# Community Action Resource and Empowerment (CARE) Program

# Power-Building and Engagement (Pb+E) Overview & Adoption

Programming & Allocations Committee November 12, 2025





## **CARE Approach**

CARE is advancing a shift in how transit/transportation systems, community organizations, residents and multiple sectors collaborate to improve mobility, climate, and housing.



## **CARE Program Components**

CARE is a competitive funding, grant, and implementation program, providing state and federal funds across three program components.



#### COMMUNITY POWER-BUILDING AND ENGAGEMENT (Pb+E)

- Total Funding: \$3.5 million
- Objective: Provide technical assistance and capacity building for/from/with community-based organizations and local government.
- Timeline: Fall 2025 Winter 2026



## PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CBTP PROJECTS

- Total Funding: \$12 million
- Objective: Advance CBTP concepts to constructionready projects.
- **Timeline**: Early 2026 Winter 2026



## PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING (PB)

- Total Funding: ~\$10 million
- Objective: Implement highpriority neighborhood projects identified from Participatory Budgeting processes or similar.
- Timeline: Winter 2027 Onward

## Pb+E Program Design

#### **GOALS:**

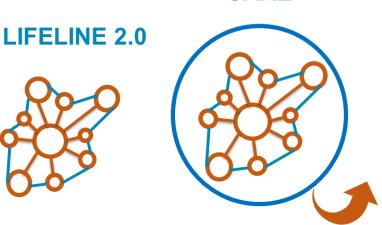
- Build Community Leadership and Capacitybuilding in Transportation and Housing
- Facilitate Inclusive Multi-Sector Partnerships and Collaboration Development
- Implement Resilient Community Solutions

#### STRATEGY:

- **Grant Program**
- Support: Technical Assistance, Peer Learning, Cohort Convenings, Expert Coaching
- **Learning Action Lab**

LIFELINE 1.0





**CARE** 

**Unifying and** mobilizing the network with a collective identity and shared purpose for transit/transportation/ housing/climate systems transformation

### **Pb+E Timeline**

We are here.



#### **WINTER 2024**

 Adoption of CARE Guidelines



#### WINTER 2024/25 – SPRING 2025

Community
 Advisory
 Working Group
 (CAWG) Work



#### SUMMER – EARLY FALL 2025

- Call for Projects
- Outreach
- Evaluation and Award



#### WINTER 2025/26 – NOV. 2026

- Community-Based Organization On-Boarding
- Launch Learning Action Lab

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#### DECEMBER 2026 – WINTER 2027

- Completion of REAP-funded portion of Grant Program
- Learning Action Lab Complete
- Program Evaluation

## **Outreach and Applicant Support**

#### **OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

- 10,231 recipients of email campaign
- Cross-Sector Networks
- Direct Community Connections
- Government Partnerships
- Innovative Approaches
- Two Information Sessions (438 total)

#### WRAP-AROUND SUPPORT

- Office Hours, **Technical Assistance** (141 total appointments; Max. 3 hours/app.), 16-page "Frequently Asked Questions" resource
- Clear Definitions: Define technical terms upfront and include comprehensive "Glossary."
- Template and Example Development: Workplans and Budget Templates

## **Applications Received**

County	Including Multi- County	One County Alone
Alameda	54	24
Contra Costa	36	10
Marin	18	7
Napa	10	1
San Francisco	50	31
San Mateo	28	7
Santa Clara	39	16
Solano	20	7
Sonoma	11	2

- Roughly half of applicants haven't engaged with MTC in the last 5 years
- 49 (34%) of organizations with budgets less than
   \$1 million

Pb+ E Category	Number of Applicants	Total Requested
Capacity     Building	60 (42%)	\$ 4 million
2. Partnership Development	27 (19%)	\$ 3 million 18 are greater than \$50K
3. Community Project	56 (39%)	\$ 12 million
Total Funding Available for Grant Program	n/a	\$ 1.5 million
TOTAL REQUESTED	143	\$ 19 million

## **Scoring Criteria Includes:**



## Recommendation: Portfolio Overview

- Funding to all 9 counties;
   Geographic representation
- Broad mix of CBOs (mission, communities served, annual income, demographics, youth)
- Awards to smaller CBOs

Size of CBO	Funds (K)	% of \$	# of Projects
Small: \$25K-\$999K	\$500	33%	6
Med:\$1M-\$4.99M	\$750	50%	8
Large:\$5M-\$9.99M	\$100	7%	1
Very Large:\$10M+	\$150	10%	1

## Recommendation

- Resolution 4604, Revised, and 4650, Revised
  - Includes revisions to REAP 2 Program redirecting \$1.7 million within existing programs to ensure funds spent by deadline.
- Adoption of CARE Power-building and Engagement (Pb+E) Project List - Programming of \$1.5 million to 16 projects.

Category (Pb+E)	Number of Projects	Amount
Capacity Building	7	\$350,000
Multi-Sector Partnerships	4	\$400,000
Community Projects	5	\$750,000
TOTAL	16	\$1,500,000

Return to Committee: Program up to an additional
 \$1 million to fund more projects, given demand.



