



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 5b

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Memorandum

TO: Legislation Committee

DATE: March 2, 2012

FR: Executive Director

W. I. 1512

RE: Regional Endorsement of Bay Area Projects for Federal Discretionary Grants

This memorandum provides background on current federal discretionary programs and recommends Commission endorsement for regional projects and approval for MTC to submit applications for funding. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Department of Transportation (DOT) recently released Notices of Funding Availability for five discretionary funding programs, as summarized in the following table:

Program	2012 Nationwide Program Amount (in millions)	Application Deadline	Anticipated Announcement of Allocations
TIGER IV	\$500	March 19, 2012	TBD
FTA Programs:			
State of Good Repair	\$650	March 22, 2012	Early July 2012
Livability	\$125	March 29, 2012	Late July 2012
Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative	\$30	April 19, 2012	Early July 2012
Clean Fuels	\$51.5	April 5, 2012	Late July 2012

Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) IV

In summer 2009, the Commission adopted a set of principles as guidance for project selection under the TIGER grant program. Some of the goals of these principles were achieved in TIGER I (Doyle Drive and freight project funding).

Under TIGER II, the Legislation Committee directed staff to meet the remaining transit and priority development area goals based on the previously-endorsed list and projects selected from a targeted solicitation for regionally-significant livable community projects. The East Bay Parks – Green Transportation Initiative project was awarded a TIGER II grant.

Using the same set of principles and project list, the Commission endorsed five projects for the TIGER III program, none of which were selected for TIGER III funding.

TIGER IV – Endorsement Approach: Based on feedback from U.S. DOT staff and analysis of projects selected in prior TIGER funding rounds, staff recommends the Commission endorse the

following two projects focused on freight access/goods movement and high speed rail/intercity rail.

TIGER IV Projects for Commission Endorsement

Category	Project Name	Sponsor	TIGER IV Request (\$ millions)	Total Project Cost (\$ millions)
Goods Movement	Oakland Army Base Rail Improvements: Phase I	Port of Oakland (in coordination with the City of Oakland)	20	43
High Speed Rail/ Intercity Passenger Rail	Caltrain Advanced Signal System - Positive Train Control	Caltrain	34	55
Total			54	98

As noted, MTC endorsed five unsuccessful TIGER III candidate projects. U.S. DOT staff feedback included the importance of focusing on a limited number of regional priority projects and projects that have additional impact beyond the region.

Freight and rail projects have been a consistent priority for U.S. DOT. Twenty-two percent of TIGER III funds were awarded to port or rail projects. Further, the region secured funds in TIGER I to support the California Green Trade Corridor, a project including improvements at multiple Northern California ports.

TIGER IV includes an emphasis on high speed and intercity rail. Specifically, the Notice of Funding Availability states that "up to \$100 million in TIGER funds will be available to high speed and intercity passenger rail projects". The Port of Oakland and Caltrain projects demonstrate benefits to the region and beyond. Each project address U.S. DOT priorities clearly emphasized in the program evaluation guidelines.

Attachment A is a list of additional projects that have submitted TIGER IV pre-applications, based on a survey of Bay Area agencies. Staff believes that limiting regional endorsement to two projects is the best approach to securing the extremely competitive TIGER funding in this cycle. As in past TIGER rounds, eligible agencies are permitted to submit projects without a regional endorsement.

Federal Transit Administration Discretionary Grant Programs

The FTA recently released Notices of Funding Availability for four of its discretionary funding programs, as summarized above. This is the third year that FTA has solicited projects for these funding programs. The region has had some success with securing funds in the past, with a total to date of \$86 million over two years.

Transit operators and MTC are eligible to apply directly for the State of Good Repair, the Livability, and the Veteran’s Program. For the Clean Fuels program, MTC is the only eligible applicant in the region, but can submit a proposal on behalf of transit operators.

FTA Programs - Proposed Regional Priority Projects: Staff solicited project proposals from the transit operators through the Partnership Transit Finance Working Group, and is proposing that the Commission endorse 21 projects, totaling about \$129 million, listed in Attachment B and summarized below.

State of Good Repair. Proposed projects total \$95 million as follows:

- Greening Bus Fleets – replacement of diesel buses with alternative fuel vehicles. (4 projects, \$44 million)
- Modernizing Operations & Maintenance Facilities – conversion to alternative fuel and power generation, and addressing deferred rehabilitation needs. (3 projects, \$9 million)
- Connectivity, Access & Technology – modernization of real-time information systems, signage, and fare collection systems (2 projects, \$42 million)

Livability. Proposed projects include development of intermodal transit centers and facilities, as well as access and service improvements. (6 projects, \$22 million)

Veterans Transportation. The proposed project would enable enhancements to 511 to improve services for and outreach to veterans and other users. There may be other applications in the region; staff will provide any updates at the Committee meeting. (1 project, \$2 million)

Clean Fuels. These projects include clean fuel expansion and replacement buses, and infrastructure to reduce emissions and fuel costs. (5 projects, \$10 million)

MTC is proposing to submit two projects: a State of Good Repair project to provide funding for Clipper implementation, and a Veterans project to make enhancements to the 511 system.

In keeping with the direction of the Transit Sustainability Project, staff will work with transit operators receiving FTA discretionary grants to encourage joint procurements, inter-operability standards and other opportunities to reduce capital and operating costs.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Legislation Committee refer to the Commission for approval:

TIGER IV

- Regional endorsement of two TIGER IV projects requesting \$54 million: Oakland Army Base Rail Improvements, and Caltrain Advanced Signal System Positive Train Control.

FTA Programs

- Regional Endorsement of proposals submitted by the transit operators for the other projects listed in Attachment B;
- Submitting applications for the Clean Fuels program on behalf of the transit operators listed in Attachment B; the State of Good Repair program for Clipper® Fare Payment System Modernization, Rehabilitation and Phase III Implementation; and the Veterans Transportation program for the San Francisco Bay Area 511 Veterans Initiative; and
- Flexibility to make minor revisions to scope details and requested amounts.

Since applications for two of the discretionary programs (TIGER IV and FTA State of Good Repair) are due prior to the Commission meeting on March 28th, staff will convey the committee recommendation to DOT and FTA pending final Commission approval at the end of the month.



Steve Heminger

Attachment A

**Federal TIGER IV Discretionary Program
All Projects Submitting TIGER IV Applications
Projects Recommended for Endorsement - Shaded Below**

Project Name	Sponsor	TIGER IV Request (\$ millions)	Total Project Cost (\$ millions)
Caltrain Advanced Signal System - Positive Train Control	Caltrain	34,000,000	55,000,000
Oakland Army Base Rail Improvements: Phase I	Port of Oakland	20,000,000	43,000,000
Great America Double Track Project	ACE Rail	23,400,000	33,400,000
BART/Muni Station Access Improvements	BART	15,000,000	22,000,000
Caltrain System Bridge Replacement	Caltrain	39,000,000	75,000,000
State Route 4 East Widening Project	CCTA	15,000,000	110,355,000
Fairfield-Vacaville Intermodal Station	City of Fairfield	12,000,000	54,600,000
San Tomas Expressway Congestion Relief	County of Santa Clara	20,400,000	25,500,000
Larkspur Ferry Terminal Parking Garage	Golden Gate Transit	20,000,000	25,000,000
Hercules Intermodal Transit Center	Hercules	20,000,000	66,000,000
Mission Bay/UCSF Hospital Multimodal Transportation Infrastructure	SFMTA	15,000,000	79,000,000
Sonoma Marin SMART Pathway	SMART	18,000,000	39,500,000
Transbay Transit Center Bus Storage Facility	TJPA	20,000,000	25,000,000
Silicon Valley Solar Highways	VTA	20,000,000	63,000,000
State Route 85 Express Lanes	VTA	20,000,000	68,308,000
Total		311,800,000	784,663,000

Attachment B. FTA Discretionary Funding Programs - Proposed Projects Summary

Program/Package	Sponsor	Project	Federal Request
Bus & Bus Facilities State of Good Repair			
Greening Bus Fleets	Fairfield	FAST Local Bus Replacement (Hybrids)	\$1,860,000
	SFMTA	Greening the Motor Coach Fleet: Procurement of 90 * 40' Hybrid Motor Coach Buses	\$22,934,341
	SamTrans	Replace 1998-40' Diesel Fleet with Hybrids	\$12,276,000
	VTA	Procure 14 40-foot Hybrid Diesel-electric Replacement Buses	\$7,500,000
	Subtotal Greening Bus Fleets		\$44,570,341
Modernizing Operations & Maintenance Facilities	CCCTA	Solar Facility Modernization	\$5,000,000
	GGBHTD	San Rafael Bus Maintenance Facility Renovation	\$3,000,000
	NCTPA	Maintenance Facility Conversion to CNG	\$1,120,000
	Subtotal Modernizing Oper. & Maint. Facilities		\$9,120,000
Connectivity, Access & Technology	AC Transit	State of Good Repair - Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)	\$27,100,000
	MTC	Clipper® Fare Payment System Modernization, Rehabilitation and Phase III Implementation	\$14,500,000
	Subtotal Connectivity, Access & Technology		\$41,600,000
Total State of Good Repair			\$95,290,341
Bus & Bus Facilities Livability			
	AC Transit	Transbay Center - Above Grade Superstructure	\$4,000,000
	BART	Real-Time Transit Information at Intermodal BART Stations	\$3,168,000
	CCCTA	Implementation of Access Improvement Projects	\$1,000,000
	SFMTA	8X Mobility Maximization	\$6,320,000
	SolTrans	Curtola/Lemon Transit Center Phase 1	\$4,700,000
	SolTrans	Downtown Vallejo Streetscape Project	\$2,400,000
	Total Livability		\$21,588,000
Veterans Transportation and Community Living Initiative			
	MTC	San Francisco Bay Area 511 Veterans Initiative	\$2,000,000
Clean Fuels Grant Program			
	AC Transit	(2) 60' Diesel Electric Hybrid Dual Side Door Expansion Buses for BRT Service	\$1,826,000
	CCCTA	Bus Engine Electric Cooling Fans	\$360,000
	CCCTA	Replace Diesel Trolleys with Electric Trolley Buses	\$4,320,000
	SFMTA	Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Upgrade	\$1,600,000
	Santa Rosa	Fast-Fill CNG Fueling Station	\$2,462,964
	Total Clean Fuels		\$10,568,964
Total Discretionary Programs			\$129,447,305