



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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Memorandum

TO: Policy Advisory Council

DATE: December 7, 2012

FR: Pam Grove, Staff Liaison

W.I. 1114

RE: Staff Liaison Report – December 2012

FTA Elderly and Disabled Specialized Transit Program Call for Projects

At the December 12, 2012 Equity and Access Subcommittee meeting, MTC staff will be on hand to give details of the call for projects for the Federal Transportation Administration's (FTA's) Elderly and Disabled Specialized Transit Program (Section 5310) funds. Caltrans is currently soliciting projects for capital grant funds to assist private non-profit corporations and, under certain conditions, public agencies to provide safe, efficient and coordinated transportation services for elderly persons and individuals with disabilities for whom public transportation is otherwise unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate. The **deadline for applications is Friday, March 11, 2013 at 5 p.m.**, and more information can be found as part of the Equity and Access Subcommittee packet and on MTC's web site at <http://www.mtc.ca.gov/funding/FTA/5310.htm>.

For information and questions, contact Drennen Shelton at MTC via email at dshelton@mtc.ca.gov or phone 510.817.5909.

MTC Wins Two TRB Awards

In June, staff reported that MTC had won a California Association of Public Information Officials (CAPIO) award for its Plan Bay Area video "*Transportation Priorities – How Would YOU Invest?*" The video has now racked up a second accolade from the Transportation Research Board (TRB) and will be featured at TRB's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. this January. The TRB, an arm of the National Academy of Sciences, held its sixth annual "Communicating Concepts with John and Jane Q. Public" competition earlier this year. The focus was on "Transportation Finance and Related Policy Solutions," and, in particular, on communicating the need for transportation funding to stakeholders and the general public.

Not only did the Plan Bay Area investment video win an award, but MTC's multimedia project on regional parking – which consists of four short videos, a newscast and two posters that use humor and compelling visual graphics to promote provocative discussions of parking policies

MTC Wins Two TRB Awards (continued)

and their impacts – was also a winner. This communications effort focuses specifically on financial and economic analyses of parking policy choices, including the cost implications of requiring parking in new and infill development, the cost of building new parking structures, and the impact of parking policies on local businesses.

Both MTC projects are among four overall winners selected by TRB in the competition, and MTC planner Valerie Knepper and your staff liaison will be making presentations in Washington, D.C. on behalf of MTC.

Regional Prosperity Plan – Request for Proposals and Call for Projects

Regional Economic Development Strategy Request for Proposals:

On behalf of the Regional Prosperity Plan Consortium, MTC and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) recently released the Regional Economic Development Strategy Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP – including related addenda, questions and answers – can be downloaded at <http://procurements.mtc.ca.gov/>. To receive additional notifications regarding this procurement, individuals must register as a Planholder on the website. Only Planholders will receive email notifications of future addenda or changes specific to this contract opportunity. All potential bidders are responsible for checking the website for any addenda to the bid documents. Proposals for this RFP are due by 4 p.m. on Thursday, December 20, 2012, and the award will be announced at the Steering Committee meeting on January 11, 2013.

Housing the Workforce Sub-Grants 2012-2013 Call for Projects:

MTC and ABAG (on behalf of the Regional Prosperity Plan Consortium) have also released the Housing the Workforce Sub-Grants 2012-2013 Call for Projects. Only community/non-profit organizations and local governments (tax-exempt entities) located within the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area are eligible to apply for these funds. The program will fund four to six projects, and a total of \$250,000 is available for this round of the grant cycle. Applications are due by 4 pm, Thursday, December 13, 2012, and awards will be announced at the Steering Committee meeting on January 11, 2013. Note that applications must be submitted in electronic format.

More information (including application forms) on either of these opportunities can be found on the OneBayArea website at:

[http://onebayarea.org/regional-initiatives/Bay-Area-Prosperity-Plan/Prosperity Plan Funding Opps.html#.UMI4lfXhd2g](http://onebayarea.org/regional-initiatives/Bay-Area-Prosperity-Plan/Prosperity%20Plan%20Funding%20Opps.html#.UMI4lfXhd2g)

Questions regarding the Request for Proposals or the Call for Projects should be directed to Vikrant Sood at vsood@mtc.ca.gov (phone 510.817.5828).

Executive Director's Report

The following items of interest were in the November 2012 Executive Director's Report to the Commission:

- ***Inaugural Cap & Trade Auction in Sacramento, November 14***
The California Air Resources Board (ARB) recently conducted the state's first-ever auction of greenhouse gas (GHG) allowances among both private and public entities that produce GHG emissions. Perhaps the biggest surprise of the auction was the relatively low price of \$10.09 established per ton of carbon, which is only nine cents higher than the \$10 minimum set by ARB. Some analysts attribute the relatively low price to the legal uncertainty clouding the program due to recent litigation filed by the California Chamber of Commerce.
- ***Bay Bridge "Lift Off" Oakland, November 20***
In my capacity as Chairman of the Toll Bridge Program Oversight Committee, I participated in a press conference to announce the completion of load transfer activities on the self-anchored suspension (SAS) portion of the new east span. As advertised in its name, the SAS is now supporting itself through the interconnected system of the main cable, suspender ropes, and anchorage at the eastern end of the span. The contractor already has moved on to the next series of activities, including cable wrapping, painting, and false work removal to prepare the bridge for traffic opening on Labor Day weekend in 2013.

To read the November 2012 Executive Director's report to the Commission in its entirety, go to http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/ed_report.htm.