



December 17, 2024

Andrew Fremier and Alix Bockelman
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: Commitment of STP/CMAQ Funds, MTC Commission Item #10d

Dear Mr. Fremier and Ms. Bockelman,

On behalf of the Bay Area County Transportation Agencies (BACTA), we want to express our sincere appreciation for MTC's leadership and partnership in advancing transportation solutions for the region. Your efforts, particularly in securing state funding through Senate Bill 125 and supporting transit during the pandemic, have been critical for sustaining transit in the Bay Area.

As we look ahead to One Bay Area Grant 4 (OBAG 4) planning in 2025, we would urge the committee to follow the process used for OBAG 3, in which 50 percent of the funds went directly to the counties and the other half for regional programs. OBAG is an essential funding source for the Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), which have supported a wide range of local and regional projects and planning efforts, including active transportation initiatives like Safe Routes to School.

We fully support MTC's initiative to pre-commit \$100 million for transit operations. However, we recommend that those funds are committed from the regional programs to protect local programs. Redirecting local funds from OBAG to support regional transit operations would create significant uncertainty for local agencies and jeopardize our ability to deliver on our commitments to the region.

Your partnership is essential to our success, and we appreciate that MTC staff is developing the OBAG 4 program so early in the process. As we have all seen with the success of OBAG 3, early coordination between MTC and the CTAs allowed us to deliver impactful projects while still aligning with regional goals. We look forward to continuing this partnership in 2025 and replicating the success of our collaborative approach.

Respectfully, we ask the Commission to consider our recommendation to fund the \$100 million transit operations pre-commitment from the OBAG 4 regional pot. This approach will enable us to address regional transit needs without compromising the critical local programs that support communities across the Bay Area.

Thank you for your consideration and for your ongoing partnership.

Sincerely,
BACTA Executive Directors



Carolyn Clevenger
Alameda County Transportation Commission



Timothy Haile
Contra Costa Transportation Authority



Deborah Dagang
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority



Kate Miller
Napa Valley Transportation Authority



Daryl Halls
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Sean Charpentier
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