

Bay Area Partnership Board

December 2, 2022

Agenda Item 4a

MTC Transportation Electrification Initiatives

Subject:

Discussion of proposed investments and partnership opportunities to support transportation electrification in the Bay Area and an update on the Zero-Emission Bus Transition Strategy.

Background:

MTC is developing a transportation electrification program that supports the related goals of Plan Bay Area 2050 (PBA 2050)— which includes clean vehicles strategies to achieve statutory greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions targets for automobiles and light-duty trucks—and helping Bay Area transit operators meet the California Air Resources Board’s Innovative Clean Transit regulation and related zero-emission vehicle regulations. MTC is considering a suite of efforts to support the equitable deployment of charging infrastructure and the electrification of bikeshare, transit, and municipal fleets.

Transportation Electrification Program

MTC has previously worked to advance electric vehicles (EVs) and charging infrastructure, primarily through investment in existing Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) EV programs. MTC also works with BAAQMD to facilitate the Bay Area EV Coordinating Council.

Given the increased urgency to reduce GHG emissions and advance PBA 2050, staff invited local agencies to submit a letter of interest (LOI) in June 2022 to share their needs and barriers to advancing transportation electrification across the region. MTC received over 80 LOIs from cities, counties, county transportation authorities (CTAs), transit agencies, community choice aggregators (CCAs), and other local agencies, with LOIs submitted from every county. MTC staff also coordinated with Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) staff to integrate information from TAM’s own request for EV LOIs from agencies in Marin County earlier in the year.

The top needs identified through the LOI include:

- Public charging infrastructure deployment

- Municipal fleet electrification
- Electric mobility (i.e., e-bikes, electric carshare, etc.) programs
- Planning or policy adoption

Respondents also identified key barriers to implementation, including:

- Staff capacity and expertise
- Uncertainty about electrical capacity
- Delays due to PG&E role
- Confusing array of stakeholders and programs
- Difficulty resolving charging infrastructure issues at multi-family developments

On October 26, 2022, the Commission approved \$65 million for electric vehicles and infrastructure, as part of the OBAG 3 programming item. Program funding is anticipated from two funding sources – the One Bay Area Grant Program (OBAG3), as well as the new federal Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Transportation Electrification is one component of a larger Climate Program which includes investment in other greenhouse gas reducing initiatives, such as the regional Mobility Hub program. In future funding cycles, mobility hubs will include opportunities for electrification.

Based on the needs identified, staff are considering directing the TE investments towards charging infrastructure, bikeshare electrification, and public fleet electrification. Staff is currently seeking input from the Partnership Board, transit agencies, CTAs, CCAs, and BAAQMD. Staff anticipates proposing program recommendations to the Commission in early 2023.

Regional Zero-Emission Transit Transition Strategy Update

MTC staff is also coordinating a Regional Zero-Emission Transit Transition Strategy in partnership with the transit operators. In March, the Partnership Board received an update on plans to implement the transition strategy. In the ensuing months, MTC and operator staff have worked closely to develop a comprehensive scope including:

- Summarization of current transit agency zero-emission transition plans, including an interactive map of facilities

- Analysis of technological approaches and feasibility of shared infrastructure
- Regional opportunities and challenges, including those related to electricity provision, hydrogen provision, multi-jurisdiction coordination, joint procurements, best practices and knowledge sharing, and workforce training opportunities; overview of broader electrification and zero-emission transition in non-transit sectors
- Future tasks as budget allows

MTC staff have conducted a procurement from the Regional Planning Bench and the MTC Administration Committee is expected to consider contract award at its December 14, 2022 meeting, with the project kicking off shortly thereafter.

Issues:

None identified.

Recommendations:

Information.

Attachments:

None



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