



NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY COVER MEMO

SUBJECT

Public Hearing and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Grant Application to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) Board:

(1) Hold a Public Hearing; and

(2) Approve Resolution No. 25-09 authorizing the Executive Director or designee to submit a FTA Section 5310 grant application to Caltrans seeking grant funding for American with Disabilities Act (ADA) replacement vehicles and volunteer driver program

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Caltrans released a Call for Projects on June 30, 2025 for the FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program. Approximately \$24.4 million dollars is available for small urban and rural areas statewide with applications due to Caltrans by September 3, 2025. The purpose of the public hearing is to ascertain that there are no eligible non-profit organizations that can provide ADA transit services currently provided by NVTA in Napa County.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? Yes, the estimated cost to replace four (4) paratransit vehicles can be as high as \$841,200. Contributions from the City of Calistoga, PG&E's Fleet Ready Program, and Transportation Development Act funds will be used as the local match.

For the driver volunteer program, the estimated costs are up to \$100,000 for a three-year program, with \$50,000 in federal grant funds and \$50,000 in matching funds.



NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Board Agenda Memo

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Danielle Schmitz, Executive Director
REPORT BY: Libby Payan – Senior Program Planner/Administrator
(707) 259-8782 / Email: lpayan@nvta.ca.gov
SUBJECT: Public Hearing and Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Section 5310 Grant Application to the California Department of
Transportation (Caltrans)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) Board:

(1) Hold a Public Hearing; and

(2) Approve Resolution No. 25-09 (Attachment 1) authorizing the Executive Director or designee to submit an FTA Section 5310 grant application to Caltrans seeking grant funding for American with Disabilities Act (ADA) replacement vehicles and volunteer driver program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None

BACKGROUND

The FTA Section 5310 competitive grant program provides funding for capital and mobility management projects to non-profit agencies for transportation services, seniors, and people with disabilities. These funds are available to non-profit organizations serving the elderly and/or people with disabilities or to government agencies. The goal of the program is to improve the mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding transportation mobility options.

When no non-profit agencies are willing, able or eligible to provide the proposed grant funded services, in this case, complementary paratransit services, a public agency may seek funding. NVTa has been the recipient of FTA Section 5310 funds in the past, most recently for the purchase of four (4) paratransit vehicles back in Fiscal Year 2022-2023. After Caltrans announced the notice of funding availability in June, NVTa presented the information at its July 10, 2025 Paratransit Coordinating Council meeting and sent email communication to local non-profits and social service agencies with instructions on how to file an application directly to Caltrans.

The NVTa Board shall hold a public hearing to accept and authorize the Executive Director or designee to submit a FTA Section 5310 grant application to Caltrans to fund four new vehicles, including one electric vehicle to be used in Calistoga, that will replace paratransit vehicles that have outlived their useful lives and fund a mileage reimbursement program that would be for seniors and individuals with disabilities to reimburse the driver for providing the transportation. Drivers would be reimbursed at the federal mileage reimbursement rate, which is currently \$0.70 per mile in 2025. At this rate NVTa could provide reimbursement for 142,857 miles driven, which equates to 20 daily trips averaging 10 miles for two years.

The public has 30 days to comment on the FTA Section 5310 grant submittal from the time NVTa posts the public hearing notification.

ALTERNATIVES

Option #1: That the Board approve a reduced request that does not require a local match.

Option #2: That the Board forego the submission to replace four paratransit vehicles and seek other funding to replace the vehicles. This may result in not meeting the agency's replacement schedule as published in its Short Range Transit Plan.

Option #3: That the Board forego the submission of the grant.

STRATEGIC GOALS MET BY THIS PROPOSAL

Goal 1 - Serve the transportation needs of the entire community regardless of age, income or ability – The 5310 program is specifically designed to enhance the mobility of some of the most vulnerable members of the community – seniors and persons with disabilities. Reinstating a mileage reimbursement program will provide seniors and people with disabilities additional options to obtain transportation services.

Goal 2 - Improve system safety in order to support all modes and serve all users - the replacement of transit vehicles after they have outlived their useful lives is called out in the Short Range Transit Plan.

Goal 5 - Minimize the energy and other resources required to move people and goods – replacing older paratransit vehicles with newer ones will minimize the number of breakdowns and mechanical work required to keep the older vehicles in operation.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Attachments: (1) Resolution No. 25-09
 (2) Public Hearing Notice – Press Democrat
 (2) Public Hearing Notice – Napa Valley Register

RESOLUTION No. 25-09

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (NVTA)
AUTHORIZING THE FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER FTA SECTION 5310 (49 U.S.C.
SECTION 5310) WITH CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Transportation is authorized to make grants to states through the Federal Transit Administration to support capital projects for non-urbanized public transportation systems under Section 5310 of the Federal Transit Act (FTA C 9070.1G); and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Department) has been designated by the Governor of the State of California to administer Section 5310 grants for transportation projects for seniors and individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the NVTA desires to apply for Section 5310 financial assistance to support its paratransit service and voucher programs that benefit seniors in Napa County; and

WHEREAS, the NVTA has, to the maximum extent feasible, coordinated with other transportation providers and users in the region (including social services agencies).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED, that the NVTA does hereby

- 1) Authorize Executive Director or designated representative, to file and execute applications on behalf of the NVTA with the Department to aid in the financing of capital projects pursuant to Section 5310 of the Federal Transit Act (**FTA C 9070.1G**), as amended.
- 2) That Executive Director or designated representative is authorized to execute and file all certification of assurances, contracts or agreements or any other document required by the Department.
- 3) That Executive Director or designated representative is authorized to provide additional information as the Department may require in connection with the application for the Section 5310 projects.
- 4) That Executive Director or designated representative is authorized to submit and approve request for reimbursement of funds from the Department for the Section 5310 projects.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Napa Valley Transportation Authority, at a regular meeting held on July 16, 2025, by the following vote:

Mark Joseph, NVTA Chair

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

ATTEST:

Laura Sanderlin, NVTA Board Secretary

APPROVED:

Osman Mufti, NVTA Legal Counsel

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

County of Sonoma

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the county aforesaid: am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of The Press Democrat, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published DAILY IN THE City of Santa Rosa, County of Sonoma; and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Sonoma, State of California, under the date of November 29, 1951, Case number 34831, that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates to wit:

The Press Democrat - Legal Notices

07/05 - 07/05/2025

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing is true and correct

Dated 07/07/2025

at Santa Rosa, California



Stefanie Puckett

**NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON FEDERAL TRANSIT
ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5310
GRANT APPLICATION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on July 16, 2025 at 1:00 pm a public hearing will be conducted by the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVRTA) to consider the matter described below. The public is invited to participate telephonically or electronically via the methods below:

- 1) To join the meeting via Zoom video conference from your PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android: go to <https://zoom.us/join> and enter meeting ID 864 1754 4351
- 2) To join the Zoom meeting by phone: dial 1-669-900-6833, enter meeting ID: 864 1754 4351 If asked for the participant ID or code, press #.
- 3) Watch live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrpjLcW9uRmA0EE6w-eKZyw?app=desktop>

NVRTA is applying for a grant from the State pursuant to Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5310(a)(2) for the purpose of funding up to four (4) replacement Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit compliant vehicles and fund a mileage reimbursement program that would be for seniors and individuals with disabilities to reimburse their friends, family members, neighbors or nonprofits for providing them transportation. Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5310(a)(2) provides that the State may allocate grant funds to a local governmental authority that: (1) is approved by the State to coordinate services for elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities; or (2) has certified that there are no non-profit organizations readily available in the area to provide complementary paratransit service.

All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and comment on the proposal. Any questions regarding this hearing and the Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 program may be directed to Rebecca Schenck, Program Manager – Public Transit at 707-259-8636 or NVRTA at 625 Burnell Street Napa, California.

Dated: July 1, 2025

Rebecca Schenck, Program Manager – Public Transit
Napa Valley Transportation Authority

###

235135 – Pub July 5, 2025

1ti.

Copy of newspaper
notice for the Napa
Valley Register on
July 1, 2025

//10 COL-CA-101270

**NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION
AUTHORITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION
SECTION 5310
GRANT APPLICATION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on July 16, 2025 at 1:00 pm a public hearing will be conducted by the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTa) to consider the matter described below. The public is invited to participate telephonically or electronically via the methods below:

1) To join the meeting via Zoom video conference from your PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android: go to <https://zoom.us/join> and enter meeting ID 864 1754 4351

2) To join the Zoom meeting by phone: dial 1-669-900-6833, enter meeting ID: 864 1754 4351 If asked for the participant ID or code, press #.

3) Watch live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrpjLcW9uRmA0EE6w-eKZyw?app=desktop>

NVTa is applying for a grant from the State pursuant to Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5310(a)(2) for the purpose of funding up to four (4) replacement Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit compliant vehicles and fund a mileage reimbursement program that would be for seniors and individuals with disabilities to reimburse their friends, family members, neighbors or nonprofits for providing them transportation. Title 49 U.S.C. Section 5310(a)(2) provides that the State may allocate grant funds to a local governmental authority that: (1) is approved by the State to coordinate services for elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities; or (2) has certified that there are no non-profit organizations readily available in the area to provide complementary paratransit service.

All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and comment on the proposal. Any questions regarding this hearing and the Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 program may be directed to Rebecca Schenck, Program Manager – Public Transit at 707-259-8636 or NVTa at 625 Burnell Street Napa, California.

Dated: July 1, 2025

Rebecca Schenck, Program Manager –
Public Transit

Napa Valley Transportation Authority
7/10 COL-CA-101269