What is the California Transportation Commission?

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) is responsible for a number of state-level transportation decisions, including prioritizing projects and allocating transportation funding.

Why reform the CTC?

The CTC is the only state transportation body that holds regular public hearings on transportation investments. Given its responsibilities with regards to transportation policy and funding decisions, the CTC can play a powerful role in shaping the state’s transportation future.

With new state laws aimed at reducing transportation-related climate pollution, it’s critical that the CTC’s mission is updated to support the statewide goals of AB 32, SB 375, and SB 1039.

Governor Brown anticipates a larger role for the CTC in the future – for example, the Administration is working to give the CTC authority over bicycle and pedestrian projects, including Safe Routes to Schools. This, coupled with the State’s clear intentions to re-prioritize our transportation and land use planning through the lens of health and safety, will require a robust Commission with the expertise to organize and implement transportation priorities according to this new approach.

Status of AB 1290 (updated 7/25/2013)

AB 1290 has passed the Assembly and is working its way through the Senate. On July 9, AB 1290 was approved by the Senate Committee on Transportation & Housing and referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations. A hearing in that committee is currently scheduled for Monday, August 12.

(continued)
AB 1290 (Pérez) – Reforming the CTC

What would AB 1290 do?

AB 1290 restructures the CTC in order to help improve the CTC’s capacity to analyze the connections between transportation and land use and integrate the findings into their decision-making processes.

Specifically, AB 1290 contains the following provisions:

- Adds the Secretary of Transportation, the Director of Housing and Community Development, and the Director of the Air Resources Board as ex officio members of the CTC.
- Provides the Assembly Speaker and the Senate President pro Tem with an additional voting appointment each.
- Requires each appointing power to “make every effort to assure that expertise in the transportation community that has not traditionally been represented on the commission” is added through appointments, with a particular focus on sustainability.
- Requires regional planning agencies to report to the CTC biannually about their progress in implementing the SB 375-required Sustainable Communities Strategies.
- Requires the Strategic Growth Council to update the CTC on an annual basis on their progress to coordinate transportation and land use planning into state government activities.
- Requires that Regional Transportation Improvement Plans show the relationship, or lack thereof, between projects seeking state funding and the Sustainable Community Strategy for the region.

Learn more about AB 1290

TransForm’s state legislative overview
http://www.transformca.org/ca-federal/ca-legislation#1290

AB 1290 summary by ClimatePlan
http://www.climateplan.org/ab-1290-perez/

Full text of bill and updates on LegInfo.gov
http://bit.ly/18BQwOZ

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