



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 5a

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*Memorandum*

TO: Legislation Committee

DATE: May 3, 2013

FR: Executive Director

W. I. 1512

RE: Regional Endorsement of Bay Area Projects for Federal TIGER V Grants

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) recently released a Notice of Funding Availability for the \$474 million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) V grant program. This memorandum summarizes the program and past TIGER funding rounds. At your May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, staff will provide a recommended TIGER V regional endorsement list for Committee consideration.

**TIGER V Summary**

U.S. DOT announced availability of \$474 million for the TIGER V program, with applications due on June 3, 2013. The guidelines are similar to prior TIGER rounds. For non-rural areas, grant requests must be between \$10 and \$200 million. Each state is limited to 25% of total available funding, rural areas are guaranteed \$120 million, and up to \$165 million can be awarded for TIFIA loan projects.

The primary selection criteria, listed below, are similar to the previous TIGER funding round, with the addition of a project readiness component.

*TIGER V – Primary Selection Criteria*

1. State of Good Repair
2. Economic Competitiveness
3. Livability
4. Environmental Sustainability
5. Safety
6. Project Readiness (funds must be obligated by June 30, 2014)

**Project Endorsements in Prior TIGER Rounds**

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, in 2011 the Commission endorsed five projects for the TIGER III program, none of which were selected for TIGER III funding.

In March 2012, the Commission endorsed a goods movement project sponsored by the Port of Oakland and the Caltrain Positive Train Control System project. The Port of Oakland project was awarded a TIGER IV grant. Additionally, the San Francisco Mission Bay/UCSF Hospital Multimodal Transportation Infrastructure project was awarded a TIGER IV grant.

### **TIGER V Endorsement Approach**

For this extremely competitive program, staff is developing a recommended endorsement list focusing on a limited number of regional priority projects that appear competitive based on the TIGER V primary selection criteria. As in past rounds, eligible agencies are permitted to submit projects without regional endorsement. DOT just released the notice of fund availability last week and MTC staff is currently contacting project sponsors for information.

### **Recommendation**

Staff will recommend that the Legislation Committee refer the TIGER V endorsement list to the Commission for approval.



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Steve Heminger