

Metropolitan Transportation Commission Programming and Allocations Committee

November 13, 2013

Resolution No. 4116, Revised

Subject: Revisions to the New Freedom Cycle 5 Program Guidelines for Large Urbanized Areas

Background: The Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) New Freedom Program provides grants for new capital and operating projects aimed at reducing transportation barriers faced by individuals with disabilities beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. MTC is the designated recipient for the Bay Area's large UA New Freedom funds. As the designated recipient, MTC is responsible for conducting a competitive project selection process.

In September 2013, MTC adopted Resolution 4116, which established guidelines for New Freedom Cycle 5 including schedule and current details. Following approval, staff released a Call for Projects with an application deadline, consistent with the guidelines, of Friday, January 3, 2014.

After releasing the Call for Projects, staff received feedback from potential applicants that the application due date may pose a hardship for some applicants whose offices will be closed during the New Year's holiday. To provide flexibility for schedule changes and other administrative processing of applications, the guidelines have been revised to delete this detail. Staff proposes extending the application period by one week to respond to comments.

Issues: None.

Recommendation: Refer Resolution No. 4116, Revised to the Commission for approval.

Attachments: Excerpt from MTC Resolution No. 4116, Revised showing sections proposed for deletion.

Date: September 25, 2013
W.I.: 1512
Referred by: PAC
Revised: 11/20/13-C

ABSTRACT

Resolution No. 4116, Revised

This resolution adopts the program guidelines for Cycle 5 of the Federal Transit Administration's New Freedom Program for the large urbanized areas of the San Francisco Bay Area.

The following attachment is provided with the resolution:

Attachment A New Freedom Cycle 5 Program Guidelines for Large Urbanized Areas

This resolution was amended on November 20, 2013 to revise the application due date from January 3, 2014 to January 10, 2014.

Further discussion of this action is contained in the Programming and Allocations Committee Summary sheet dated September 11, 2013 and November 13, 2013.

Date: September 25, 2013
W.I.: 1512
Referred by: PAC

Re: Guidelines for Cycle 5 of Federal Transit Administration's New Freedom Program

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
RESOLUTION No. 4116

WHEREAS, Title 49 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 5317 (49 U.S.C. 5317) authorizes and sets forth the provisions for the New Freedom Program, which makes grants to recipients for addressing the transportation needs of disabled persons through the provision of new services and facility improvements that go beyond those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

WHEREAS, 49 U.S.C. §5317(c) apportions New Freedom funds by formula to large urbanized areas, small urbanized areas, and non-urbanized areas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code Section 66500 et seq., the Metropolitan Transportation Commission ("MTC") is the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, MTC is the designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, consistent with 49 U.S.C. §5307(a)(2), MTC is the designated recipient of the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) New Freedom Program funding apportionments for large urbanized areas in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area; and

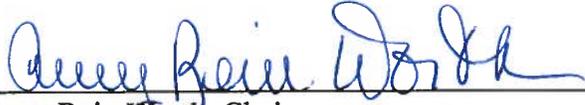
WHEREAS, as the designated recipient, MTC is responsible for administering the program, including: conducting a competitive selection process; certifying a fair and equitable distribution of funds resulting from the competitive selection process; certifying that each project was derived from a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan, and certifying that the plan was developed through a process that included representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers and participation by the public; managing all aspects of grant distribution and oversight for subrecipients receiving funding under the program; and submitting reports as required by FTA; and

WHEREAS, MTC has developed program guidelines for Cycle 5 of the New Freedom Program, attached hereto as Attachment A, and incorporated herein as though set forth at length; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that MTC adopts the New Freedom Cycle 5 Program Guidelines as provided in Attachment A; and be it further

RESOLVED, that MTC will use these guidelines to conduct the competitive selection process for Cycle 5 of the New Freedom Program.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Amy Rein Worth, Chair

The above resolution was entered into by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at the regular meeting of the Commission held in Oakland, California, on September 25, 2013.

Date: September 25, 2013
W.I.: 1512
Referred by: PAC
Revised: 11/20/13-C

Attachment A
MTC Resolution No. 4116
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METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

New Freedom Cycle 5 Program Guidelines for Large Urbanized Areas

September 2013

Solutions to Gaps

1. Mobility management, travel training, and transportation coordination activities
2. Additions or improvements to paratransit that exceed ADA requirements, and demand-responsive services other than ADA paratransit
3. Additions or improvements to public transit services and transit access
4. Solutions to address affordability barriers

Strategies to Enhance Coordination of Service Delivery

1. Strengthen mobility management in the Bay Area, by:
 - a. Identifying and designating Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies (CTSAs) to facilitate subregional mobility management and transportation coordination efforts
 - b. Providing information and managing demand across a family of transportation services
 - c. Promoting coordinated advocacy with human service agencies to identify resources to sustain ongoing coordination activities
2. Promote walkable communities, complete streets, and integration of transportation and land use decisions

12. APPLICATION FORMS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. The application form will be available at http://www.mtc.ca.gov/funding/new_freedom.htm.

~~Interested agencies must submit seven (7) paper copies and an electronic copy on CD of their application, including attachments, by 4:00 PM on Friday, January 10, 2014 to the addressee below.~~

~~Drennen Shelton
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
101 Eighth Street
Oakland CA 94607-4700~~

~~A workshop will be held for prospective applicants on October 29, 2013 at MTC's office. Attendance is not required but is encouraged. Beyond the workshop, MTC staff is available to provide technical assistance throughout the program process.~~

13. APPLICATION EVALUATION. Following an initial eligibility screening by MTC staff, eligible projects will be evaluated by a panel consisting of Bay Area representatives of disabled population interests and MTC staff. Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Need and Benefits	(maximum 40 points)
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Extent to which project addresses critical needs for disabled individuals as identified in the Coordinated Plan

Effectiveness at mitigating or eliminating transportation barriers for disabled individuals

Extent to which project promotes integration of disabled individuals into the work force and their full participation in society

14. TIMELINE. The anticipated timeline for Cycle 5 is as follows:

Release Call for Projects	End of September 2013
Outreach	Oct/Nov 2013
Applicant Workshop at MTC	October 29, 2013 1:30 — 3:30 PM <u>Fall 2013</u>
Project Applications Due to MTC	Jan. 10, 2014 4:00-PM <u>January 2014</u>
Project Selection	Jan.-Feb. 2014
Present Recommended Program of Projects to Policy Advisory Council- Equity & Access Subcommittee, Transit Finance Working Group, etc.	February 2014
Present Recommended Program of Projects to MTC Programming & Allocations Committee	March 12, 2014
Commission Actions: Program Adoption and add projects to TIP	March 26, 2014 <u>March 2014</u>
Grant preparation by MTC and Direct Recipients	April/May 2014
Grant review by FTA	Spring/Summer 2014
Contract development between MTC and Subrecipients	Begin after FTA grant approval (estimated Summer/Fall 2014)