



January 10, 2023

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David Rabbitt, Chair
Programming and Allocations Committee
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

Subject: Support for One Bay Area Grant Cycle 3 (OBAG 3) Program and Cycle 6 Regional Active Transportation Program (ATP) Funding Recommendations, January 11, 2023 Programming & Allocations Committee Item 3.a

Dear Commissioner Rabbitt:

On January 4, 2023, MTC staff released its recommendations for Cycle 3 OBAG and Cycle 6 Regional ATP funding. TAM is very pleased with the recommendations and would like to express support for the eight OBAG 3 and three Regional ATP projects recommended for funding in Marin County.

With the OBAG 3 nominations, TAM made a conscious effort to focus improvements in Priority Development Areas (PDAs) and projects that improve multi-modal options. TAM is grateful that MTC's recommendations for OBAG 3 align with TAM's intent. TAM is especially grateful for the recommendation to program San Rafael's Canal Neighborhood Active Transportation Enhancements Project with Regional ATP funds instead of OBAG 3 funds. This decision has allowed our OBAG 3 projects to be funded at their requested amounts and a Bay Trail project, Corte Madera's Paradise Drive Pathway, on our contingency list to be funded.

For the Regional ATP recommendations, the three Marin projects recommended for funding are critical projects with broad based support from local communities, particularly from the disadvantaged communities. Furthermore, the bicycle and pedestrian improvements will be greatly appreciated by bicyclists and pedestrians because they will greatly enhance the widely used bicycle and pedestrian network in Marin County.

Corte Madera received \$415,000 from Cycle 3.5 Regional ATP to complete the design phase for the Central Marin Regional Pathways Gap Closure Project. The project is shovel ready. With the recommended construction funds, this project can be delivered to improve bicycle and pedestrian travels in a highly congested area that serves several schools.

TAM is also pleased with the two San Rafael projects recommended for Regional ATP funding that serve the disadvantaged Canal Neighborhood. The Canal Neighborhood is physically isolated from other parts of San Rafael by the Canal waterway and the Highway 101/Interstate 580 freeways. It is a relatively small area that makes up 20 percent of San Rafael's population, making it the densest community in Marin County.

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Many residents of the Canal Neighborhood are transit dependent. There are currently limited shopping, education, or health services available and travel options to other locations for services is constrained by limited bicycle and pedestrian connections.

The funding for the San Rafael Canal Crossing Project and the Canal Neighborhood Active Transportation Enhancements Project will greatly ameliorate some of the impediments that Canal Neighborhood residents have dealt with for decades. Residents have identified these improvements in the Canal Neighborhood Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP). The completion of these projects will better connect the Canal Neighborhood to San Rafael and the rest of the County.

Thank you for considering supporting staff's recommendations for OBAG 3 and Cycle 6 Regional ATP funding when the item is heard at the Programming and Allocations Committee on January 11, 2023 and the Commission on January 25, 2023.

Sincerely,



Anne Richman
Executive Director

cc: Stephanie Moulton-Peters, TAM Chairperson
Theresa Romell, MTC
Karl Anderson, MTC
Kimberly Ward, MTC