



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter  
101 Eighth Street  
Oakland, CA 94607-4700  
TEL 510.817.5700  
TDD/TTY 510.817.5769  
FAX 510.817.5848  
E-MAIL [info@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:info@mtc.ca.gov)  
WEB [www.mtc.ca.gov](http://www.mtc.ca.gov)

## *Memorandum*

TO: Transit Finance Working Group

DATE: April 6, 2011

FR: Glen Tepke

W. I.

RE: Narrow Banding Funding Needs Request

Land mobile radio systems – the two-way radios most often used to communicate with fleet vehicles – have been mandated by the Federal Communications Commission to change from 25 kHz radio channels to narrow-band 12.5 kHz channels by January 1, 2013 (Sections 309(j) and 337 of the Communications Act of 1934 as Amended). Narrow-banding will require some transit agencies to replace their entire radio infrastructure. For more information on narrow-banding requirements, see:

<http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/public-safety-spectrum/narrowbanding.html>

Under the region's Transit Capital Priorities policy, replacement of communication systems is treated as a Score 16 project. However, given the level-funding of the FTA formula programs over the last two years, and uncertainty over future funding levels under the next federal transportation authorization, funding new project needs that are not already included in the projections of future capital needs will be challenging.

In order to assess the scale of the narrow-banding funding needs and the potential demand for TCP funds, operators are requested to provide the following information to Glen Tepke ([gtepke@mtc.ca.gov](mailto:gtepke@mtc.ca.gov)) by Friday, April 15:

- Brief description of the work required, if any, for your agency to comply with narrow-banding requirements.
- Projected cost of compliance.
- Expected funding sources to cover cost of compliance.
- Whether any TCP funds are currently programmed for narrow-banding related projects.
- Whether the cost of compliance is reflected in your agency's Regional Transit Capital Inventory data, i.e., if narrow-banding requires you to replace your radio system by 2013, do the radio assets in your RTCI data indicate a replacement date of 2013 or earlier?

Thank you for your help with this issue.