

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Administration Committee**

June 8, 2022

Agenda Item 2g - 22-0884

**Contract - Blue Ribbon Action Plan Access and Mobility Work Plan:
Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. (\$230,000)**

Subject:

Staff requests the Committee’s approval to enter into a contract with Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. (Nelson\Nygaard) in an amount not to exceed \$230,000 for the Blue Ribbon Action Plan Access and Mobility Work Plan.

Background:

In July 2021, MTC’s Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force developed the Bay Area Transit Transformation Action Plan. The Action Plan identified outcomes with associated near term action items to achieve a more connected, efficient and user-focused mobility network. One outcome was “Accessibility: Transit services for older adults, people with disabilities, and those with lower incomes are coordinated efficiently” and with it came five actions, listed below.

Action #	Action Description
Action 21	Designate a Mobility Manager to coordinate rides and function as a liaison between transit agencies in each county, consistent with the Coordinated Plan
Action 22	Fund additional subregional one-seat paratransit ride pilots and develop cost-sharing policies for cross jurisdictional paratransit trips
Action 23	Integration of ADA-paratransit services on Clipper Next Generation is an ongoing effort, led by Clipper staff.
Action 24	Identify key paratransit challenges and recommend reforms through the Coordinated Plan update
Action 25	Adopt standardized eligibility practices for programs that benefit people with disabilities (ADA-paratransit)

One Work Plan for Four Actions

Staff is proposing to collectively package four of these actions into a comprehensive Blue Ribbon Action Plan Access and Mobility Work Plan. Packaging Action items 21, 22, 24 and 25 into one work plan will allow stakeholders to follow the progress of this work more easily.

Attachment A includes activities that are included under this Work Plan for each of the four actions. Action 23, the integration of ADA-paratransit service on to the Clipper system, is a stand-alone item under the larger Next Generation Clipper project (expected mid-2023).

Coordinated Plan Integration

Staff is currently in the process of updating the region's Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. To advance the Work Plan initiatives in a timely manner and integrate with the activities of the Coordinated Plan update, staff proposes to contract with Nelson\Nygaard on a sole source basis. Nelson\Nygaard is currently engaged by MTC for the update of the Coordinated Plan and has expertise and knowledge of paratransit and accessible transportation systems across the nation. The consulting team can capitalize on work underway and operate on the accelerated timeline required.

Next Steps:

If approved, staff, with consultant support, will kick-off activities for this work plan in Summer 2022.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Staff recommends that the Committee authorize the Executive Director or designee to negotiate and enter into a sole source contract with Nelson\Nygaard in an amount not to exceed \$230,000, for the term of July 1, 2022 through December 31,2024, for the Blue Ribbon Action Plan Access and Mobility Work Plan.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Blue Ribbon Action Plan Access and Mobility Work Plan Activities
- Attachment B: Request for Committee Approval – Summary of Proposed Contract



Therese W. McMillan

Blue Ribbon Action Plan Access and Mobility Work Plan Activities

Action	Action Description	Action Activities
21	Designate a Mobility Manager to coordinate rides and function as a liaison between transit agencies in each county, consistent with the Coordinated Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitate meetings with agencies, organizations, and other parties to discuss current condition of mobility management and find consensus on which entity should lead mobility management functions. - Document the process and create an analysis for each county.
22	Fund additional subregional one-seat paratransit ride pilots and develop cost-sharing policies for cross jurisdictional paratransit trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design and issue one-seat ride pilot program call for projects; award project funding for up to three pilots. - Facilitate meetings with transit agency staff to document cost-sharing agreements and transfer practices and policies for cross jurisdiction trips. - Provide analysis of current agreements and practices; provide recommendations for improvements. - Map existing transfer points; provide criteria and minimum standards for safe transfer points.
23	<i>Integration of ADA-paratransit services on Clipper Next Generation</i>	<i>Not part of this work plan. Work is ongoing and is led by Clipper Staff.</i>
24	Identify key paratransit challenges and recommend reforms through the Coordinated Plan update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Synthesize recent findings for top issues for paratransit riders. - Meet with paratransit coordinating councils, transit accessibility committee members and other paratransit riders in forums, focus groups, and other small setting meetings for deep engagement on top issues. - Meet with transit staff and paratransit providers to define the top paratransit provision challenges.

Action	Action Description	Action Activities
		- Prepare recommended solutions and strategies for service improvement along with detailed cost information to accompany each recommendation.
25	Adopt standardized eligibility practices for programs that benefit people with disabilities (ADA-paratransit)	- Meet with transit staff to document current ADA-paratransit eligibility practices. - Provide analysis, recommendations, and detailed cost information on changes to make eligibility practices more standard across the region.

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder Engagement of Riders will be in the form of:

- Interviews
- Focus Groups
- Surveys
- Discussion Forums

Regular progress reports will be provided to:

- MTC's Policy Advisory Council Access and Equity Subcommittee
- Bay Area Partnership Accessibility Committee (BAPAC)*
- Transit Caucus Subcommittee*

*Transit agency-led working group

Request for Committee Approval

Summary of Proposed Contract

Work Item No.: 1311

Consultant: Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc.

Work Project Title: Blue Ribbon Action Plan Access and Mobility Work Plan

Purpose of Project: Advance accessibility items from the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Action Plan

Brief Scope of Work: Preparation of the Blue Ribbon Action Plan Access and Mobility Work Plan.

Project Cost Not to Exceed: \$230,000

Funding Source: Regional STA Program Funds (originally CARES Act funding)

Fiscal Impact: \$230,000 is requested in in the FY 2022-23 MTC Budget

Motion by Committee: That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to enter into a contract with Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. for the Blue Ribbon Action Plan Access and Mobility Work Plan for the term of July 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024, as described above and in the Administration Committee Summary Sheet dated June 8, 2022 and that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set aside \$230,000 for such contract subject to inclusion in the FY 2022-23 agency budget.

Administration Committee:

Federal D. Glover, Chair

Approved: June 8, 2022