

2026 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP

MENDOCINO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
JANUARY 13, 2026

Director: Howard Dashiell

Deputy Directors: Amber Fisette, Alicia Winokur & Jason Wise



Transportation Agenda

- Department Overview
- Engineering
- Bridges and Other Long-Life Capital Infrastructure Projects
- Transportation Funding - Senate Bill 1
- Road Fund Budget Forecast
- Solid Waste, Organics Diversion & Recycling
- Closed Landfills
- Water Agency
- Airports
- Land Improvement & Development Standards Permitting
- Potential Local Sales Tax for Roads

■ 5 Divisions:

- Administration and Business Services
- Land Improvement
- Solid Waste/Water Agency
- Engineering
- Road Services



Department Overview

Engineering

- Major Capital Improvement Projects for Roads and Bridges
 - Corrective Maintenance
 - Bridge Replacements
 - Disaster Damage Repairs
 - Highway Safety Improvement
 - Second Access Routes
 - Fish & Sediment Reduction
 - Active Transportation/Safe Routes to School
- Transportation Planning
- Traffic Safety & Studies



Bridges and other Long Life Capital Infrastructure Projects

Project	Estimated Remaining Costs	Local Share	State /Federal Share
Bridge Replacement Projects (11)	\$56,136,000	\$2,449,862	\$53,686,138
New Bridge Preventative Maintenance Projects	\$175,000	\$20,073	\$154,928
Bridge Veg Maintenance & Monitoring (6)	\$506,364	\$97,143	\$409,221
North State Street Interchange Improvements	\$14,979,000	\$262,000	\$14,717,000
Brooktrails Second Access (PA/ED and PS&E only)	\$11,064,000	\$0	\$11,064,000
Redemeyer Road Extension	\$54,615,000	\$3,993,000	\$50,622,000
Highway Safety Improvement Program projects (3)	\$4,020,000	\$227,000	\$3,793,000
2026 - 2030 Corrective Maintenance	\$30,780,000	\$30,780,000	\$0
Round Valley Safe Routes to School	\$6,181,000	\$0	\$6,181,000
Fish Rock Road Sediment Reduction	\$500,000	\$20,000	\$480,000
Storm Drainage Climate Grant	\$500,000	\$57,350	\$442,650
Estimated Total Road, Bridge, and Ped Projects	\$178,956,364	\$37,906,427	\$141,549,936
2023 Storm Damage Repairs -- 8 sites	\$3,507,822	\$326,359	\$3,181,463
Estimated Total Disaster Damage Projects	\$3,507,822	\$326,359	\$3,181,463
Estimated Total All Projects	\$182,464,186	\$38,232,786	\$144,731,399

Transportation Funding - Senate Bill 1 (SB1) Recap from January 8, 2019 (Twenty Year Plan)

- Funded by SB-1 Road Maintenance & Rehabilitation Account (RMRA) funds
- ~\$115 million over those 20 years
- ~\$574 million in unmet paving needs over the next 10 years
- Receive ~\$5.5 million annually – treats ~15-25 miles, depending on road condition
- Treats 357 miles of the ~675 miles of surfaced roads
- 90% of “surfaced” County Roads - years of chip seal, NOT asphalt concrete (AC) pavement
- Currently in Year 8 of the Plan



Road Fund Budget Forecast

Estimated Road Fund Balance July 1, 2026: \$3,362,863

FY 25.26 Estimated Revenues & Expenses

Budget Unit	Revenues	Expenses	Difference
3010	\$16,341,064	\$12,139,147	\$4,201,917
3030	\$712,123	\$794,538	-\$82,415
3041	\$25,723,210	\$26,256,187	-\$532,977
Fund Total	\$42,776,397	\$39,189,872	\$3,586,525

Road Fund Balance per 24/25 Road Report 7/1/25: -\$223,662

Estimated Road Fund Balance at end of FY 25/26: **\$3,362,863**
(Enough to complete Year #8 Corrective Maintenance Project in September/October 2026)

Pending 3041 Project Payments:

- Briceland Rd \$875,445
- Lambert Ln Bridge \$2,408,915
- Davis Creek @ East Hill \$34,182
- Ackerman Cr Bridge \$ 3,690,749

Submitted for reimbursement:

\$7,009,291





Solid Waste, Organics Diversion & Recycling

- Mendocino County Solid Waste Division oversees:
 - Franchise agreements for curbside collection in 4 County franchise areas
 - Operations agreements for 8 transfer stations
 - Implementation of state regulations related to solid waste disposal, recycling and organics
 - County closed landfills
- Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority (MSWMA) – Administered by City of Ukiah - oversees:
 - Household hazardous waste collection - Wednesday 9 AM to 1 PM at 3200 Taylor Drive, Ukiah, and select Saturdays at various locations around the County
 - Illegal dumping cleanup – dump sites throughout the county can be reported to City of Ukiah Public Works Department, Attn: Seth Strader (707) 467-5719

Closed Landfills: Caspar, Laytonville, South Coast

- **Solid Waste Division Responsibilities (California Code of Regulations Title 27 compliance):**
 - **Closure** – South Coast Landfill planned for final closure Summer 2026
 - **Post-closure maintenance / corrective action plans** – prepare and periodically update plans (every 5 years), Laytonville Landfill planned for corrective action project 2027 or 2028
 - **Maintenance of control systems** – routine inspections, general site maintenance and repair, stormwater management and erosion control, leachate collection and disposal, gas and water well maintenance, vegetation management
 - **Environmental monitoring** – quarterly groundwater and surface water sampling, quarterly/monthly landfill gas monitoring, annual leachate sampling
 - **Reporting** – Quarterly/annual reporting to NCRWQCB, annual financial assurance reporting to CalRecycle

Water Agency

Current Water Agency Programs/Projects:

- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permit compliance
- Mill Creek Ponds Invasive Mussel Prevention Plan implementation
- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation through participation in Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (UVBGS)
- California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) implementation
- Drought Resilience Plan (DRP) implementation & monitoring

Airports – Cost to County is Low

- County general fund match of 2.5% to 5%
- FAA AIP grants – 95%
- California Division of Aeronautics grants 2.5%
- Grants in the amount of \$6.65 million since 2005

- MCDOT oversees safe airport operations and general management
- Work with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the California Dept. of Transportation Division of Aeronautics to fund capital improvement projects and improve airport safety
- Work with our aviation consultants, Mead and Hunt, on planning and engineering projects
- Coordinate with local, State, and Federal agencies for and during emergencies.



Land Improvement – Permit Authority in the Public Right-of-Way

- The California Vehicle Code and Streets and Highways Code give local governments the authority to maintain safe passage for the traveling public. MCDOT must consider all uses in the public roadways in the public interest, both present and future. The 2008 Board of Supervisors adopted Road and Development Standards, thus our permit conditions on property owners and businesses in the public right-of-way also considers the future needs.

A scenic landscape featuring a paved road in the foreground, a concrete bridge with a metal railing in the middle ground, and a dense forest of evergreen trees on a hillside in the background. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The text "Potential Local Sales Tax for Roads" is overlaid in white serif font.

Potential Local Sales Tax for Roads

Potential Local Sales Tax for Roads

- County may pursue sales tax in unincorporated area only – No overlap with incorporated areas
- 1 cent sales tax could provide approximately \$6 million annually IF dedicated for Roads thus receiving State “Self-Help County” share (\$5.5 million without “Self-Help County” share).
- New \$5.5 million budget could provide about 20 miles per year – ability to treat all 317 miles not in the RMRA 20-Year Plan in 18 years:
 - 5 to 9 miles paving per year – sharp curves - steep grade
 - 9 to 13 miles In place recycle w/ chip seal (double layer)
 - 43-67 miles chip seal (double layer)
 - \$1/2 million to restore maintenance crew staff by 7 to 9 positions



Recent Poll Shows Voters are Concerned about the Condition of County Roads

- Nearly three-quarters (73%) feel the County has an appreciable need for funding for roads (only 70% in 2002)
- Initial support for a measure reached two-thirds (66% total yes, with 39% definitely yes) (average in the 60's)
- The top investment priorities are:
 - durable repair of potholes
 - prolonging the life of roads
 - repairing major roads

The Potential Ballot Measure

To maintain and improve deteriorating roads; permanently resurface potholes on local roads; all in the unincorporated areas of the County only, shall the Mendocino County measure establishing a one-cent sales tax in those areas for 18 years, providing approximately \$5.5 million annually, with public disclosure of funds, independent annual audits, and all funds legally required to be spent locally only on Mendocino County roads, be adopted?




How Should the Tax be Used?

78% believe it is Extremely or Very Important that the tax be used for permanently fixing potholes (not just patches)



78% think it is important to use the tax revenues for repairing distressed roads to prevent further deterioration



74% believe tax should be used to prolong the life of existing roads



70% of voters support using funds for the busiest roads that people drive on every day



Traffic congestion, bike trails, road widening low priorities

General or Specific Tax?



General Tax

Requires majority approval
(50% + 1)

Potential for lower voter trust

No benefit from possible
incentives



Specific Tax

Requires 2/3 approval (66.7% + 1)

Must be used for specific purpose

Potential for “self-help” incentives

Current Taxes per California Department of Tax and Fee Administration

Local Agency	Current Tax Rate
Mendocino County	7.875%
City of Fort Bragg	9.25%
City of Point Arena	9.25%
City of Ukiah	8.875%
City of Willits	9.125%

If Mendocino County wants to stay at or under city tax rates, then the County has 1.375% capacity

Next Steps



Decision must be made soon
for November 2026 ballot



Special Tax requires
Expenditure Plan



All materials must be
completed by August 12

Questions?



Links to Additional Information

20-Year Corrective Maintenance and Pavement Preservation Plan:

<https://mendocino.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5469061&GUID=7DDFA248-C283-4E0F-9743-65AEFE635730&Options=&Search=>

CSAC & Cal Cities Webinar 2020: <https://savecaliforniastreet.org/action-center/toolkit/>

Water Agency: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/government/mendocino-county-water-agency>

Solid Waste: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/transportation/solid-waste>

Current HHW Schedule: <https://candswaste.com/services/household-hazardous-waste/#mendo-hhw>

Airports: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/transportation/airports>

Road & Development Standards: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/transportation/road-standards>



THANK YOU

- Howard Dashiell, Director of Transportation
- Amber Fiset, Deputy Director Solid Waste/Water Agency
- Alicia Winokur, Deputy Director Engineering
- Jason Wise, Deputy Director Land Improvement

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