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METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 4 Guidelines

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August 2014 Draft

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
LIFELINE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM CYCLE 4 GUIDELINES
FY 2014 THROUGH FY 2016

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1. PROGRAM GOAL. The Lifeline Transportation Program is intended to fund projects that result in improved mobility for low-income residents of the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties.

   The Lifeline Program supports community-based transportation projects that:

   - Are developed through a collaborative and inclusive planning process that includes broad partnerships among a variety of stakeholders such as public agencies, transit operators, community-based organizations and other community stakeholders, and outreach to underrepresented stakeholders.
   - Improve a range of transportation choices by adding a variety of new or expanded services including but not limited to: enhanced fixed route transit services, shuttles, taxi voucher programs, improved access to autos, and capital improvement projects.
   - Address transportation gaps and/or barriers identified in Community-Based Transportation Plans (CBTP) or other substantive local planning efforts involving focused outreach to low-income populations. While preference will be given to community-based plan priorities, strategies emerging from countywide or regional welfare-to-work transportation plans, the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan or other documented assessment of need within the designated communities of concern will also be considered. Findings emerging from one or more CBTPs or other relevant planning efforts may also be applied to other low-income areas, or otherwise be directed to serve low-income constituencies within the county, as applicable. A communities of concern (CoC) mapping tool showing both CoCs adopted with Plan Bay Area as well as the most recent socioeconomic data available from the Census Bureau is available at: http://gis.mtc.ca.gov/samples/Interactive_Maps/cocs.html.[1]

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[1] There is a user's guide available to aid in the use of this tool.

2. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION. The Lifeline Program will be administered by county congestion management agencies (CMAs) or other designated county-wide agencies as follows:

County	Lifeline Program Administrator
Alameda	Alameda County Transportation Commission
Contra Costa	Contra Costa Transportation Authority
Marin	Transportation Authority of Marin
Napa	Napa County Transportation Planning Agency
San Francisco	San Francisco County Transportation Authority
San Mateo	City/County Association of Governments
Santa Clara	Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority and Santa Clara County
Solano	Solano Transportation Authority
Sonoma	Sonoma County Transportation Authority

3. FUNDING APPORTIONMENT AND AVAILABILITY. Fund sources for the Cycle 4 Lifeline Transportation Program include State Transit Assistance (STA), Proposition 1B - Transit, and Section 5307 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC)[2] funds. Cycle 4 will cover a three-year programming cycle, FY2013-14 to FY2015-16.

   a. STA and Section 5307 (JARC). Funding for STA and Section 5307 (JARC) will be assigned to counties by each fund source, based on the county's share of the regional low-income population (see Figure 1).[3] Lifeline Program Administrators will assign funds to eligible projects in their counties. See Section 5 for details about the STA and Section 5307 (JARC) programming process and Appendix 1 for detailed eligibility requirements by fund source.

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[2] The Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) federal transportation authorizing legislation eliminated the Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program (Section 5316) and combined JARC functions and funding with the Urbanized Area Formula (Section 5307) and the Non-urbanized Area Formula (Section 5311) programs. JARC projects were made eligible for 5307 funding, and, consistent with MTC's Transit Capital Priorities (TCP) Process and Criteria (MTC Resolution Nos. 4072 and 4140), in the FY2013-14, FY2014-15 and FY2015-16 Section 5307 programs, a portion of the Bay Area's large urbanized area funds have been set aside for the Lifeline program.

[3] FTA Section 5307 funds are apportioned by urbanized area (UA), so the distribution of 5307 funds will also need to take UA boundaries into consideration.

Figure 1. County and Share of Regional Poverty Population

County	*Share of Regional Low Income (<200% Poverty) Population*
Alameda	22.6%
Contra Costa	14.3%
Marin	2.6%
Napa	2.0%
San Francisco	12.5%
San Mateo	8.4%
Santa Clara	23.1%
Solano	6.4%
Sonoma	7.9%
Total	100%

Source: ACS 2010 and 2012 1-Year Estimates

b. Proposition 1B. Proposition 1B funding will be assigned by MTC directly to transit operators and counties based on a formula that distributes half of the funds according to the transit operators' share of the regional low-income ridership, and half of the funds according to the transit operators' share of the regional low-income population. The formula distribution is shown in Figure 2. See Section 6 for details about the Proposition 1B programming process and Appendix 1 for detailed eligibility requirements by fund source.

Figure 2. Transit Operator & Hybrid Formula
(Share of Regional Low Income Ridership & Share of Regional Low Income Population)

Transit Operator	*Hybrid Formula Share*
AC Transit	17.3%
BART	18.5%
County Connection (CCCTA)	1.0%
Golden Gate Transit/Marin Transit	3.2%
Wheels (LAVTA)	0.5%
Muni (SFMTA)	24.9%
SamTrans	5.0%
Tri Delta Transit (ECCTA)	0.7%
VINE (NCTPA)	1.2%
VTA	19.5%
WestCat (WCCTA)	0.3%
Solano County Operators	3.6%
Sonoma County Operators	4.2%
Total	100%

Note: Only transit operators who have previously received Proposition 1B Lifeline funds are included in the formula distribution

c. Regional Means-Based Transit Fare Program. MTC will set aside up to $700,000 in Cycle 4 STA funds toward the potential development and implementation of a regional

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means-based transit fare program. In Lifeline Cycle 3, MTC set aside $300,000 for Phase I of this project. In Phase I, MTC is conducting a study to develop the regional concept, including identifying who would be eligible, costs, funding, relationship to other discounts, and other policy elements. Depending on the results of the Phase I study, funds from the Cycle 4 $700,000 set-aside may be used for Phase II implementation activities.

4. ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS/SUBRECIPIENTS

   a. STA. There are three categories of eligible recipients of STA funds: a) transit operators; b) Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies (CTSAs); and c) Cities and Counties that are eligible to claim Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds.

      Non-profit organizations and Cities/Counties that are not TDA claimants are only eligible for STA funds if they partner with an eligible STA recipient (e.g., a transit operator) that is willing to serve as the recipient of the funds and pass through the funds to the non-profit or City/County, and if they have a project eligible to use.

   b. Section 5307 (JARC). Transit operators that are FTA grantees are the only eligible recipients of Section 5307 (JARC) funds.

      Non-profit organizations and public agencies that are not FTA grantees are only eligible for Section 5307 (JARC) funds if they partner with an FTA grantee (transit operator) that is willing to serve as the direct recipient of the Section 5307 (JARC) funds and pass through the funds to the subrecipient non-profit or public agency.

      Section 5307 (JARC) recipients/subrecipients will be required to have a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and provide it during the application process.[4] A DUNS number may be obtained from D&B by telephone (866-705-5711) or the Internet (http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform).

   c. Proposition 1B. Transit operators are the only eligible recipients of Proposition 1B funds.

5. STA AND SECTION 5307 PROGRAMMING PROCESS. For STA and Section 5307 funds, Lifeline Program Administrators are responsible for soliciting applications for the Lifeline Transportation Program.

   Consistent with MTC's Public Participation Plan and FTA's Title VI Circular (FTA C 4702.1B), MTC encourages Lifeline Program Administrators to conduct a broad, inclusive public involvement process, and use multiple methods of public outreach. Unlike previous cycles of the Lifeline Transportation Program, the funds in the Cycle 4 program are predominantly restricted to transit operators (see Section 4 for recipient eligibility

[4] A Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number is a unique, non-indicative 9-digit identifier issued and maintained by D&B that verifies the existence of a business entity. The DUNS number is a universal identifier required for Federal financial assistance applicants, as well as recipients and their direct subrecipients.

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restrictions). Therefore, MTC also acknowledges that each Lifeline Program Administrator's public outreach strategy will be tailored accordingly.

Methods of public outreach may include, but are not limited to, highlighting the program and application solicitation on the CMA website, and sending targeted postcards and e-mails to all prospective applicants, including those that serve predominantly minority and low-income populations.

Further guidance for public involvement is contained in MTC's Public Participation Plan.

a. Competitive Process. STA and Section 5307 (JARC) projects must be selected through an open, competitive process with the following exception: In an effort to address the sustainability of fixed-route transit operations, Lifeline Program Administrators may elect to allocate some or all of their STA and/or Section 5307 (JARC) funds directly to transit operators for Lifeline transit operations within the county. Projects must be identified as Lifeline projects before transit operators can claim funds, and will be subject to Lifeline Transportation Program reporting requirements.

b. STA Contingency Programming. Due to the uncertainty of forecasting STA revenues, the Lifeline Program Administrators will program 95 percent of their county's estimated STA amount, and develop a contingency plan for the remaining five percent should it be available.

6. PROPOSITION 1B PROGRAMMING PROCESS. In most cases, Proposition 1B Transit funds will be allocated directly to transit operators by MTC, due to the limited eligibility and uses of this fund source. Upon concurrence from the applicable CMA,[5] transit operators may program funds to any capital project that is consistent with the Lifeline Transportation Program and goals, and is eligible for this fund source. Transit operators are encouraged to consider needs throughout their service area. Projects must be identified as Lifeline projects before transit operators can claim funds, and, at the discretion of the Lifeline Program Administrators, may be subject to Lifeline Transportation Program reporting requirements. For Marin, Solano and Sonoma counties, Proposition 1B funds are being directed to the CMA, who should include these funds in the overall Lifeline programming effort (keeping in mind the limited sponsor and project eligibility of Proposition 1B funds).

7. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

a. Eligible operating projects. Eligible operating projects, consistent with requirements of funding sources, may include (but are not limited to) new or enhanced fixed route transit services, restoration of Lifeline-related transit services eliminated due to budget shortfalls, shuttles, taxi voucher programs, auto loan programs, etc. See Appendix 1 for additional details about eligibility by funding source.

[5] CMA concurrence may be provided via a board resolution or a letter from an authorized representative.

b. Eligible capital projects. Eligible capital projects, consistent with requirements of funding sources, may include (but are not limited to) purchase of vehicles; bus stop enhancements; rehabilitation, safety or modernization improvements; or other enhancements to improve transportation access for residents of low-income communities. See Appendix 1 for additional details about eligibility by funding source.

c. Section 5307 restrictions

(1) Job Access and Reverse Commute requirement. For the Lifeline Transportation Program, the use of Section 5307 funds is restricted solely to Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) projects. See the FTA Section 5307 Circular (FTA C 9030.1E), Chapter IV, Section 5 for details regarding eligible JARC projects.

(2) New and existing services. Consistent with FTA's Section 5307 circular (FTA C 9030.1E), Chapter IV, Section 5.a, eligible job access and reverse commute projects must provide for the development or maintenance of eligible job access and reverse commute services. Recipients may not reclassify existing public transportation services that have not received funding under the former Section 5316 program as job access and reverse commute services in order to qualify for operating assistance. In order to be eligible as a job access and reverse commute project, a proposed project must qualify as either a "development project" or "maintenance project" as follows:

i. Development Projects. "Development of transportation services" means new projects that meet the statutory definition and were not in service as of the date MAP-21 became effective October 1, 2012. This includes projects that expand the service area or hours of operation for an existing service.

ii. Maintenance Projects. "Maintenance of transportation services" means projects that continue and maintain job access and reverse commute projects and services that received funding under the former Section 5316 program.

8. LOCAL MATCHING REQUIREMENTS. The Lifeline Transportation Program requires a minimum local match of 20% of the total project cost. Lifeline Transportation Program funds may cover a maximum of 80% of the total project cost.

a. Exceptions to 20% requirement. There are two exceptions to the 20% local match requirement:

(1) FTA Section 5307 (JARC) operating projects require a 50% match. However, consistent with MTC's approach in previous funding cycles, Lifeline Program Administrators may use STA funds to cover the 30% difference for projects that are eligible for *both* JARC and STA funds.

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(2) All auto-related projects require a 50% match.

b. Sources of local match. Project sponsors may use certain federal, state or local funding sources (Transportation Development Act, operator controlled State Transit Assistance, local sales tax revenue, etc.) to meet the match requirement. In-kind contributions such as the market value of in-kind contributions integral to the project may be counted as a contribution toward local share.

For Section 5307 JARC projects, the local match can be *non*-Department of Transportation (DOT) federal funds. Eligible sources of non-DOT federal funds include: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Community Services Block Grants (CSBG) and Social Services Block Grants (SSBG) administered by the US Department of Health and Human Services or Community Development Block grants (CDBG) and HOPE VI grants administered by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Grant funds from private foundations may also be used to meet the match requirement.

Transportation Development Credits ("Toll Credits") are not an eligible source of local match for the Lifeline Transportation Program.

9. COORDINATED PLANNING. Under MAP-21, projects funded with Section 5307 JARC funds are no longer required by FTA to be derived from a locally developed, coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan ("Coordinated Plan"); however, in the Bay Area's Coordinated Plan, MTC continues to identify the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, *and* people with low incomes, and to provide strategies for meeting those local needs. Therefore, projects funded with Lifeline Transportation Program funds should be consistent with the transportation needs, proposed solutions, and enhanced coordination strategies presented in the Coordinated Plan to the extent practicable considering any other funding source restrictions.

The Bay Area's Coordinated Plan was updated in March 2013 and is available at http://www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/pths/.

Mobility management was a key coordination strategy recommended in the 2013 plan update. The designation of lead mobility managers or Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies (CTSAs) at the County or subregional level was an essential component of that strategy. Consistent with those recommendations, the Lifeline Program Administrators may, at their discretion, choose to award extra points to—or otherwise give priority to—projects sponsored by or coordinated with County or subregional Mobility Managers or CTSAs.

Transportation needs specific to senior and disabled residents of low-income communities may also be considered when funding Lifeline projects.

10. GRANT APPLICATION. To ensure a streamlined application process for project sponsors, a universal application form will be used, but, with review and approval from MTC, may be

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modified as appropriate by the Lifeline Program Administrator for inclusion of county-specific grant requirements.

Applicants with multi-county projects must notify the relevant Lifeline Program Administrators and MTC about their intent to submit a multi-county project, and submit copies of their application to all of the relevant counties. If the counties have different application forms, the applicant can submit the same form to all counties, but should contact the Lifeline Program Administrators to determine the appropriate form. If the counties have different application deadlines, the applicant should adhere to the earliest deadline. The Lifeline Program Administrators will work together to score and rank the multi-county projects, and, if selected, to determine appropriate funding. (Note: Multi-county operators with projects that are located in a single county need only apply to the county where the project is located.)

11. APPLICATION EVALUATION

    a. Evaluation criteria. Standard evaluation criteria will be used to assess and select projects. The six criteria include (1) project need/goals and objectives, (2) community-identified priority, (3) implementation plan and project management capacity, (4) coordination and program outreach, (5) cost-effectiveness and performance indicators, and (6) project budget/sustainability. Lifeline Program Administrators will establish the weight to be assigned for each criterion in the assessment process.

       Additional criteria may be added to a county program but should not replace or supplant the regional criteria. MTC staff will review the proposed county program criteria to ensure consistency and to facilitate coordination among county programs.

       See Appendix 2 for the detailed standard evaluation criteria.

    b. Evaluation panel. Each county will appoint a local evaluation panel of CMA staff, the local low-income or minority representative from MTC's Policy Advisory Council (if available), and representatives of local stakeholders, such as transit operators, other transportation providers, community-based organizations, social service agencies, and local jurisdictions, to score and select projects. Counties are strongly encouraged to appoint a diverse group of stakeholders for their local evaluation panel. Each county will assign local priorities for project selection by establishing the weight for each criterion and, at the CMA's discretion, adding local criteria to the standard regional criteria.

12. COUNTYWIDE PROGRAM OF PROJECTS. A full program of projects is due to MTC from each Lifeline Program Administrator on **March 13, 2015.** However, given state and federal funding uncertainties, sponsors with projects selected for FY2015 and FY2016 Section 5307 (JARC) funds and FY2016 STA funds should plan to defer the start of those projects until the funding is appropriated and secured. Lifeline Program Administrators, at their discretion, may opt to allot FY2014 and FY2015 funds to high scoring projects so they can be started quickly. MTC staff will work with Lifeline Program Administrators on this

sequencing; MTC staff expects that more will be known about the FY2015 Section 5307 (JARC) funds and the FY2016 STA and Section 5307 (JARC) funds in calendar year 2015.

13. POLICY BOARD ADOPTION

a. Project sponsor resolution of local support. Prior to MTC's programming of Lifeline Cycle 4 funds (STA, Section 5307 JARC and/or Proposition 1B) to any project, MTC requires that the project sponsor adopt and submit a resolution of local support. The resolution shall state that approved projects not only exemplify Lifeline Program goals, but that the local project sponsors understand and agree to meeting all project delivery, funding match and eligibility requirements, and obligation and reporting deadlines and requirements. MTC will provide a resolution of local support template. The County Lifeline Program Administrators have the option of collecting the resolutions of local support from project sponsors along with the project applications, or after the project is selected by the County for funding.

   Caltrans requires that Proposition 1B - Transit projects either be consistent with the project sponsor's most recent short-range transit plan (SRTP), as evidenced by attaching the relevant SRTP page to the allocation request, or be accompanied by a certified Board Resolution from the project sponsor's governing board.

b. Lifeline Program Administrator/CMA Board Resolution and Concurrence

   (1) STA and Section 5307 (JARC). Projects recommended for STA and Section 5307 (JARC) funding must be submitted to and approved by the respective governing board of the Lifeline Program Administrator.

   (2) Proposition 1B. Projects funded with Proposition 1B Transit funds must have concurrence from the applicable Lifeline Program Administrator/CMA. Concurrence may be provided by a board resolution or by a letter from an authorized representative.

14. PROJECT DELIVERY. All projects funded under the county programs are subject to the following MTC project delivery requirements:

a. Section 5307 (JARC). Project sponsors must expend the Lifeline Transportation Program Section 5307 (JARC) funds within three years of the FTA grant award or execution of agreement with pass-through agency, whichever is applicable. To prevent the Section 5307 (JARC) funds from lapsing on the federal obligation deadline, MTC reserves the right to reprogram funds if direct recipients fail to submit their FTA grant by the following dates:
   - June 30, 2015 for FY2014 and FY2015 funds (the deadline to submit grants for FY15 funds may be extended depending on the availability of FY15 apportionments.)
   - June 30, 2016 for FY2016 funds

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Direct recipients are responsible for carrying out the terms of their grants.

b. STA. Project sponsors must expend the Lifeline Transportation Program STA funds within three years of the date that the funds are programmed by MTC.

c. Proposition 1B. Project sponsors must expend the Lifeline Transportation Program Proposition 1B funds within three years of the date that funds are available. Disbursement timing depends on the timing of State bond sales.

15. PROJECT OVERSIGHT. For Lifeline projects funded by STA and Section 5307 (JARC), Lifeline Program Administrators are responsible for programmatic and fiscal oversight, and for ensuring projects meet MTC obligation deadlines and project delivery requirements. In addition, Lifeline Program Administrators will ensure that projects substantially carry out the scope described in the grant applications for the period of performance. All project budget and scope of work changes must be approved by the MTC Commission; however the Lifeline Program Administrators are responsible for approving budget and scope of work changes prior to MTC's authorization. All scope changes must be fully explained and must demonstrate consistency with Lifeline Transportation Program goals.

    For projects funded by Proposition 1B, the Lifeline Program Administrators are encouraged to continue coordination efforts with the project sponsors if they determine that it would be beneficial toward meeting the Lifeline goals; however, this may not be necessary or beneficial for all Proposition 1B projects.

    See Appendix 1 for detailed accountability and reporting requirements by funding source.

16. PERFORMANCE MEASURES. As part of the Call for Projects, applicants will be asked to establish project goals, and to identify basic performance indicators to be collected in order to measure the effectiveness of the Lifeline projects. At a minimum, performance measures for service-related projects would include: documentation of new "units" of service provided with the funding (e.g., number of trips, service hours, workshops held, car loans provided), cost per unit of service, and a qualitative summary of service delivery procedures employed for the project. For capital projects, project sponsors are responsible for establishing milestones and reporting on the status of project delivery. Project sponsors are responsible for satisfying all reporting requirements, as referenced in Appendix 1. Lifeline Program Administrators will forward all reports containing performance measures to MTC for review and overall monitoring of the Lifeline Transportation Program.

17. FUND ADMINISTRATION

    a. Section 5307 (JARC). MTC will enter all Lifeline Section 5307 (JARC) projects into the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Transit operators that are FTA grantees are the only eligible recipients of Section 5307 (JARC) funds. FTA grantees will act as direct recipients, and will submit grant applications directly to FTA.

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For Section 5307 (JARC) projects sponsored by non-FTA grantees (e.g., nonprofits or other local government entities), the FTA grantee who was identified as the partner agency at the time of the application will submit the grant application to FTA directly and, following FTA approval of the grant, will enter into funding agreements with the subrecipient project sponsor.

FTA recipients are responsible for following all applicable federal requirements and for ensuring that their subrecipients comply with all federal requirements. See Section 18 for federal compliance requirements.

b. STA. For transit operators receiving STA funds, MTC will allocate funds directly through the annual STA claims process. For other STA eligible projects administered by sponsors who are not STA eligible recipients, the project sponsor is responsible for identifying a local transit operator who will act as a pass-through for the STA funds, and will likely enter into a funding agreement directly with the project sponsor. Project sponsors are responsible for entering their own STA projects into the TIP.

c. Proposition 1B Transit. Project sponsors receiving Proposition 1B funds must submit a Proposition 1B allocation request to MTC for submittal to Caltrans with prior review by MTC. The state will distribute funds directly to the project sponsor. Note that although the Proposition 1B Transit Program is intended to be an advance-payment program, actual disbursement of funds is dependent on the State budget and State bond sales. Project sponsors are responsible for entering their own Proposition 1B projects into the TIP.

18. COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS.

a. Lifeline Program Administrator Responsibilities. For the selection of FTA Section 5307 (JARC) projects, in accordance with federal Title VI requirements, Lifeline Program Administrators must distribute the Section 5307 (JARC) funds without regard to race, color, and national origin, and must assure that minority populations are not being denied the benefits of or excluded from participation in the program. Lifeline Program Administrators shall develop the program of projects or competitive selection process to ensure the equitable distribution of FTA Section 5307 (JARC) funds to project sponsors that serve predominantly minority populations. Equitable distribution can be achieved by engaging in outreach to diverse stakeholders regarding the availability of funds, and ensuring the competitive process is not itself a barrier to selection of applicants that serve predominantly minority populations.

b. Project Sponsor Responsibilities. FTA Section 5307 (JARC) applicants should be prepared to abide by all applicable federal requirements as specified in 49 U.S.C. Section 5307; FTA Circulars C 9030.1E, 4702.1B and 4703.1; the most current FTA Master Agreement; and the most current Certifications and Assurances for FTA Assistance Programs.

FTA Section 5307 (JARC) direct recipients will be responsible for adhering to FTA requirements through their agreements and grants with FTA directly and for ensuring that all subrecipients and third-party contractors comply with FTA requirements.

19. TIMELINE. The anticipated timeline for Cycle 4 is as follows:

Program	Action	Anticipated Date*
All	Commission approves Cycle 4 Program Guidelines	October 22, 2014
All	MTC issues guidelines to counties	October 22, 2014
Prop 1B	Transit operators submit draft project lists to County Lifeline Program Administrators	January 15, 2015
Prop 1B	Allocation requests due to MTC (concurrence** from the CMA is required)	March 13, 2015
5307 (JARC) & STA	Board-approved** programs due to MTC from CMAs	March 13, 2015
All	**Commission approval of Program of Projects**	**April 22, 2015**
5307 (JARC)	MTC submits TIP amendment for FY14, FY15 and FY16 projects	End of April – Deadline TBD
Prop 1B & STA	Project sponsors submit TIP amendments	End of April – Deadline TBD
Prop 1B	MTC submits allocation requests to Caltrans	Deadline TBD by Caltrans*
STA	Operators can file claims for FY14 and FY15	After 4/22/15 Commission Approval
5307 (JARC)	Deadline for transit operators (FTA grantees) to submit FTA grants for FY14 and FY15 funds	June 30, 2015
STA	Operators can file claims for FY16	After July 1, 2015
5307 (JARC)	Deadline for transit operators (FTA grantees) to submit FTA grants for FY16 funds	June 30, 2016

* Dates subject to change depending on State and Federal deadlines and availability of funds.
** CMA Board approval and concurrence may be pending at the time of deadline.

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Appendix 1
Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 4
Funding Source Information

	State Transit Assistance (STA)	Proposition 1B – Transit	Section 5307 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC)
Purpose of Fund Source	**To improve existing public transportation services and encourage regional transportation coordination**	**To help advance the State's goals of providing mobility choices for all residents, reducing congestion, and protecting the environment**	**To support the continuation and expansion of public transportation services in the United States**
Detailed Guidelines	**http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/Docs-Pdfs/STIP/TDA_4-17-2013.pdf**	**http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/Docs-Pdfs/Prop%201B/PTMISEA-Guidelines_2013.pdf**	**http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/FINAL_FTA_circular9030.1E.pdf**
Use of Funds	For public transportation purposes including community transit services	For public transportation purposes	For the Lifeline Transportation Program, the use of Section 5307 funds is restricted solely to Job Access and Reverse Commute projects that support the development and maintenance of transportation services designed to transport welfare recipients and eligible low income individuals to and from jobs and activities related to their employment.
Eligible Recipients	▪ Transit operators ▪ Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies (CTSAs) ▪ Cities and Counties if eligible to claim TDA	▪ Transit operators	▪ Transit operators that are FTA grantees
Eligible Subrecipients **(must partner with an eligible recipient that will serve as a pass-through agency)**	▪ Cities and counties that are not eligible to claim TDA	▪ N/A	▪ Private non-profit organizations ▪ Public agencies that are not FTA grantees (e.g., cities, counties)

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	State Transit Assistance (STA)	Proposition 1B – Transit	Section 5307 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC)
Eligible Projects	**<u>Transit Capital and Operations</u>, including:** ▪ New, continued or expanded fixed-route service ▪ Purchase of vehicles ▪ Shuttle service if available for use by the general public ▪ Purchase of technology (e.g., GPS, other ITS applications) ▪ Capital projects such as bus stop improvements, including bus benches, shelters, etc. ▪ Various elements of mobility management, if consistent with STA program purpose and allowable use. These may include planning, coordinating, capital or operating activities.	<u>Transit Capital</u> (including a minimum operable segment of a project) for: ▪ Rehab, safety, or modernization improvements ▪ Capital service enhancements or expansions ▪ New capital projects ▪ Bus rapid transit improvements ▪ Rolling stock procurement, rehab, or replacements Projects must be consistent with most recently adopted short-range transit plan or other publicly adopted plan that includes transit capital improvements.	<u>New and existing services.</u> Eligible job access and reverse commute projects must provide for the development or maintenance of eligible job access and reverse commute services. Recipients may not reclassify existing public transportation services that have not received funding under the former Section 5316 program as job access and reverse commute services in order to qualify for operating assistance. In order to be eligible as a job access and reverse commute project, a proposed project must qualify as either a "development project" or a "maintenance project" (see Section 7.c.(2) of these guidelines for details regarding "development" and "maintenance" projects). <u>Capital and Operating projects.</u> Projects that comply with the requirements above may include, but are not limited to: ▪ Late-night & weekend service; ▪ Guaranteed ride home service; ▪ Shuttle service; ▪ Expanding fixed route public transit routes, including hours of service or coverage; ▪ Demand-responsive van service; ▪ Ridesharing and carpooling activities; ▪ Transit-related aspects of bicycling; ▪ Administration and expenses for voucher programs; ▪ Local car loan programs; ▪ Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS); ▪ Marketing; and ▪ Mobility management. See FTA C 9030.1E, Chapter IV, Section 5 for details regarding eligible JARC projects.

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	State Transit Assistance (STA)	Proposition 1B – Transit	Section 5307 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC)
Lifeline Program Local Match	20%	20%	▪ 50% for operating projects (may use STA funds to cover up to 30% if project is eligible for **both** JARC and STA) ▪ 50% for auto projects ▪ 20% for capital projects
Estimated timing for availability of funds to project sponsor	Transit operators, CTSAs and eligible cities and counties can initiate claims for FY14 and FY15 funds immediately following MTC approval of program of projects, and can initiate claims for FY16 funds after July 1, 2015. For subrecipients, the eligible recipient acting as fiscal agent will likely initiate a funding agreement following MTC approval of program of projects. Funds will be available on a reimbursement basis after execution of the agreement.	Project sponsors must submit a Proposition 1B allocation request to MTC for submittal to Caltrans by March 13, 2015. Disbursement timing depends on bond sales.	Following MTC approval of the program of projects, MTC will add projects to the TIP. Following TIP approval, FTA grantees must submit FTA grants for FY14 and FY15 funds by June 30, 2015. (The deadline to submit grants for FY15 funds may be extended depending on the availability of FY15 apportionments.) FTA grantees must submit FTA grants for FY16 funds by June 30, 2016. FTA grantees can begin their projects after the funds are obligated in an FTA grant (estimated Fall 2015 for FY14 & FY15 funds; estimated Fall 2016 for FY16 funds). For subrecipients, the FTA grantee acting as fiscal agent will likely initiate a funding agreement following FTA grant award. Funds will be available on a reimbursement basis after execution of the agreement.
Accountability & Reporting Requirements	Transit operators and eligible cities and counties must submit annual performance (i.e., ridership) statistics for the project, first to Lifeline Program Administrators for review, and then to MTC along with annual claim. Depending on the arrangement with the pass-through agency, subrecipients will likely submit quarterly performance reports with invoices, first to the pass-through agency for reimbursement, and then to Lifeline Program Administrators for review.	Using designated Caltrans forms, project sponsors are required to submit project activities and progress reports to the state every six months, as well as a project close-out form. Caltrans will track and publicize progress via their website. Project sponsor will not be required to submit progress reports to the Lifeline Program Administrator unless the LPA believes that county-level project monitoring would be beneficial. MTC and/or the Lifeline Program Administrators may request to be copied on progress reports that are submitted to Caltrans.	FTA grantees are responsible for following all applicable federal requirements for preparing and maintaining their Section 5307 (JARC) grants. MTC and/or the Lifeline Program Administrators may request copies of FTA grantees' quarterly Section 5307 (JARC) grant reports to FTA. Depending on the arrangement with the pass-through agency, subrecipients will likely submit quarterly performance reports with invoices, first to Lifeline Program Administrators for review, and then to the pass-through agency for reimbursement. Subrecipients will also submit Title VI reports annually to the pass-through agency.

Note: Information on this chart is accurate as of October 2014. MTC will strive to make Lifeline Program Administrators aware of any changes to fund source guidelines that may be enacted by the appropriating agencies (i.e. State of California, Federal Transit Administration).

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Appendix 2
Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 4
Standard Evaluation Criteria

The following standard evaluation criteria are intended to provide consistent guidance to each county in prioritizing and selecting projects to receive Lifeline Transportation Program funds. Each county, in consultation with other stakeholder representatives on the selection committee, will consider these criteria when selecting projects, and establish the weight to be assigned to each of the criterion. Additional criteria may be added to a county program but should not replace or supplant the regional criteria. MTC staff will review the proposed county program criteria to ensure consistency and to facilitate coordination among county programs.

a. **Project Need/Goals and Objectives:** Applicants should describe the unmet transportation need or gap that the proposed project seeks to address and the relevant planning effort that documents the need. Describe how project activities will mitigate the transportation need. Project application should clearly state the overall program goals and objectives, and demonstrate how the project is consistent with the goals of the Lifeline Transportation Program.

b. **Community-Identified Priority:** Priority should be given to projects that directly address transportation gaps and/or barriers identified through a Community-Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) or other substantive local planning effort involving focused outreach to low-income populations. Applicants should identify the CBTP or other substantive local planning effort, as well as the priority given to the project in the plan.

   Other projects may also be considered, such as those that address transportation needs identified in countywide or regional welfare-to-work transportation plans, the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan, or other documented assessment of needs within designated communities of concern. Findings emerging from one or more CBTPs or other relevant planning efforts may also be applied to other low-income areas, or otherwise be directed to serve low-income constituencies within the county, as applicable.

c. **Implementation Plan and Project Management Capacity:** For projects seeking funds to support program operations, applicants must provide a well-defined service operations plan, and describe implementation steps and timelines for carrying out the plan.

   For projects seeking funds for capital purposes, applicants must provide an implementation plan, milestones and timelines for completing the project.

   Priority should be given to projects that are ready to be implemented in the timeframe that the funding is available.

   Project sponsors should describe and provide evidence of their organization's ability to provide and manage the proposed project, including experience providing services for low-income persons, and experience as a recipient of state or federal transportation funds. For continuation projects that have previously received Lifeline funding, project sponsor should describe project progress and outcomes.

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d. Coordination and Program Outreach: Proposed projects will be evaluated based on their ability to coordinate with other community transportation and/or social service resources. Applicants should clearly identify project stakeholders, and how they will keep stakeholders involved and informed throughout the project. Applicants should also describe how the project will be marketed and promoted to the public.

e. Cost-Effectiveness and Performance Indicators: The project will be evaluated based on the applicant's ability to demonstrate that the project is the most appropriate way in which to address the identified transportation need, and is a cost-effective approach. Applicants must also identify clear, measurable outcome-based performance measures to track the effectiveness of the service in meeting the identified goals. A plan should be provided for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the service, as well as steps to be taken if original goals are not achieved.

f. Project Budget/Sustainability: Applicants must submit a clearly defined project budget, indicating anticipated project expenditures and revenues, including documentation of matching funds. Proposals should address long-term efforts and identify potential funding sources for sustaining the project beyond the grant period.

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