

Metropolitan Transportation Commission Programming and Allocations Committee

September 9, 2009

Item Number 2e

Resolution No. 3860, Revised

- Subject:** Second Cycle Lifeline Transportation Program Guidelines and Fund Estimate
- Background:** The Lifeline Transportation Program (LTP) is intended to result in improved mobility for low-income residents of the Bay Area, and is administered at the county level. With the Transportation 2030 long range plan adopted in 2004, MTC dedicated Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) and Proposition 42 State Transit Assistance (STA) funds to the program beginning in FY 2009. An interim three-year funding cycle was initiated for FY 2005 – FY 2008 to jump-start the program.
- In July 2008, the Commission approved the Second Cycle Lifeline Program Guidelines, with estimated funding of \$74.7 million over the three years from FY 2009 to FY 2011. Due to uncertainty in the state budget, MTC recommended that county Lifeline Program Administrators develop two tiers of projects. The first tier was forwarded to the Commission for approval in January 2009. A second tier program of projects will be forwarded to the Commission for approval in December 2009.
- Due to the loss of STA and spillover funds, the Tier 1 program was reduced accordingly and STA funding for Tier 2 was eliminated altogether, bringing the three-year program to \$48.7 million.
- Recommended Action: Staff proposes to revise the Lifeline fund estimate to add (1) a one-time augmentation of \$3.9 million in STA population-based funds to the Lifeline Program consistent with STA distribution in the STA Consolidated Policy and with the September 2009 proposed revision to the MTC Fund Estimate, and (2) add \$2.8 million in FY 2010 JARC Large Urbanized Area funds which MTC staff expects to be available under the extension of SAFETEA. This one-time augmentation of \$7 million of Tier 2 funding brings the total available for the three-year program to \$55.8 million.
- Issues:** Due to the one-time nature of this augmentation and no foreseeable restoration of STA funds in the near term, agencies should consider focusing these funds on service that can be sustained for the next several years rather than spreading the funding across many services that will need to be terminated if no alternative source of revenue becomes available. The revised Lifeline Program Guidelines provide counties the ability to apply these funds either to projects competitively selected under Tier 1, or to use non-JARC funds in Tier 2 to sustain existing Lifeline-eligible transit services threatened by state budget cuts. The deadline for counties to submit Tier 2 or revised Tier 1 programs of projects is

extended one month to October 2009 to accommodate programming the new funds.

The factors for determining the distribution of Proposition 1B funds throughout the state are set annually by the State Controller. Staff assumes that the FY 2009 factors will be used again in determining FY 2010 share; however, this is subject to confirmation from the Controller.

Recommendation: Refer MTC Resolution No. 3860, Revised to the Commission for approval.

Attachments: MTC Resolution No. 3860, Revised

Date: July 23, 2008
W.I.: 1311
Referred by: PAC
Revised: 10/22/08-C
09/23/09-C

ABSTRACT

Resolution No. 3860, Revised

This Resolution adopts the Second-Cycle Lifeline Transportation Program Guidelines and Fund Estimate.

The following attachment is provided with this Resolution:

Attachment A— Second-Cycle Lifeline Transportation Program Guidelines and Funding FY 2009 through FY 2011

This Resolution was revised on October 22, 2008, to update the funding amounts for the STA funds based on new figures from the final State Budget.

This Resolution was revised on September 23, 2009 to update the Tier 2 STA and JARC funding amounts for FY 2010 and to revise the deadline for submittal or revision of the Lifeline Program of Projects (Tier 2) to October 30, 2009.

Further discussion of the Lifeline Program Guidelines is provided in the Programming and Allocations Committee summary sheets dated July 9, 2008, October 8, 2008, and September 9, 2009.