

Date: May 27, 2009
W.I.: 1152
Referred by: PAC

ABSTRACT

Resolution No. 3904

This resolution establishes a one-year program for Fiscal Year 2009-10 for MTC State Transit Assistance (STA) Regional Coordination funds.

Further discussion is contained in the Programming and Allocation Summary sheet dated May 13, 2009.

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RE: FY 2009-10 MTC Regional Coordination Program for State Transit Assistance (STA) Funds

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Resolution No. 3904

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area pursuant to Government Code Section 66500 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the State Transit Assistance (STA) fund is created pursuant to Public Utilities Code § 99310 et seq., and

WHEREAS, Public Utilities Code § 99313 provides for the allocation by the Controller of State Transit Assistance (STA) funds to MTC based on the ratio of the population of the area under MTC's jurisdiction to the total population of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with PUC Code § 99316(a) MTC has created the State Transit Assistance fund with Alameda County for deposit of STA funds received from the State Controller; and

WHEREAS, Public Utilities Code § 99313.6(d) provides that MTC is an eligible claimant for such population-based STA funds for projects to achieve regional transit coordination objectives; and

WHEREAS, MTC has adopted a Transit Coordination Implementation Plan pursuant to Government Code Section 66516.5 which identifies a number of projects to be implemented by MTC and the region's transit agencies to improve coordination of services; and

WHEREAS, the projects listed in Attachment A to this resolution, attached hereto, and incorporated herein as though set forth at length, are consistent with the STA Population-Based Consolidated policy established in MTC Resolution No. 3837; and

WHEREAS, MTC has provided detailed information about the use of STA funds for the projects in FY 2009-10 as shown in Attachment B to this resolution, attached hereto, and incorporated herein as though set forth at length; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the projects and purposes listed in Attachment B comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq., and the State EIR Guidelines (14 Cal. Code of Regs. § 15000 et seq.)

WHEREAS, MTC has complied with the applicable rules and regulations for an allocation of STA funds under 21 Cal. Code of Regs. § 6730 et seq.; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that STA funds are programmed by MTC in the amounts and for the purposes that are specified in Attachment A and described in Attachment B to this resolution, attached hereto and made a part of this resolution.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Scott Haggerty, Chair

The above resolution was entered into by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at a regular meeting of the Commission held in Oakland, California on May 27, 2009.

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**STA Regional Coordination Program
FY 2009-10**

Carryover STA Regional Discretionary Funds ^(note 1)	\$ 6,595,081
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Project Name	Claimant	Amount
TransLink [®]	MTC	\$ 509,000
TransLink [®] Grant Administration	GG Transit	\$ 10,000
511 Transit	MTC	\$ 316,000
511 Real-Time Transit Information	MTC	\$ 111,000
Transit Connectivity	AC Transit	\$ 97,000
Regional Transit Marketing	MTC	\$ 91,000
Regional Paratransit Program	CCCTA	\$ 75,000
Total		\$ 1,209,000

STA Balance Estimate	\$ 5,386,081
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Notes:

1. The estimated carryover is based on the February 2009 fund estimate for STA Population-based funds in MTC Resolution 3886.

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STA Regional Coordination Program Summary FY 2009-10

STA Regional Coordination Funds have historically supported some of MTC's regional operations projects as well as other planning and operational efforts to improve coordination of, and access to, transit services in the Bay Area. Many of these projects have been identified in the Commission's SB 1474 Transit Coordination Implementation Plan. Specific SB 1474 plan goals include: (1) improve service to the transit customer, (2) increase system efficiency through coordination of specific functions, and (3) develop sub-regional coordination agreements between connecting agencies.

The FY 2009-10 STA Regional Coordination Program totals \$1,209,000 and generally focuses on delivering TransLink[®], 511 Transit, and Transit Connectivity consistent with the Commission's Transportation 2035 Plan and other regional planning documents. In addition, funds are programmed to implement other MTC regional priorities. More detail about the specific projects and the amount of STA funds programmed to each follows.

TransLink[®]

Programmed to MTC: \$509,000

Programmed to GGT: \$10,000

TransLink[®] is the Bay Area's regional transit electronic fare payment system. When fully implemented, transit riders will be able to pay transit fares on any transit system in the region with a reloadable TransLink[®] smart card. The TransLink[®] card stores transit value – electronic cash (e-cash) and/or transit passes, and transit riders “tag” the card by touching it to a TransLink[®] card reader when boarding a transit vehicle or entering a station. The reader deducts the correct fare including any transfers or other discounts. TransLink[®] is currently operating on AC Transit, Golden Gate Transit and Ferry (GGT), and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority (MUNI). Caltrain is revenue ready and ramping up for a “soft” launch. The system will soon expand to BART and eventually is expected to be available on every transit system in the region.

MTC's TransLink[®] responsibilities include oversight of a contract with Motorola, Inc. to design, build, operate and maintain the TransLink[®] system and a number of other contracts related to the implementation and operation of the TransLink[®] system. \$509,000 in STA funds will serve as local match to federal funds for TransLink[®] capital and operating costs and \$10,000 in STA funds will cover GGT's administration of federal funds used to support the implementation of the TransLink[®] system.

511 Transit

Programmed to MTC: \$316,000

STA funds will serve as local match to federal STP funds for the 511 Transit program. 511 Transit collects, maintains, updates and distributes region-wide transit service information for the benefit of the traveling public and MTC's transit partners. The three major components are:

- 511 Transit Website – The 511 Transit website contains schedule, route, fare and map information for all transit agencies in the Bay Area as well as the current trip planner. Access to the 511 Transit website is provided through MTC's traveler information portal (www.511.org) where traffic, ridesharing and bicycle information is also available.
- Transit trip planner – The public can plan transit itineraries any time of the day or night using the internet-based 511 regional transit trip planner. Transit agency call center staff also has access to the trip planner for assisting customers with trip planning.
- Regional Transit Database (RTD) – The RTD is the central repository and data management system for comprehensive regional transit data used in the 511 Transit website, including the trip planner.

511 Real-Time Transit Information

Programmed to MTC: \$111,000

STA funds will serve as local match to federal funds for this project. The 511 Strategic Plan (completed in April 2006) and the Transit Connectivity Study (adopted by the Commission in June 2006) found that provision of real-time information was an important tool to improve the customer experience on Bay Area transit services. The program consists of three separate efforts:

1. Transit operator deployments of passenger information systems so that they can provide real-time data.
2. Regional real-time data clearinghouse, developed and operated by MTC.
3. Dissemination of real-time data by 511 phone, 511 web, text messaging, and on display signs at regional transit hubs.

Currently, real-time departure information is available for MUNI and BART by phone and is expanding as described above. MTC will add new transit agencies to the real-time transit system as their data becomes available. MTC will operate and maintain the regional real-time transit system, including supporting 511 Departure Times on the phone, through a new web user interface, at My511.org and via text message. MTC will also incorporate real-time transit information into the trip planner so transit stop IDs are part of trip itineraries.

Transit Connectivity

Programmed to AC Transit: \$97,000

In April 2006, MTC adopted a Transit Connectivity Plan and incorporated its findings into the SB 1474 Transit Coordination Implementation Plan (Resolution 3055, Revised). In July 2006, MTC adopted the funding component of the Transit Connectivity Plan (Resolution 3771), which specifies the roles and responsibilities of MTC and the transit operators to pay for specific transit connectivity improvements at regional transit hubs. Consistent with the funding plan, MTC is

investing \$10 million in initial capital improvements at 24 regional transit hubs (including 3 airports). The focus is to improve wayfinding signage, real-time transit information and static transit information at these hubs. These improvements were originally funded entirely with STA funds. However, MTC Resolution 3814 redirected the STA funds to Lifeline Transit operations and backfilled them with Proposition 1B Public Transportation, Modernization, Improvement and Service Enhancement Account (Prop 1B Transit) funds.

In addition to capital improvements, the Transit Connectivity Plan recommends a greater regional commitment to maintaining transit information in the transit information displays (TIDs). MTC will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AC Transit to maintain the TIDs on behalf of the region. The MOU will document the scope of work in exchange for the direct allocation of STA funds. In FY 2009-10, \$97,000 is programmed for ongoing maintenance activities.

Regional Transit Marketing

Programmed to MTC: \$91,000

STA funds will serve as local match to federal funds. Marketing funds will be used to provide marketing, market research and support services for the 511 Traveler Information and TransLink® Programs, as well as to address other ad-hoc transit marketing needs. Consistent with the findings of the 511 Strategic Plan, the program will maintain its focus on increasing and sustaining usage of the 511 phone number and website (511.org) as well as developing a better understanding of how customers use the 511 system. As TransLink® continues deployment on individual transit agencies, promoting the TransLink® card to transit riders will help increase market share of TransLink®.

Regional Paratransit Program

Programmed to CCCTA: \$75,000

STA funds will support a 'lead agency' for the Regional Paratransit Program. This approach is consistent with the goals of the Transit Coordination and Implementation Plan, which endorses the concept of reimbursement for services provided by a Lead Agency on behalf of other operators. The lead agency is the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (CCCTA). CCCTA will coordinate paratransit operational activities such as:

- Oversight of the Paratransit Eligibility Program and Regional Eligibility Database, and delivery of the Paratransit Technical Assistance Program through a consultant; and
- Liaison between the PTCC Accessibility Committee and MTC, including reporting on the status of activities.

CCCTA will provide progress reports summarizing work performed.