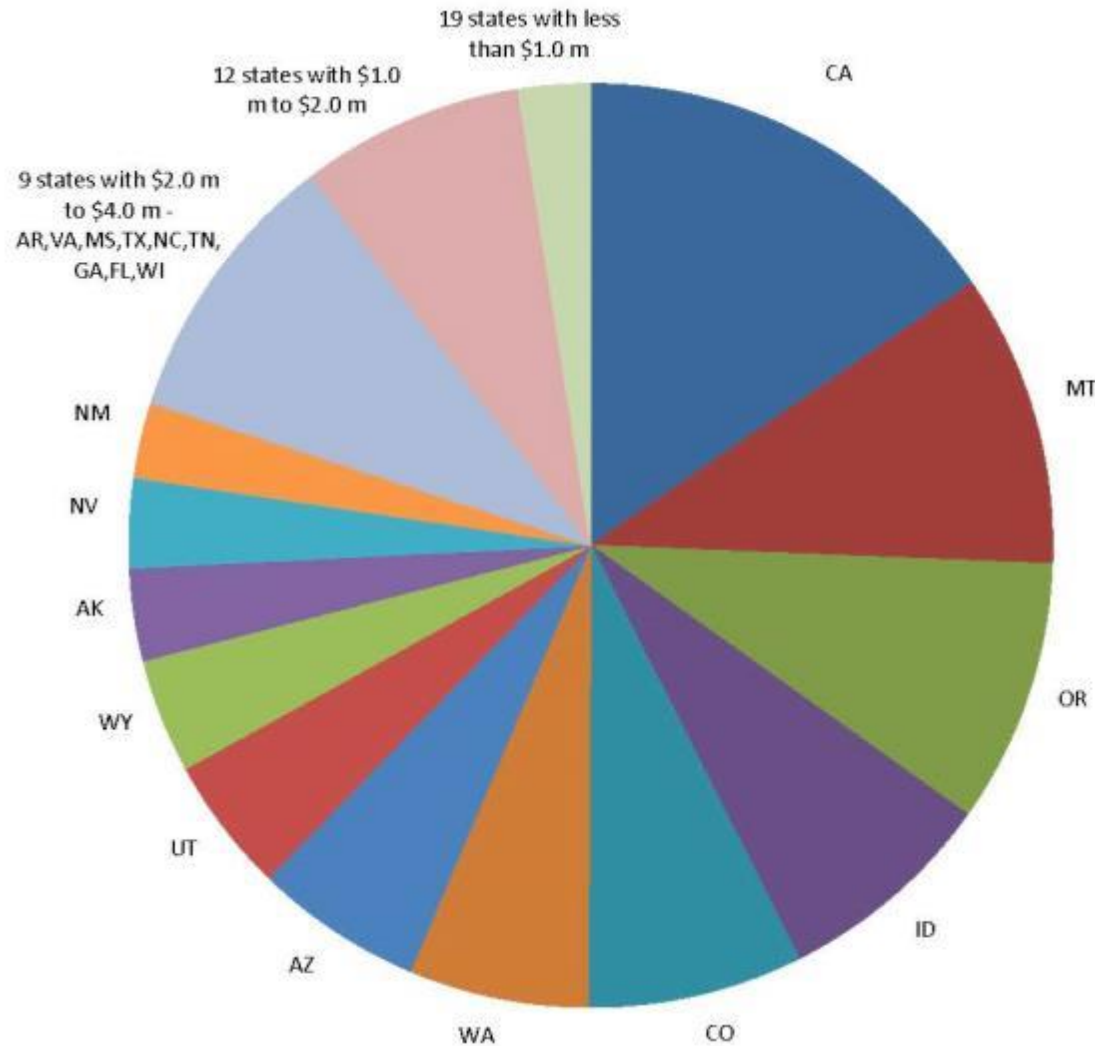


# How are the FLAP funds allocated?

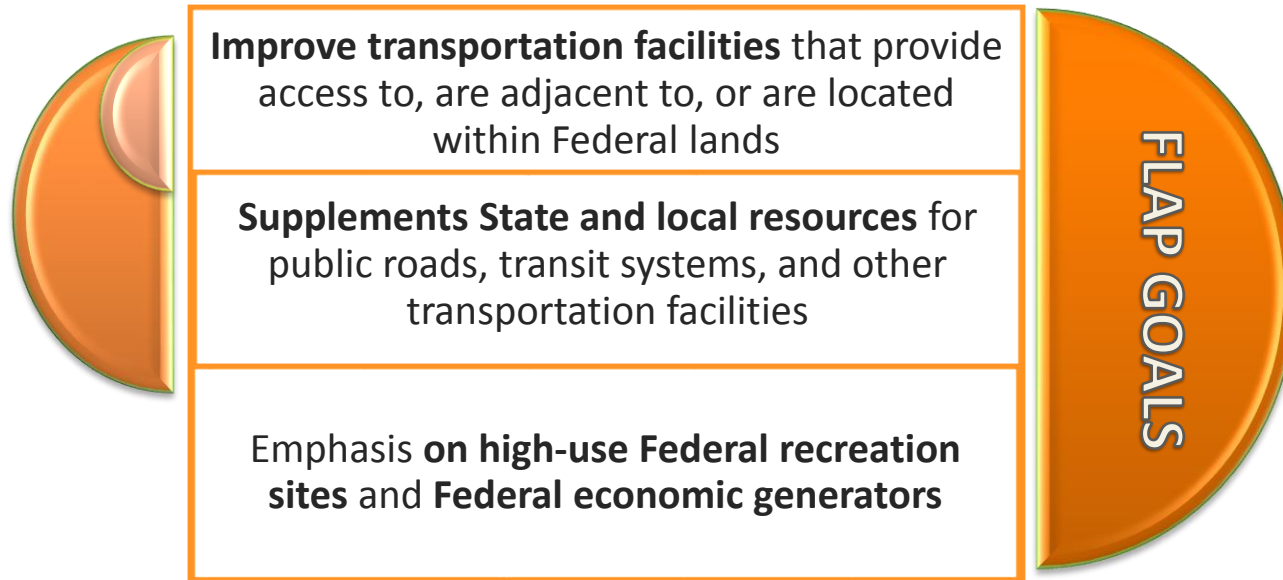
- Funding
  - **\$250 million per year**
  - Distributed by formula
- Period of availability: allocation year + 3 more years
- FLAP is **not** a grant program; rather, it is a federal–aid highway reimbursement program.



# Access Program Dollars by State



# What are the FLAP goals?

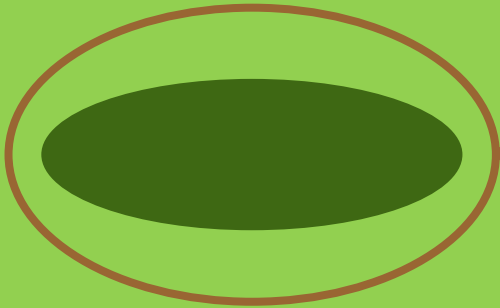


# Where can FLAP funds be spent?

- On a Federal Lands Access Transportation Facility
  - public highway, road, bridge, trail or transit system
  - located on, is adjacent to, or provides access to Federal lands
  - title or maintenance responsibility is vested with State, County, Local Government, or Tribe (**not** a Federal government agency)



NATIONAL PARK

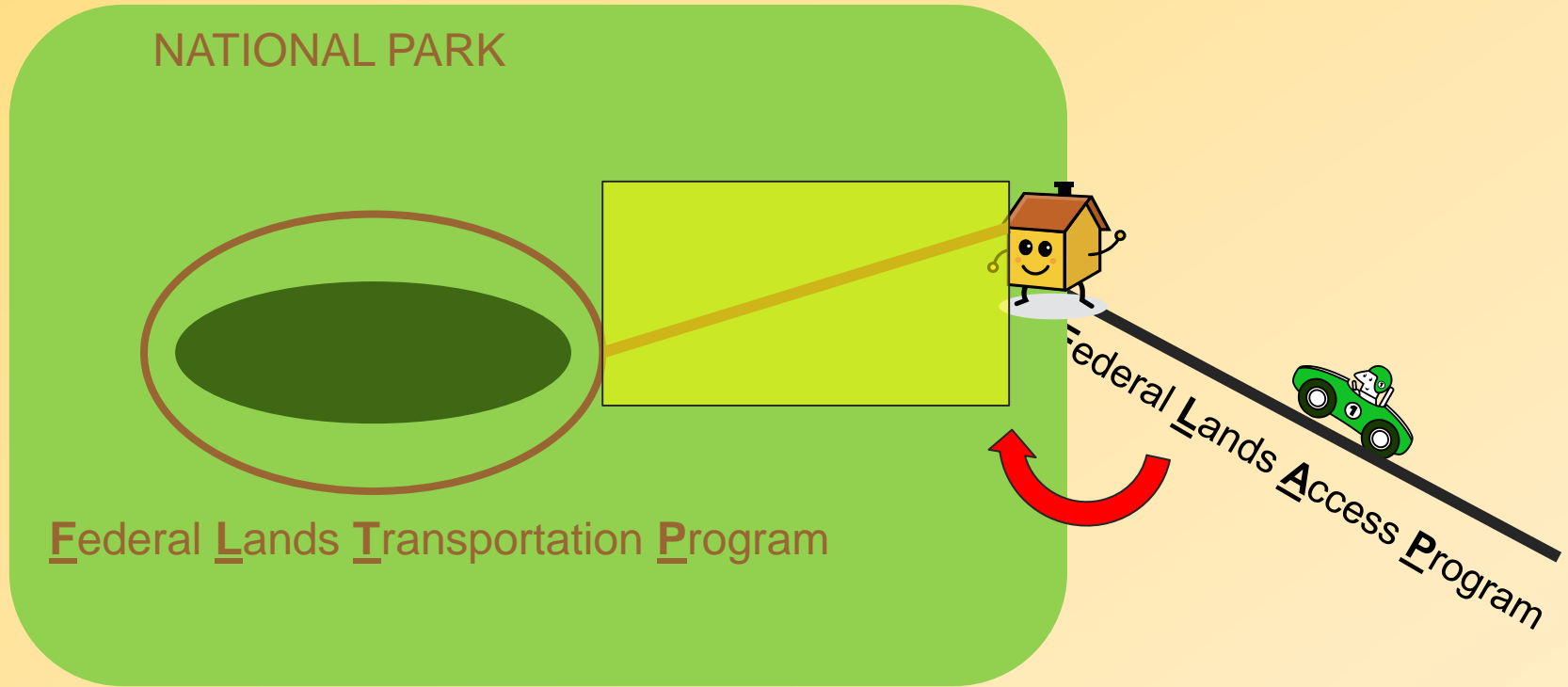


Federal Lands Transportation Program



Federal Lands Access Program

# Title or Maintenance Responsibility?



# Types of projects

## Capital improvement

- Rehabilitation, restoration, construction, and reconstruction of roads and trails
- Safety improvements, widening, realignments, surfacing, culverts, bridges, signing and associated road appurtenances

## Enhancement

- Road and trail improvements
- Interpretive signs, kiosks, viewpoints, restrooms, provisions for pedestrians and bicycles, scenic easements, trailheads, and improvements that reduce vehicle-wildlife conflicts

## Transit

- Construction of transit facilities (passenger waiting shelters, ferry docks, helipads, etc.)
- Operation and maintenance of transit facilities, including vehicles
- Purchase of transit vehicles

## Planning

- Engineering studies, corridor management planning, bicycle/pedestrian planning, and alternative transportation planning

# Who makes programming decisions?

- The State Programming Decisions Committee (PDC)
- Members include representatives from:
  - The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) - Federal Lands Highway Division Office
  - The State Department of Transportation
  - An appropriate political subdivision of the State (i.e. State Association of Counties, etc.)
- The PDC in each State develops their own processes
- In California, The Transportation Coop Committee (City, County, State, Federal Coop Committee) designated the County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) to be the local political subdivision.



# Evaluation Criteria

- ◆ Endorsed by pertinent Federal agency as a high priority?
- ◆ High-use Federal facility/Federal economic generator?
- ◆ Consistent with State's PDC goals?
- ◆ Project sponsor can provide the required match?
- ◆ Realistic scope, schedule, and budget?
- ◆ Typical Evaluation Criteria:
  - Recreation & Economic Development
  - Safety
  - Accessibility & Mobility
  - Preservation
  - Environmental Quality & Sustainability



# How are Federal Land Management Agencies engaged?

- FLMA Engagement
  - 204(c)(2) – Consultation Requirement – The committee described in paragraph (1) shall cooperate with each applicable Federal agency in each State before any joint discussion or final programming decision.

# Federal Land Management Agency Engagement

- **Who are the Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA) Partners in this process?**

- **Traditional Partners**

- Forest Service
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- Tribes



- **New Partners**

- Bureau of Land Management
- Army Corps of Engineers
- Military ( Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines)
- Other Federal Estate Owners (NASA, DOE, DHS, etc.)



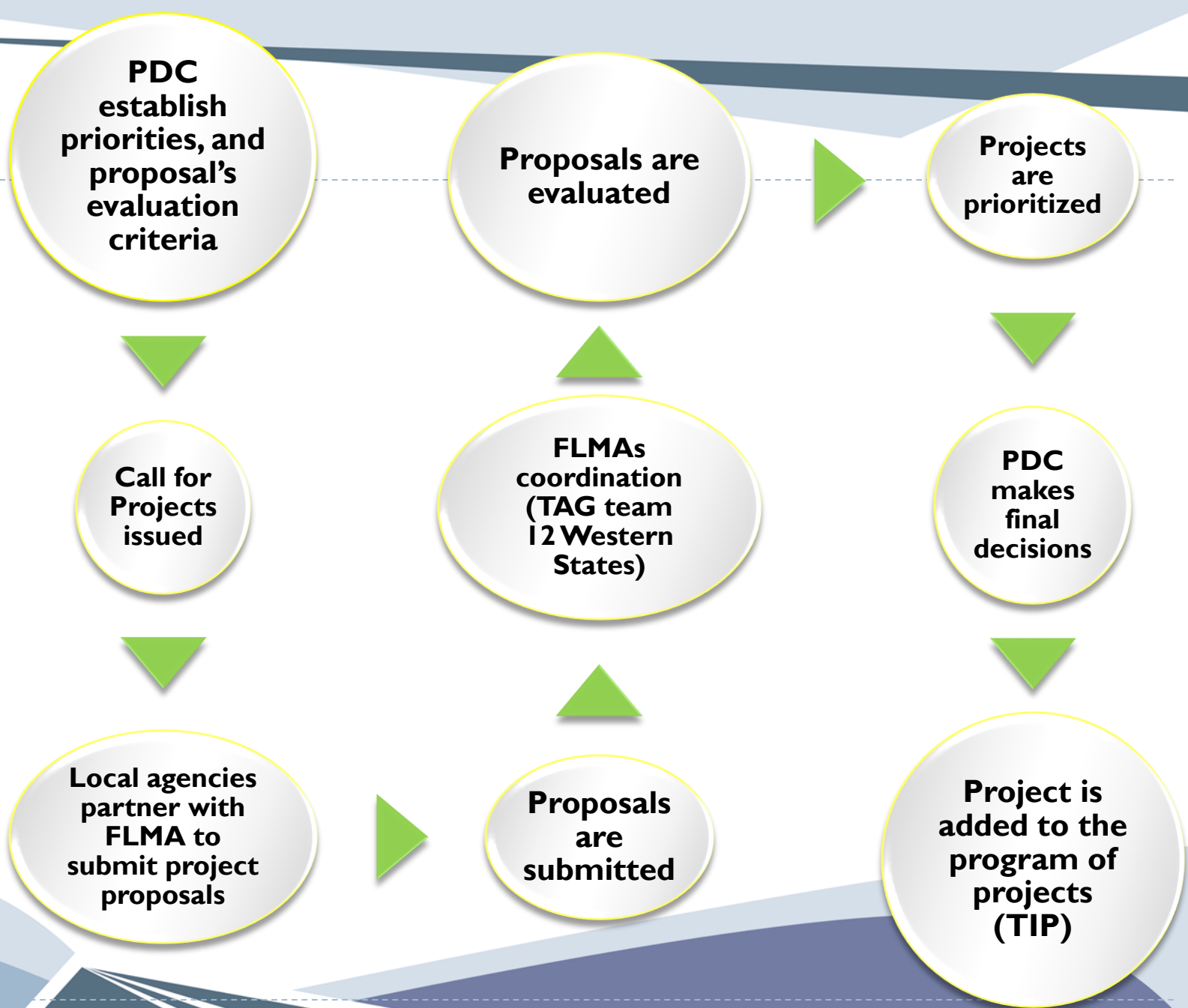
# Federal Land Management Agency Engagement

## – Lessons learned

- Requiring signature of Federal Land Unit Manager helps ensure that project application is supported by FLMA.
- Engaging FLMAs early = better proposals = better projects
- FLMAs learn from each other = better proposals = better projects



What is the FLAP decision-making process?



# What is match and how does it work?

- ◆ California Match Requirement: 11.47% match
- ◆ Must be a hard match – Programming Allowed
- ◆ Non MPO/RTPA may use Toll Credits
- ◆ Larger match, more points.
- ◆ Other Federal agency funds (**non Title 23 or 49**) may be used as match
- ◆ **Exception:** FLTP and TTP Title 23 funds may be used as match
- ◆ Access funds may **NOT** be used to match other Federal-aid program funds, i.e. match Highway Bridge Program or HSIP
- ◆ Must be careful when designating match to avoid federal funds

# FHWA Divisions Explained

## ➤ **Fed-Aid Division Offices**

- ✓ Provide stewardship and oversight of the Interstate Highway system.
- ✓ Facilitate disbursement of federal funds to State and local governments.
- ✓ Comprised of HQ and 52 offices located in each state.

## ➤ **Federal Lands Highway (FLH)**

- ✓ Provides program stewardship and transportation engineering services for planning, design, construction, and rehabilitation of the highways and bridges that provide access to and through federally owned lands.
- ✓ FLH is at the forefront of delivering distinctive, sensitive, innovative, and sound engineering projects.

## ➤ **Resource Center**

- ✓ Provides expertise and resources to State, local, and Federal partners.
- ✓ 5 offices located in San Francisco, Denver, Chicago, Atlanta, Baltimore.

# Federal Lands Highway Division Offices

## Central Federal Lands Highway Division (CFLHD)

Serves 14 central, western, and southwestern states & Pacific Territories





# CFLHD Functional Areas

## ➤ Project Delivery

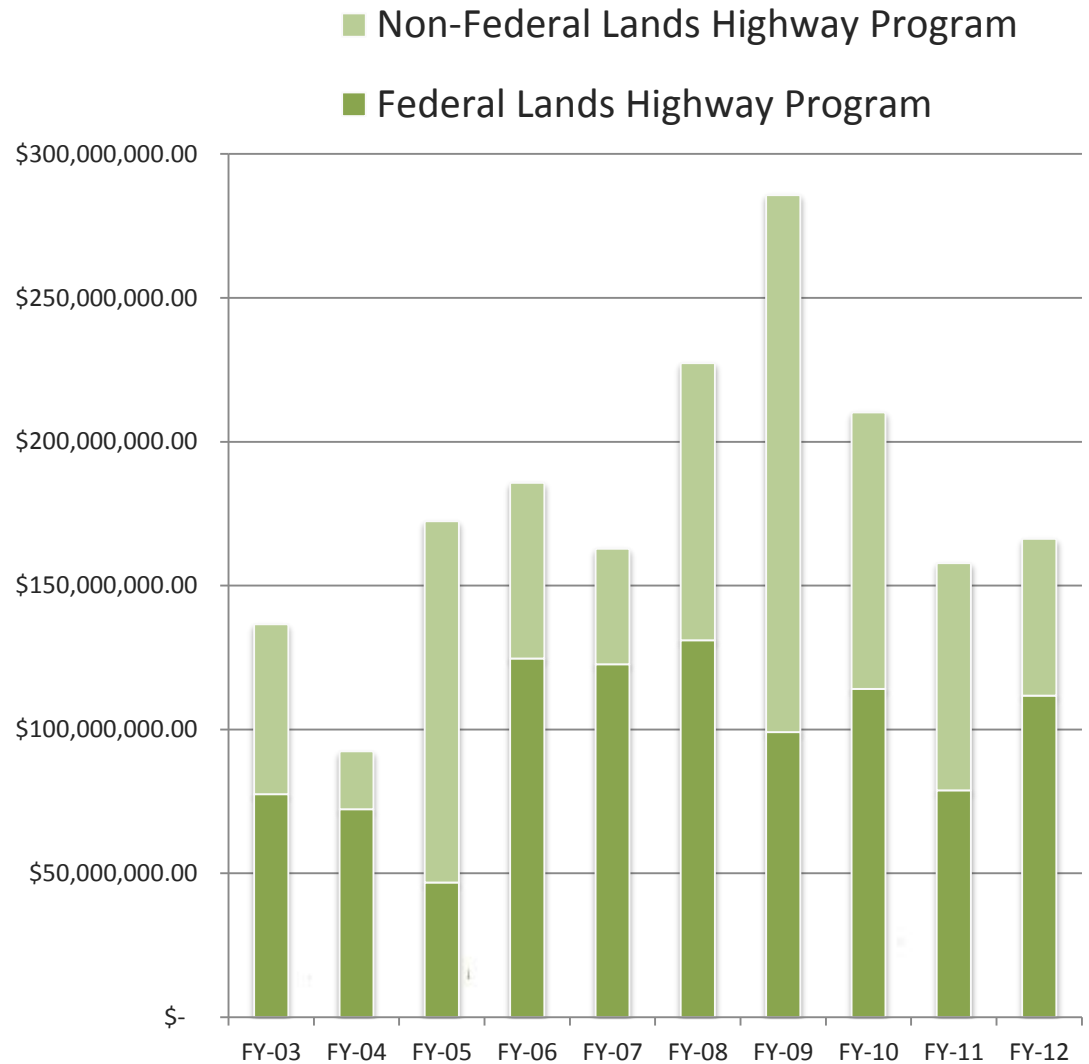
- ✓ Project Management
- ✓ Project Development
  - Design
  - Survey, Mapping
  - Right-of-Way, Utilities
  - Environment/NEPA
- ✓ Structures
- ✓ Technical Services
  - Safety
  - Geotechnical
  - Hydraulics
  - Pavements and Materials
  - Technology
- ✓ Construction

## ➤ Program Administration

- ✓ Planning and Programs
  - Alternative transportation/community planning
  - Federal Lands Transportation Program
  - Federal Lands Access Program
  - ERFO/Scoping, Inventory, GIS
  - Agreements
- ✓ Administrative Programs
  - Acquisitions
  - Finance
  - Administrative Services
  - Information Technology

# Leveraging Funds and Diversifying Partnerships

- Cooperative efforts to fund and deliver facilities
- CFLHD maintains strong relationships with FMLA and facility owners/maintainers
- Economies of scale are realized when projects in the same region are coordinated



# Why Does Trinity County Care

- Trinity County is a mountainous county in far northwestern California covering 3,200 square miles with 700 miles of County roads for its 13,000 citizens.
- 75% of Trinity County is under federal control.
- Trinity County and FHWA have a long standing relationship where CFLHD has reconstructed bridges and highways on the County Maintained Road System under the Old Forest Highways Program and when utilizing Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads (ERFO). County wants to continue that relationship
- Trinity County was looking for a way to accelerate project delivery, and to be able to utilize Every Day Counts design and construction methodologies.
- Being a smaller frontier county agency, we were seeking assistance with the Federal Aid Process.

# Program Decision Committee Contacts

## Agency

California Department of  
Transportation (CALTRANS)

Trinity County Department  
of Transportation

Federal Highway  
Administration (FHWA),  
Central Federal Lands  
Highway Division (CFLHD)

## Contact

April Nitsos, Division of Local  
Assistance

Richard Tippett, Trinity  
County DOT Director

Christopher Longley  
FLAP Project Manager

## Email Address

[april.nitsos@dot.ca.gov](mailto:april.nitsos@dot.ca.gov)

[rtippett@trinitycounty.org](mailto:rtippett@trinitycounty.org)

[christopher.longley@dot.gov](mailto:christopher.longley@dot.gov)



# Project Highlights – CA FLAP 4S12(1) Rock Creek Road

- Provides access to the Inyo National Forest
- Applicants – Mono and Inyo Counties
- Rehabilitation of 9.2 miles of pavement
- Widening to include bike lane for uphill traffic
- Total project cost of \$11 million
- Contractor – Ace Engineering



# Project Highlights – CA FLAP CR4S07(1) Convict Lake Road

- Provides access to the Inyo National Forest
- Applicant – Mono County
- Rehabilitation and widening of 2.75 miles of pavement
- Retaining walls
- Paving of trail (FS funded)
- Total project cost of \$5 million
- Contractor – LB Civil Construction Inc.





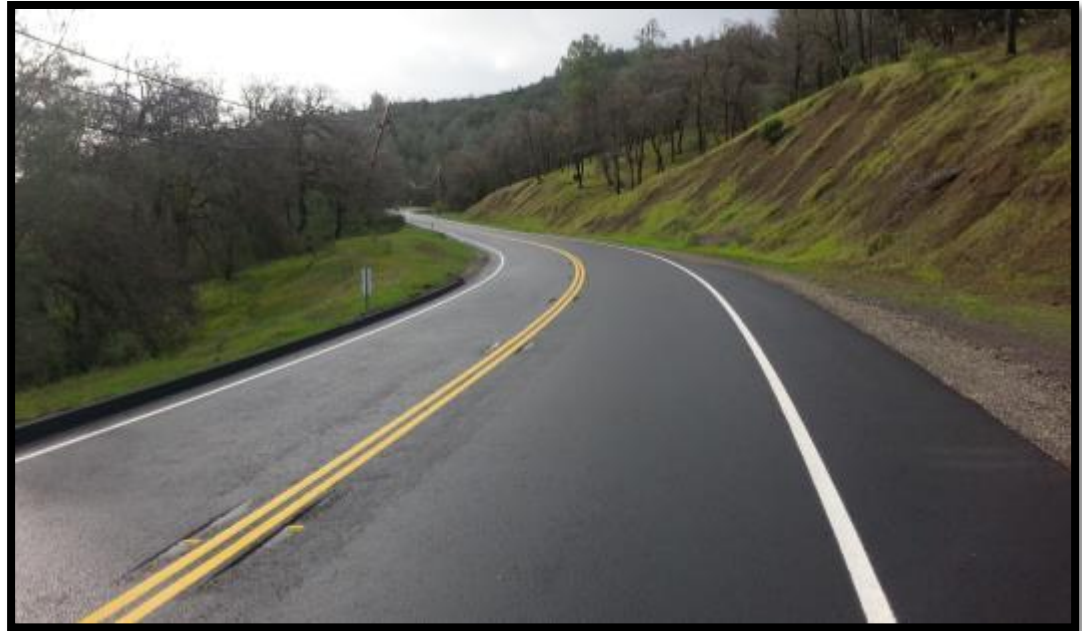
# Project Highlights – CA FLAP CR4F009(1) J F KENNEDY MEMORIAL DRIVE

- Provides access to the Whiskeytown NRA (NPS)
- Applicant – Shasta County
- Rehabilitation of 4.6 miles of pavement
- Drainage and safety improvements
- Total project cost of \$5 million
- Contractor – McCullough Construction Inc.



# Project Highlights – CA FLAP 41099(1) BERRYESSA KNOXVILLE ROAD

- Provides access to Lake Berryessa (USBR)
- Applicant – Napa County
- Rehabilitation of 7.8 miles of pavement
- Drainage and safety improvements
- Total project cost of \$7 million
- Contractor – Hat Creek Construction





# Project Highlights – CA FLAP 41099(1) BERRYESSA KNOXVILLE ROAD

- Provides access to Eldorado National Forest
- Applicant – El Dorado County
- Rehabilitation of 7.1 miles of pavement
- Drainage and safety improvements
- Total project cost of \$5.5 million
- Contractor –Eagle Peak Rock and Paving



# Project Highlights – CA FLAP CRS4018(1) WHITNEY PORTAL ROAD

- Provides access to Inyo National Forest and BLM Lands
- Applicant – Inyo County
- Widening and rehabilitation of 11.2 miles of pavement
- Bridge rehabilitation
- Slope stabilization
- Total project cost of \$13.5 million
- Contractor – Hat Creek Construction



# What are future actions for the program?

## – Future Actions

- Sharing best practices across FLH Divisions/States to improve program consistency
- Consider segmented projects
- California Collaborative Long Range Transportation Plan
- Continue to look for a good spread of projects, urban/suburban/rural, north/south, all FMLA that fit within the construct of the program.

# What's next for California?

- Running on a two year cycle. Each call around \$60M to populate a seven year program.
- Next call for projects Winter 2017.
- Selection of projects around the beginning of summer.
- CA Annual Allocation around \$31M down from \$35M.
- Move away from applicant estimate and depend more on the scope. Scope needs to match actual project needs.



# Questions







For More Information Contact:

<https://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/>

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/fedlandsaccessfs.cfm>

<https://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/ca/>

[www.cflhd.gov](http://www.cflhd.gov)