

# MEASURE G ANNUAL REPORT



*Improving Mobility in San Benito County*



*The Measure G funded pavement milling and overlay of Church Street in the City of San Juan Bautista.*

# MEASURE G CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE STATEMENT

As the Measure G Citizens Oversight Committee, we look back on Fiscal Year 2023/2024 and we recognize that the cities of San Juan Bautista and Hollister and the County of San Benito made notable progress on the implementation of Measure G projects and programs.

The projects implemented:

- Improved safety and circulation
- Improved pavement conditions
- Enhanced bicycle and pedestrian accessibility
- Supported project planning and development efforts for projects that will get constructed later.



The Council of San Benito County Governments continued to allocate local Measure G funds to leverage state and federal monies to plan, fund, and build transportation projects and programs in our community.

As the Measure G Citizens Oversight Committee, we continued our commitment to ensure that the agency’s projects and programs enhance our local economy, improve the environment, and promote social equity in San Benito County – no matter what mode of transportation a person may use or where they may reside.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Victor Gomez in blue ink.

Victor Gomez, Chair  
Measure G Citizens Oversight Committee

# COUNCIL OF SAN BENITO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS(SBCOG)

The Council of San Benito County Governments is San Benito County’s Regional Transportation Planning Agency. The Agency provides a public forum for discussion of regional issues such as transportation mobility and housing at its monthly meetings and through public participation opportunities in all of its planning efforts.

Our locally elected Board of Directors is composed of five members representing all areas of San Benito County, including the City of Hollister, the City of San Juan Bautista, and the unincorporated areas of San Benito County. Both the SBCOG Board and staff are committed to maintaining and improving transportation for all of San Benito County.

## COG Mission

*COG improves the mobility of San Benito County travelers by planning for and investing in a multi-modal transportation system that is safe, economically viable, and environmentally friendly.*

## SBCOG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Freels, Chair, City of San Juan Bautista

Mia Casey, Vice Chair, City of Hollister

Dolores Morales Director, City of Hollister

Mindy Sotelo, Director, County of San Benito

Angela Curro, Director, County of San Benito

# MEASURE G

Transportation projects in the San Benito region are funded through a variety of federal, state, regional, and local funding sources. One of the most important sources of local funding is Measure G.




Measure G (COG Ordinance 2018-01 Roads, Transportation Safety Investment Plan) was approved by San Benito County

voters on November 6, 2018. The measure is administered by the Council of San Benito County Governments and includes a one percent local transactions and use tax to be collected for 30 years to improve our local streets and roads, improve connectivity, and reduce congestion. Measure G has emerged as a critical source of funding for a wide range of improvements that have been constructed or are in an earlier stage of development.

Measure G calls for a Transportation Safety and Investment Plan Oversight Committee to be composed of San Benito County residents to oversee compliance with the Ordinance.

Measure G Expenditure Summary





The measure is expected to generate up to \$485 million over thirty years. Fifty percent of the revenues will be set aside for the Highway 25 Conversion Project between Hollister and Santa Clara County. The other fifty percent of the revenue is being used by our two cities and the County to fix potholes and make road repairs, safety improvements and fund mobility-for-all programs. Specifically, the Investment Plan includes a project list that divides transportation projects into three tiers: Tier I for Highway 25; Tier II for Local Street and Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation; and Tier III for bicycle, pedestrian, and transit improvements for seniors, youth, and persons with disabilities.

# CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Measure G calls for an independent Citizens Oversight Committee to oversee compliance with the Ordinance. The Committee consists of San Benito County residents that represent the geographical, social, cultural, and economic diversity of the county to ensure maximum benefit for transportation users. The Committee represents a diverse range of community interests to ensure that taxpayer safeguards are met as Measure G projects and programs are implemented.

The responsibilities of the 11-member Measure G Citizens Oversight Committee are to:

1. Ensure all transportation revenue collected from Measure G is spent in accordance with the Measure G Transportation Safety and Investment Plan
2. Have full access to the SBCOG's independent auditor and review the annual audits, have the authority to request and review the specific financial information
3. Provide input on the audit to assure the funds are being expended in accordance with the Transportation Safety and Investment Plan
4. Review and make recommendations on any proposed changes to the Transportation Safety and Investment Plan
5. Review and comment on project delivery schedules and make recommendations to SBCOG on any proposals for changing project delivery priorities
6. Prepare annual reports regarding the administration of the program, to be presented to the SBCOG Board of Directors and posted to the SBCOG's website (SanBenitoCOG.org)

## **2023 Committee Makeup (As of June 2024)**

- Victor Gomez – Latinx Community (Committee Chair)
- Paul Sherer – Senior/Disabled Community
- Darlene Boyd – Education  
(Committee Vice Chair)
- Neils Ash – Trade/Labor
- Vacant - Agriculture
- John Espinosa – Industry
- Jim Parker – SBC District 1
- Jason Hopkins – SBC District 2
- Sandy Hughes – SBC District 3
- Kevin Stopper – SBC District 4
- Andrew Rollins – SBC District 5

# MEASURE G OVERVIEW

Measure G includes a project list that divides San Benito County transportation projects into the following three tiers. An update on the progress made under each tier is provided below.



## FUTURE MATCHING FUNDS

- State Funding Programs
- Matching Developer Impact
- Fees
- Secure Federal Funds



## PRIORITIES

- Prioritize Local Road Improvements
- Fast-Track Highway 25
- Invest in Quality of Life: Transit & Bikeways



## OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

- Meetings & Input
- Review Audit Reports & Expenditures
- Prepare Annual Report

## **Tier 1: Highway/State Route 25 Corridor Improvement Project**

The Measure G Expenditure Plan and Ordinance prioritizes State Route 25 corridor improvements as the most important project to invest in. This corridor is a lifeline trucking and commuter route between Hollister and Santa Clara County. Caltrans studies have shown that the corridor has ongoing safety problems and peak hour traffic volumes that already significantly exceed the capacity of the existing two-lane roadway. Due to the unsafe intersection bottlenecks and average travel speeds that are often less than 30 mph, SR 25 needs significant investments to support San Benito’s economy and improve the quality of life for residents.

## **Tier II: Local Streets & Roads**

Many of the roads in San Benito County and its two incorporated cities are crumbling after decades of underinvestment. In 2023, the California Statewide Needs Assessment Project published their latest study of road conditions. The survey concluded that the San Benito County road network has the third lowest average county pavement condition index (PCI) in the state. The county’s overall PCI average of 38 is within the “poor” category (0-49) and is significantly worse than the statewide average. The needs assessment report suggests that more than \$343 million will be needed over the next 10 years to improve road conditions in San Benito County.

Funds are distributed annually by SBCOG so that the local jurisdictions can implement cost-effective road maintenance and rehabilitation improvements. Local agency priorities are based on their pavement management plans, General Plan Circulation Elements, and the Regional Transportation Plan. Local funds are

typically used to match grant awards and state gas tax funds.

Tier II funding is provided to each local jurisdiction (City of Hollister, City of San Juan Bautista, and San Benito County) on a population-based formula: 47.5 percent to San Benito County, 47.5 percent to the City of Hollister, and 5 percent to the City of San Juan Bautista.

**Tier 3: Transit, Bicycle, and Pedestrian Improvements; Administration**

Tier III funds are a relatively small share of total Measure G expenditures. The category includes a broad range of investment types, with a focus on expanding mobility options. Eligible investments include the following:

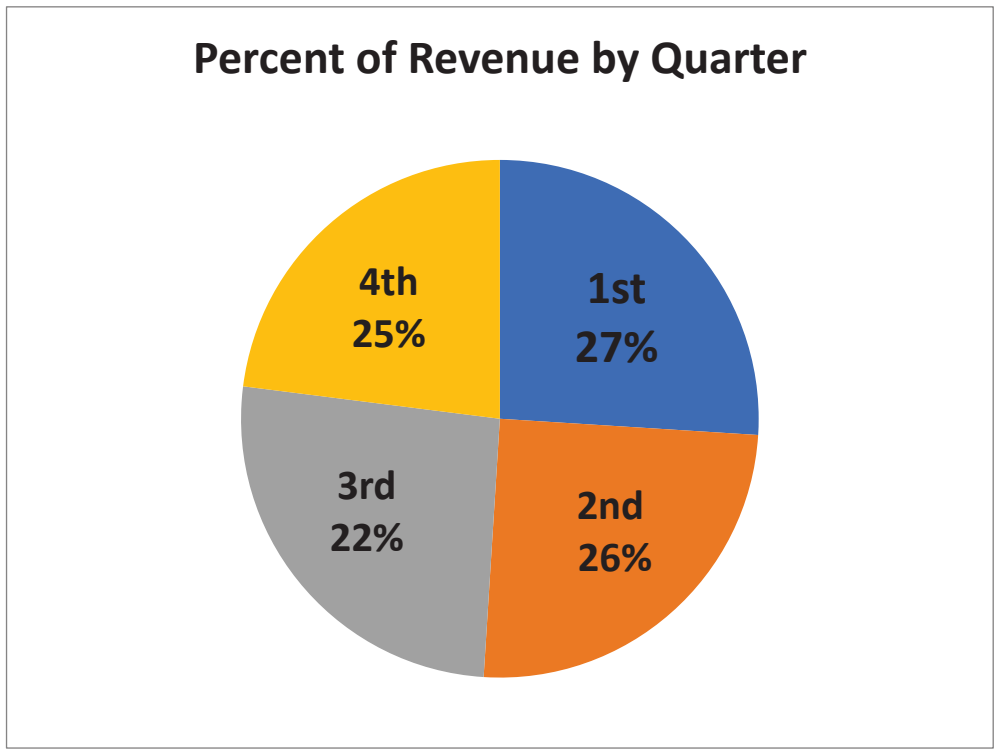
- Projects that enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety, including implementation of Safe-Routes-to-School programs and projects identified in the Countywide Bicycle, Pedestrian Master Plan as well as SBCOG’s RTP;
- Services for seniors, people with disabilities, and youth as described in the RTP project list;
- Projects that enhance safety and improve traffic flow on local roadways, including operational improvements, traffic calming, and “complete streets” measures;
- SBCOG staff and financial consultant expenses related to the administration of Measure G funds;
  
- Future Planning & Contingencies. Any expenditures of this type must be reviewed and approved by the SBCOG Board and Measure G Oversight Committee before funds are spent.

**MEASURE G FUNDING**



Since the passage of Measure G, revenues collected total \$61.6 million. During the 2023/2024 fiscal year reporting period, tax revenue collected totaled \$13.0 million. A breakdown of the revenues by quarter is provided below.\*

Revenue by Quarter	2023/2024
First Quarter	\$3,584,309
Second Quarter	\$3,357,762
Third Quarter	\$2,916,964
Fourth Quarter	\$3,233,296
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,092,331</b>



\*Numbers are unaudited

# FUNDING DISTRIBUTION

Measure G funds were allocated to each tier of the program as follows:

Apportionment by Tier	2023/2024
Tier I: Highway 25	\$3,770,591
Tier II: Local Streets & Roads	\$8,315,636
Tier III: Transit, Bicycle, & Pedestrian	\$959,668
Administration	\$130,923
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,176,818</b>

\*Tier II funds apportioned based on actual cash received at June 30, 2024.

Within Tier II, Measure G revenues are sub-apportioned to Local Agencies for Local Streets and Road purposes according to percentages defined in the Roads, Transportation Safety and Investment Plan. San Benito County and the City of Hollister receive 47.5% each, and the City of San Juan Bautista, 5%.

Apportionment by Local Agency	2023/2024
City of San Juan Bautista	\$415,782
City of Hollister	\$3,949,927
County of San Benito	\$3,949,927
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,315,636</b>

## PROJECT SPONSORS

The Council of San Benito County Governments disburses funds for local road projects to the County of San Benito, the City of Hollister, and the City of San Juan Bautista in accordance with the Roads and Transportation Safety Investment Plan. These sponsors are accountable for implementation of their Pavement Management Plans to rehabilitate area roadways within their jurisdiction.



Measure G funds for Highway 25 will be administered and spent by SBCOG. Caltrans is the implementing agency for Highway 25 project. SBCOG maintains an online, interactive map that identifies planned and completed projects funded under Measure G ([sanbenitocog.org](http://sanbenitocog.org)).



## **Measure G Investments**

### **FY 2020/2021 through FY 2023/2024**

#### **Tier 1: Highway/State Route 25 Corridor Improvement Project**

Two years before San Benito County voters approved the Measure G sales tax, a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) was completed in 2016 that adopted a new alignment for the SR 25 Corridor Improvement Project. In order to move forward with the route alignment approved in the 2016 FEIR, SBCOG has spent Measure G funds to complete advance planning work in collaboration with Caltrans, the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Agency (VTA), the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) and local member agencies.


Milestones completed with Measure G funding include a cooperative agreement for the SR 25 Expressway Conversion Project between SBCOG and Caltrans that was signed in 2021. This agreement confirmed that SBCOG is the sponsor for the SR 25 Expressway Conversion Project and is responsible for establishing the scope of the project and securing the financial resources to fund the work/project. The cooperative agreement also defined roles for Caltrans as the implementing agency for the SR 25 project and made the agency responsible for managing the scope, cost, schedule, and quality of the work activities and products of the project. For the current stage of work, Caltrans is the implementing agency for the Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA&ED) phase that includes the completion of the final environmental document and project report that documents the project alternative analysis and selection work.

Over the last three years, SBCOG has continued using Measure G funding for technical work and inter-agency collaborations with Caltrans, VTA, and local member agencies. Consulting firms are providing support services to SBCOG staff in the fields of planning, engineering and project management. This support is anticipated to continue during the PA&ED phase and design phase of the project.

Measure G expenditures for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 focused on the initiation of a new environmental planning document that will build upon prior technical studies. In early 2024, the SBCOG board was briefed on SR 25 corridor improvement options and planning requirements that need to be undertaken. Through a workshop and later briefings, board members and stakeholders offered insights and direction to the staff. The input from SBCOG board members and technical analysis culminated in a Purpose and Need statement that was adopted by the SBCOG board in March 2024. SBCOG planning efforts over the summer culminated in September workshop that summarized the key federal and state planning requirements related to the environmental planning process being launched.

SBCOG efforts to-date in Fiscal Year 2024-2025 have focused on the introduction of seven potential corridor alternatives for the new SR 25 environmental study. Board and citizen input continues to be gathered and has further shaped the seven alternatives proposed to be studied through the environmental planning process.

Board concurrence to study the seven alternatives proposed was followed by the release of a Notice of Preparation (NOP) that formally began the environmental planning process. The NOP included the Purpose and Need previously adopted by the SBCOG board and a description of the seven alternatives to be analyzed.



The new environmental document will fully analyze a range of alternatives for the future of SR 25, including their impacts and necessary mitigation. The document will fulfill necessary federal and state requirements and allow the sponsor agencies to move towards implementing critical improvements along the corridor. SBCOG is the responsible agency while Caltrans will be the lead agency for this new environmental study under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Measure G funding will allow SBCOG to make contributions to Caltrans for the technical work they complete on the new environmental document.

Looking beyond the current fiscal year, Measure G and traffic impact mitigation fees will be critical matching funds that help SBCOG compete for state and federal grants that will be needed to fund the construction of the SR 25 corridor improvements.

## **Tier II: Local Streets & Roads**

Measure G funds have been used to complete many projects since 2020. These improvements include the following streets and roads. Please note that Measure G funds are also eligible for additional technical project planning & design work by the local agencies for projects that are identified in the Transportation Safety and Investment Plan.

### **FY 2020/2021 Projects:**

- City of San Juan Bautista: Funded the **3rd Street Rehabilitation Project**, which consisted of road rehabilitation of 3rd Street between Tualami Street and Muckelemy Street. (2020)
- County of San Benito: **Union Road resurfacing** (2021)
- County of San Benito: **Buena Vista Road resurfacing** (2021)
- County of San Benito: **Southside Road, resurfacing** of a 1.7 mile section (2021).

### **FY 2021/2022 Projects:**


- County of San Benito: **Southside Road resurfacing** of a 0.4 mile section (2021)

### **FY 2022/2023 Projects:**

- City of Hollister: **Central Avenue Traffic Calming** (2022)
- City of Hollister: **traffic calming speed bumps at various locations** (2022, 2023)
- City of San Juan Bautista: **citywide street, curb, gutter, and sidewalk repair project**. Improvements included crack-sealing for 12 streets, as well as modifying curbs, gutters, and sidewalks on six streets. Project also included ADA-compliant ramps at seven intersections (2023)
- County of San Benito: **Cienega Road rehabilitation and embankment repairs** at two locations (2022)

### **FY 2023/2024 Projects:**

- City of Hollister: **2023 and 2024 Citywide Roadway Improvement Plans**. Improvements included pavement grind and overlays, slurry seals, re-striping, driveway replacements, safety features, and ADA ramp upgrades in various areas. Measure G funds were either spent as a portion of the project development work or towards the capital improvements. Corridors improved include the Ladd Lane/Southside Road Restoration Project, the Santa Ana Road Re-Striping Project, McCray Street Driveway Replacement Project, Memorial Drive Pedestrian Crosswalk, and the Wentz, Brown and Swope Alleys Reconstruction
- County of San Benito: project development work for improvements on **San Benito Street between Nash Road to Union Road**, including intersection control. Construction is expected to begin in 2025.

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- County of San Benito: project development work for improvements on **Wright Rd between Buena Vista Rd to SR 25**. Construction is expected to begin in 2025.
  - County of San Benito: **Cienega Rd Bridge at Bird Creek Replacement**: Environmental assessment and final design work towards the construction phase anticipated to begin in Summer of 2026.
  - County of San Benito: **Carr Ave Bridge Replacement**: Environmental assessment and final design work towards the construction phase anticipated to begin in Spring of 2026.

### **Tier 3: Administration, Transit, Bicycle, and Pedestrian Improvements**

#### **Tier III Investments since 2020:**

The only expenditures have been towards the administration of Measure G funds. This includes supporting SBCOG staff and financial consultants in the preparation of the annual financial audit, annual financial statements, and the disbursement of funds to local agencies.