

# Mileposts

*The Mileposts section provides a summary of transportation issues affecting Caltrans and California.*

## MILE 1

### Emergency road repair toll climbs from heavy winter

With the wet weather season in California now concluded, the damage toll from the procession of storms that hit the State this winter and spring is mounting. Caltrans districts around the State requested \$212 million for storm-related emergency repairs to the highway network in their regions as of mid-June.

So far, there are 125 emergency requests, called director's orders, that ask to waive the normal bidding process so

contractors can quickly be hired to begin emergency work, sometimes in a matter of hours. Intense rainfall was cited in most cases for a series of road failures around the State, including damaged culverts, undermined or washed-out roadways, rock/slide damage, and destabilized embankments.

As costly as the repairs have been in the 2018-19 fiscal year, the amount is about half of the 2016-17 total of \$400 million.

## MILE 2

### CTC allocates SB 1 funds to various transportation projects

In the latest round of funding for transportation improvements throughout the State, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) has allocated \$533 million for 120 "fix-it first" projects, including \$229 million for 42 projects funded by the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (Senate Bill 1).

Projects allocated SB 1 funds at the June CTC meeting in Sacramento will improve 11 bridges and more than 346 lane miles of pavement, upgrade 547 congestion-reducing devices, and repair 155 culverts to prevent flooding on highways.

Other SB 1 funding included \$20 million for the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, dedicated to projects that will improve truck corridors, border access, freight rail systems, the capacity and efficiency of ports, and highways to better handle and move freight.

More than \$8.2 million of SB 1 funding also went to the

Local Partnership Program to help match investments that local communities have made in their region through voter-approved transportation tax measures.

In addition, commissioners approved an allocation of \$22.9 million in SB 1 funds for 30 locally administered Active Transportation Program (ATP) projects, which range from improving sidewalks and bicycle lanes to creating safer routes to school for children who ride bicycles or walk to school.

Many of the projects receiving allocations are part of the State Highway Operations and Protection Program, called SHOPP. Safety improvements, emergency repairs, highway preservation and operational highway upgrades are funded through SHOPP. A significant portion of the funding for this program comes from SB 1. Since SB 1 was signed into law on April 2017, Caltrans has repaired or replaced 115 bridges and paved almost 1,500 lane miles of the State Highway System.