

## PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION

The Committee on Accountability and Administrative Review recommends that Caltrans amend its process on purchasing proprietary products to include the following:

- Allow for a brief public comment period and approval of the Department of General Services before commencing with a state-funded contract that includes a proprietary product. Caltrans' request to DGS should emulate the process required by the Federal Highway Administration when its permission is required for a proprietary product. The FHWA requires a "written document outlining the basis for the request and any supporting documentation such as cost/benefit analysis; discussion of product compatibility; logistical concerns, etc." in its regulations for determining that a proprietary product is in the best interest of taxpayers.
- Rewrite the process to require that all district directors sign off on any proprietary product that headquarters is asking districts to purchase. The current process is written from the perspective of a district asking headquarters for permission to pursue a proprietary product.