

Caltrans Engagement Updates

Caltrans Office on Race and Equity

September 2021



Reconnecting Communities Program

- A USDOT **RAISE** planning grant application, to jump start Caltrans ***Reconnecting Communities*** program.
 - Awaiting November 22, 2021, funding decision
- Caltrans HQ and Districts identified nearly 70 communities segmented by the freeway system across the state
- 5 communities chosen for this pilot program.

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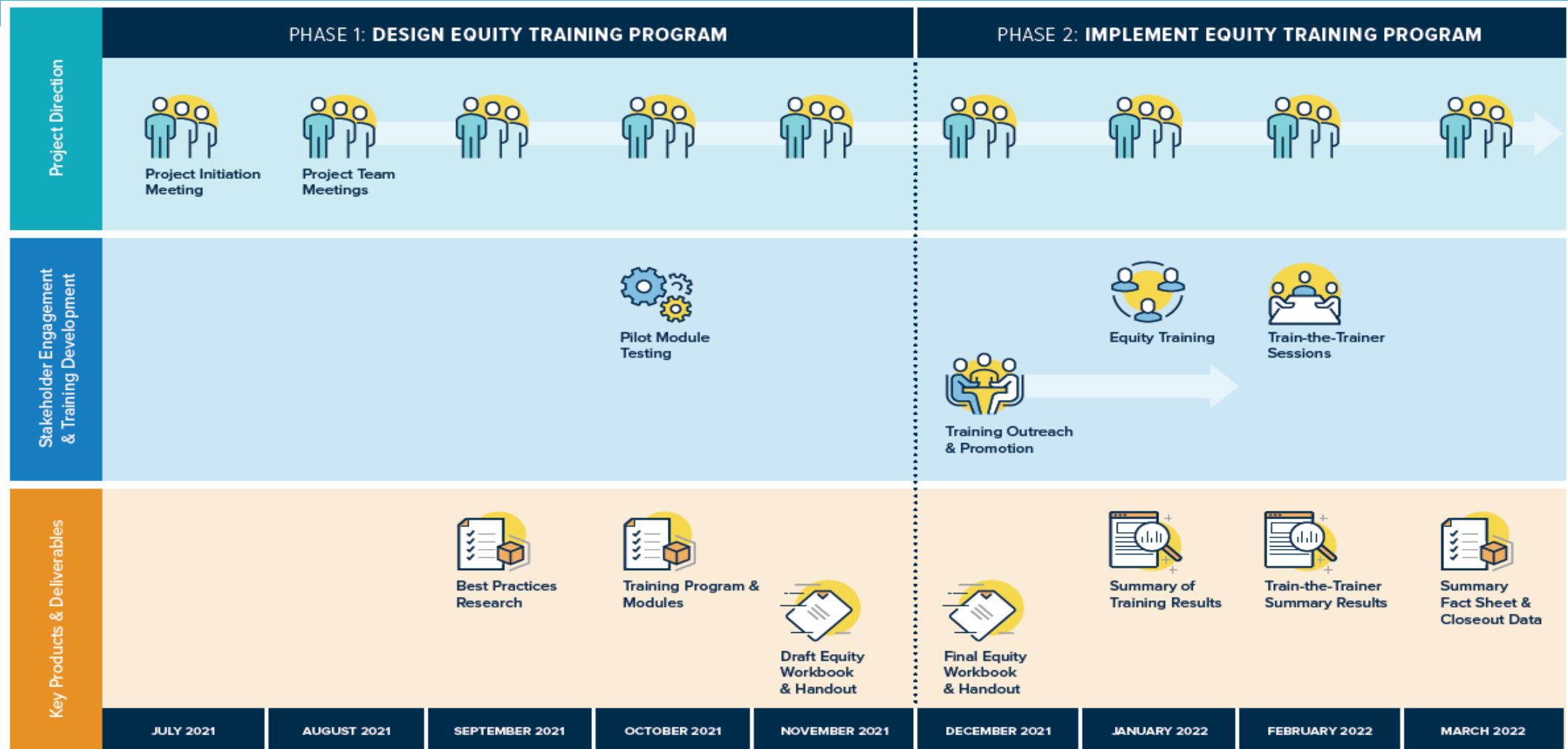
Reconnecting Communities Program

- **Community Partnership** – Pilot Locations
- Caltrans relationship building and strengthening with communities burdened and separated by highway facilities
- Caltrans listening and processing community perspective on how it's been harmed
- Community identifies transportation projects to reconnect and/or reduce burden of separation
- Statewide guidebook includes criteria to identify underserved communities and how to assess needs based on community driven data

Equitable Engagement

- The Caltrans Strategic Plan documents many actions and performance objectives around increased and ongoing meaningful engagement through all phases of work
- Internal coordination between CORE, Planning and Modal Programs, Districts, Project Delivery, etc.
- Developing tools to document and track engagement across the state
- Internal Equity Engagement Training

Planning Public Engagement Contract- Training

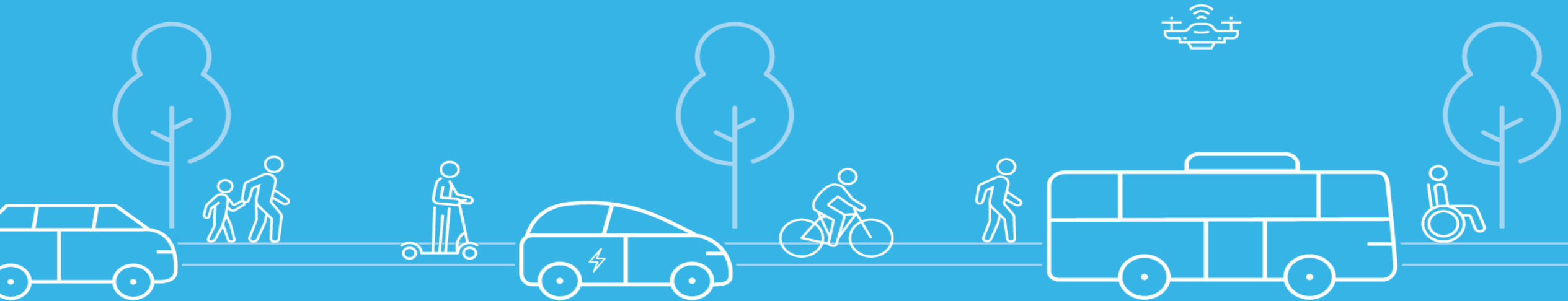




Statewide Community Listening Sessions

Caltrans Office on Race and Equity

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Overview

- Partnership between Caltrans, CTC, and CalSTA in contract with ICF Consulting
- Equity-focused sessions held during Winter of 2021/2022.
 - Combination of geographic and population focused sessions
 - Minimum of 6 virtual sessions
- Outreach:
 - Localized/targeted participants
 - Partnership with community-based organizations

Purpose

- Engage with stakeholders and the public to strengthen understanding of community transportation needs.
- Each session will be designed to:
 - Provide a space to offer personal testimony about California's transportation system
 - Foster better relationships and trust with historically under-resourced communities
 - Document current challenges and opportunities
- Final product: actionable report that will guide executive staff to implement changes across agencies with an equity focus.

Timeline

	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb-May
Task 1							
Develop Project Timeline	★						
Hold Kickoff Meeting	★						
Outline Promotional Materials and Outreach Plan		★					
Hold Regular (Biweekly) Project Management Check-in Meetings							
Task 2							
Conduct Training for Caltrans, CTC, and CalSTA			★				
Host One-on-One Meetings with CBOs							
Develop Work Plans for Each Listening Session			★	★			
Schedule Listening Sessions				★			
Task 3							
Conduct Marketing and Outreach for Listening Sessions							
Host Listening Sessions (6 total)					★	★	
Collect and Organize Listening Session Data							
Hold Follow Up Debrief Meetings							
Task 4							
Develop Listening Session Summary Reports (6)							★
Complete ADA Compliance for Each Report							★



Potential Focus Areas

Geographies

- *Selma*
- Stockton
- *San Diego portside communities*
- Los Angeles portside communities
- South or East Los Angeles
- Oakland
- Lake County / rural Northern California

Populations

- Youth
- Tribal governments/sovereign nations
- People with disabilities
- People experiencing homelessness; housing advocates
- People formerly incarcerated or system-impacted
- Black, Indigenous, Communities of Color

Workplan

Points of Interest

- Conduct facilitation training for agency staff
- Joint facilitation of listening sessions (ICF consultants + CORE staff)
- Partner with and compensate CBOs to support outreach and engagement
- Conduct closed sessions with direct invitations to participants
- Develop final report and disseminate findings

Thank You

Questions or comments? Please contact:

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