



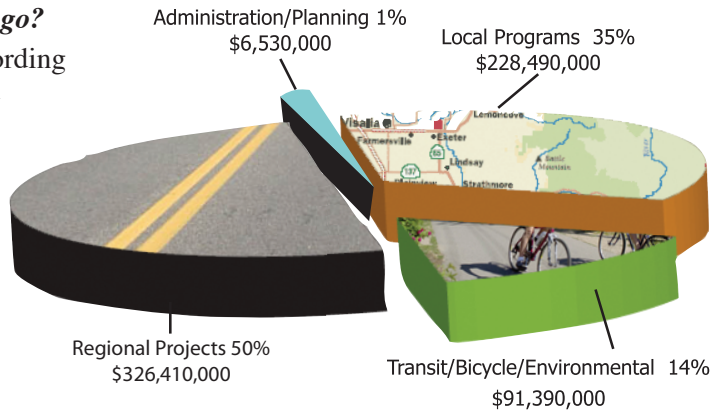
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is it?

A: Measure R is a 30-year, one-half cent transportation sales tax passed in 2006. It is primarily intended to fund roads, but also helps fund clean air transportation initiatives such as bikes and buses.

Q: Where does the money go?

A: Measure R is spent according to four categories in the Expenditure Plan.



Q: Has the Expenditure Plan been changed?

A: Yes. When voters approved Measure R, they approved an Expenditure Plan that stated that the document could be reviewed annually and changed to provide for the use of unexpected revenues, unforeseen circumstances, or changes in funding and/or priorities. Amendments must be approved by a majority of the cities representing a majority of the incorporated population and the County of Tulare. That is the same voting requirement that Tulare County Association of Governments used to adopt the original Expenditure Plan.

Q: Can Measure R be used to fund rail?

A: Yes. With the support of all nine member agencies, the Expenditure Plan was amended in 2008 to include a \$3 million Rail Preservation Fund within the transit/bicycle/environmental funding category. It fits into this funding category because rail is cleaner burning than trucks and more fuel-efficient.

Rail Facts:

- Measure R can be used for right of way (ROW) acquisition and/or preservation of rail corridors. Preservation of rail corridors by purchase of existing fixtures includes, but is not limited to: railroad ties, ballast and tracks. Measure R funds cannot be used for purchase of trains or operational expenses. Signals are permitted when anticipated commercial operation will result in preservation of the ROW.
- Funds in the 14 percent transit/bicycle/environmental category cannot be spent on rail unless a business plan has been submitted and approved by the Tulare County Transportation Authority.
- If Measure R is used for rail, the funds would **not** be pulled from road projects because rail is in a separate category.
- The Measure R transit/bike/environmental category is expected to have a \$15 million surplus.

Q: What Measure R projects are planned in the next five years?

A: In the next five years, \$500 million in construction projects is planned in Tulare County, thanks to leveraging. Measure R provides the local match, allowing agencies to compete for funding and stretch Measure R dollars.