



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

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Memorandum

TO: Transit Finance Working Group

DATE: 02/03/2015

FR: Kenneth Kao

RE: Update on Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 2

Background

The State Legislature approved SB 99 and AB 101 in September 2013, establishing the Active Transportation Program (ATP). The ATP seeks to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking. The ATP funding is distributed as follows:

- 50% to the state for a statewide competitive program (“Statewide ATP”);
- 10% to the small urban and rural area competitive program to be managed by the state; and
- 40% to the large urbanized area competitive program, with funding distributed by population and managed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (“Regional ATP”).

MTC is responsible for developing the region’s guidelines for the Regional ATP, and for submitting the proposed projects to the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for adoption. MTC and CTC finalized Cycle 1 of ATP in 2014 (which covers FY 14-15 and FY 15-16), with the Bay Area receiving about \$57 million in ATP funds from both the Statewide and Regional ATP. Additional information about Cycle 1 ATP is available on MTC’s website at <http://mtc.ca.gov/funding/ATP/>.

Cycle 2 Years and Funding Levels

CTC and MTC are now preparing for Cycle 2 of ATP. Cycle 2 will cover three additional years, FY 16-17, FY 17-18, and FY 18-19. Staff estimates that funding levels will be similar to Cycle 1, with about \$180 million available for programming in the Statewide ATP, and \$30 million in the MTC Regional ATP.

Cycle 2 Guidelines

CTC released discussion draft guidelines for ATP Cycle 2 in late November, and held two workshops. The draft guidelines are available online at the CTC ATP website, at <http://www.catc.ca.gov/programs/ATP.htm>. Generally, the draft statewide guidelines for ATP Cycle 2 are similar to those of Cycle 1. CTC expects to adopt the statewide guidelines at its meeting on March 25, 2015.

MTC will follow the State Competitive ATP Guidelines, with proposed changes from the Statewide ATP Guidelines below. These proposed changes are currently draft and will be considered at the February 11 Programming and Allocations Committee meeting and at the February 25 MTC Commission meeting.

1. Additional screening criteria focused on project readiness.
2. Add additional evaluation criteria, as follows:
 - a. Consistency with Regional Priorities and Planning Efforts (such as Bay Trail and Regional Bike Network build-out and gap closures, and multi-jurisdictional projects).
Up to 5 points.

- b. Completion of Approved Environmental Document. Met by proof of an approved environmental document, and does not apply to planning activities or stand-alone non-infrastructure projects. **0 or 3 points.**
 - c. Consistency with OneBayArea Grant (OBAG) Complete Streets Policy. Met by updated General Plan Circulation Element or adopted complete streets policy resolution by September 30, 2015. **0 or 2 points.**
 - d. Countywide Plans/Goals Consistency. Met by Congestion Management Agency determination of consistency with countywide plans and/or goals. Inconsistent projects will receive a 2 point penalty. **0 or -2 points.**
 - e. Deliverability. Evaluators will review the project’s proposed schedule for deliverability. Projects deemed undeliverable or that have significant delivery risks will receive a 5 point penalty. **0 or -5 points.**
3. Use MTC’s Communities of Concern definition to meet the 25% requirement for projects benefiting “Disadvantaged Communities,” rather than other measures prescribed by CTC (such as Cal-Enviro-Screen and percent of subsidized school lunches), as allowed by state guidelines.
 4. Maintain an 11.47% match requirement, with waivers for projects benefiting a Community of Concern, stand-alone non-infrastructure projects, and safe routes to schools projects. Also, MTC will waive local match for construction if pre-construction phases are funded entirely with non-federal and non-ATP funds.
 5. Contingency Project List. MTC will also adopt a list of contingency projects, ranked in priority order based on the project’s evaluation score. MTC intends to fund projects on the contingency list should there be any project failures or savings in the Cycle 2 Regional ATP. This will ensure that the Regional ATP will fully use all ATP funds, and minimize the loss of ATP funds to the region.

In addition to the above changes, all projects in the Regional ATP will be subject to regional policies, including Resolution 3606 deadlines, and submittal of a resolution of local support for all selected projects by February 1, 2016.

Cycle 2 Schedule

Assuming the above schedule for guideline adoption, the draft schedule for Cycle 2 is below. Note that the dates are subject to change.

Milestone	Statewide ATP	Regional ATP
MTC Guideline Adoption	N/A	February 25, 2015
CTC Guideline Approval	March 25, 2015	March 25, 2015
Call for Projects	March 26, 2015	March 26, 2015
Application Due Date	June 1, 2015	June 1, 2015
Staff Recommendations	September 15, 2015	October 7, 2015
MTC Adoption	N/A	October 28, 2015
CTC Approval	October 22, 2015	December 10, 2015

Next Steps

MTC staff encourages prospective applicants to visit the MTC and CTC ATP websites described earlier to follow any announcements regarding guidelines, applications, and changes to schedule. Both MTC and the State will hold application workshops after the release of the Call for Projects (likely in April).

Any questions regarding ATP should be directed to Kenneth Kao at kkao@mtc.ca.gov, or (510) 817-5768.