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## California Transportation Commission Adopts 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program Over \$2 Billion in New Gas Tax Revenue to Fund Projects Statewide

### Stanislaus County Projects Receive over \$45 Million in Grant Funds

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Orange, CA) – At its March meeting on Wednesday, the California Transportation Commission adopted the 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which will fund over \$3 billion in transportation improvements, including new capacity projects, over the next five years. Stanislaus County received over \$45 million in grant funds for projects to improve traffic congestion, goods movement and safety.

The STIP is key to funding future state highway, intercity rail, and transit improvements throughout California. State law requires the Commission to update the program biennially, in even-numbered years, with each update adding two new years to prior programming commitments. The 2018 STIP covers the period from Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19 through FY 2022-23.

“Just two years ago our region was hit hard by a funding shortfall from the 2016 STIP,” said Executive Director Rosa De León Park. “The gas tax revenue stabilized by SB 1 helped the California Transportation Commission restore many projects that were cut including the McHenry widening project.”

Three projects were selected for funding in this cycle:

- City of Modesto: SR132 West Freeway/Expressway: \$40.4 million State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Funds
- Stanislaus County: McHenry Avenue Widening: \$4.1 million State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Funds
- City of Turlock: Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) ADA Pedestrian Improvements \$124,000 Active Transportation Program (SB1 Augmentation)

Seventy-five percent of new STIP funds go to projects nominated by regional transportation agencies in their Regional Transportation Improvement Programs. The money is divided by formula into shares for each county. The remaining 25 percent of new STIP funds is made available to projects nominated by Caltrans in its Interregional Transportation Improvement Program.

A link to the 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program, including projects by county, is available on the Commission's website, here:

<http://www.catc.ca.gov/programs/stip/2018-stip/022818-STIP-Staff-Recommendation.pdf>.

The Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG) is a council of city and county governments that was established to address regional transportation issues. StanCOG is comprised of the cities of Ceres, Hughson, Modesto, Newman, Oakdale, Patterson, Riverbank, Turlock and Waterford, and Stanislaus County. StanCOG is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and the Local Transportation Authority (LTA) for the Stanislaus region.