INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (ITS)
Interdepartmental Coordination

On March 15, 2004, the California Department of Transportation (Department) met to update and refocus its activities to "Mainstreaming ITS" or otherwise amend its processes and procedures to uniformly accommodate transportation technology change, innovation, and deployments. The members present agreed to pursue the following actions:

1. Undertake a Department assessment to specifically determine what additions, changes, or streamlining in business practices or procedures are needed to meet the systems engineering analysis requirement contained in 23 CFR Parts 940 and 650 for the development of intelligent transportation projects or capital project ITS elements. A determination of the scope of such changes and additions and the wider implications for the Department's business processes must be a part of the above assessment.
2. Develop departmental policy and directives to formalize and assign responsibilities for ITS planning, ITS project development, eventual adoption of standards, ITS deployment and maintenance and staff capacity building (training, workshops, guides) to deal with additional technical and administrative requirements.
3. Actively participate in the development of and support and utilize the Statewide Architecture Framework and System Plan to attain consistency and complete integration in further ITS developments under departmental ownership.
4. Investigate more fully and pursue funding if deemed appropriate the addition of the new National ITS Architecture User Service, "Safety and Security," for a departmental focus in addressing Homeland Security objectives and more effectively utilizing the State transportation infrastructure in times of large-scale public emergency.

Implementing above actions is of priority to the Department. The focus of the Department's efforts in mainstreaming ITS must be in compliance with Federal requirements so that Federal funding can be used to deploy ITS elements. The specific timetable and work plan to implement these actions will be developed upon convening the management team and working group. The Division of Transportation Planning will be responsible for overall coordination of the mainstreaming effort. The divisions involved in the advancement of new technologies into the transportation infrastructure are identified as an action team affected by the Federal ITS requirements. Currently, that includes, but may not be limited to, Transportation Planning, Traffic Operations, Transportation Systems Information, Information Technology, Research and Innovation, Design, Maintenance, and Project Management. Additional administrative units may need to be brought in (e.g., contracts).

Resources:

The divisions and districts will participate at working group and management levels on a regularly scheduled basis to effectively contribute to, monitor and coordinate activities.

It is anticipated that interdepartmental coordination meetings would occur at least every two months for the period of the assessment and then determine what schedule is appropriate after that, at least through June 2005. Necessary resources will be discussed at the earliest opportunity.

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