

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Policy Advisory Council Equity and Access Subcommittee**

May 20, 2022

Agenda Item 5

Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Action Plan: Proposed Accessibility Work Plan

Subject:

Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Action Plan: Proposed Accessibility Work Plan

Background:

In July 2021, MTC’s Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force developed the Bay Area Transit Transformation Action Plan (Action Plan). The Action Plan identified five desired 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 Accessibility 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. To advance the initiatives in a timely manner, staff is planning to procure consultant support. 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:

At the conclusion of the Accessibility Work Plan, each action item will have a final report that documents the work performed, findings and recommendations. These reports will become addendums of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan, which is currently undergoing an update and will be presented to the Commission in mid-2023 for adoption. https://mtc.ca.gov/sites/default/files/MTC_Coordinated_Plan.pdf

Stakeholder Engagement:

The proposed Work Plan includes stakeholder engagement of riders in the form of interviews, focus groups, surveys, and discussion forums. Staff requests input from Policy Advisory Council members on individuals, agencies, and community groups to be engaged for this Work Plan. Beyond this required deep stakeholder engagement, staff will provide regular updates of ongoing work to MTC's Policy Advisory Council Equity and Access Subcommittee. Staff will also give regular updates to the Transit Caucus subcommittee and the Bay Area Partnership Accessibility Committee, both of which are working groups comprised of Bay Area transit agency staff.

Timeline and Next Steps:

After soliciting feedback, staff will begin the consultant procurement process and expects to kick-off activities for this Work Plan in Summer 2022, wrapping up in early 2024. For more information on the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Action Plan Accessibility Work Plan and to provide the names of individuals, agencies, and community groups for stakeholder engagement, please contact Drennen Shelton (dshelton@bayareametro.gov).

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Blue Ribbon Action Plan Proposed Accessibility Work Plan Activities

Blue Ribbon Action Plan Proposed Accessibility 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.