



NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Technical Advisory Committee Agenda Memo

TO: Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
FROM Kate Miller, Executive Director
REPORT BY: Danielle Schmitz – Director, Capital Development and Planning
(707) 259-5968 | dschmitz@nvta.ca.gov
SUBJECT: One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Cycle 3

RECOMMENDATION

Information only

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is setting the framework for the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Cycle 3 call for projects which will take place next year in 2022. OBAG guidelines develop the investment strategy for federal Surface Transportation Block Grant funds programmed by MTC. OBAG 3 policy considerations are oriented around preserving the effectiveness of past OBAG programs, this includes focusing investments in Priority Development Areas (PDAs), and incorporating recent policy initiatives such as regional safety/vision zero policies and the Transit Transformation Action Plan. MTC staff is still developing the draft framework including funding targets with anticipated finalization of the guidelines by December 2021. County Transportation Agencies (CTAs) have been meeting with MTC and providing input on the framework.

A major change to OBAG 3 is there will be a two-phased project selection process. This is because MTC's federal certification review in 2020 highlighted the need to clarify and better document MTC's OBAG programming responsibilities, including areas of project selection and funding distribution. The corrective action requires MTC to change the project selection process under OBAG 3. MTC cannot sub-allocate OBAG funds by formula, and cannot delegate final project selection authority to the county level. MTC will perform final prioritization and selection of projects within the county programs. Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVRTA) and partner CTAs are working with MTC on

developing the guidelines for this two-phased programming effort. NVTa is vocalizing the importance that CTAs have discretion over phase 1 of the call for projects and are able to define things like proximate access to PDAs within the program. It is anticipated that eligible project types will be similar to previous cycles and transit projects, safe routes to school, multimodal operational improvements, and local street and road projects will be eligible. NVTa is also advocating for the Priority Conservation Area (PCA) set-aside for the North Bay Counties. NVTa staff will continue to bring OBAG 3 updates to TAC throughout the next year.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a fiscal impact? No

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) program is the policy and programming framework for investing federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ), and other fund programs throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. MTC established the OBAG program in 2013 to strengthen the connection between transportation investments and regional goals for focused growth in PDAs, near affordable housing. OBAG is delivered through two program components, the county program and the regional program. The programs reinforce the region's growth objectives by focusing projects that reduce vehicle miles traveled, while continuing to deliver on important regional initiatives like state of good repair.

The County Program is designed for local transportation investments that support housing development and reduce vehicle travel. The regional program invests in ongoing transportation programs as well as new initiatives outlined in Plan Bay Area. The regional program has invested in a broad array of transportation initiatives such as PDA planning, Priority Conservation Area (PCA) grants, Bay Bridge Forward and other highway operation improvements, and transit capital investments like BART.

Table 1. OBAG 3 Timeline

Date	Milestone
July 2021	MTC Commission Overview and Discussion
July-Sept 2021	Develop draft program framework, including funding levels, program categories, and policy changes
October 2021	MTC Commission – Review and discussion of draft OBAG 3 framework
December 2021	MTC review and approval of final OBAG 3 program framework
January – December 2022	County Program – call for projects and Regional Program – program definition and programming actions
<u>Spring 2023</u>	MTC review and approval of OBAG 3 County Program projects

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Attachment: (1) MTC OBAG 3 Considerations PowerPoint

<https://mtc.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5127080&GUID=54CF0B2B-0ECB-4B62-A786-1E0586849F92>