

Metropolitan Transportation Commission Programming and Allocations Committee

September 13, 2017

Agenda Item 2e

Federal Earmark Repurposing

Subject: Update on projects to receive Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) repurposed earmark funds under the earmark repurposing provision of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017.

Background: At the July Programming and Allocations Committee meeting, Commissioners received an information item describing a provision included in the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017 that enables States to repurpose unspent earmark balances.

To repurpose funds, an earmark must be at least ten years old and either be less than 10% obligated or completed and closed out. Repurposed funds can be directed to any new or existing project that is eligible to receive Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP) funds, and is within 100 miles of the originally designated earmark.

Repurposing Process

Caltrans posted the official list of earmarks eligible for repurposing on July 27, 2017, including the fund balance available on each earmark. Caltrans requested Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) throughout the State to coordinate with project sponsors to develop and submit a regional repurposing recommendation by August 18, 2017. It is ultimately the State's decision on how to repurpose the earmarks.

Given the extremely short timeline, as well as a consideration of the small number and dollar amount eligible for repurposing, in July the Commission authorized the Executive Director to coordinate with project sponsors and the relevant Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) to develop a repurposing recommendation for the region, and submit the recommendation directly to Caltrans.

Bay Area Repurposed Earmarks

Over the last few weeks, staff worked with CMAs and project sponsors to develop the list of earmarks recommended for repurposing and to identify projects to receive repurposed earmark balances. Earmark repurposing requests submitted by Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) and San Mateo City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) are provided as **Attachment A**.

In its submittal to Caltrans, MTC staff recommended repurposing \$610,000 of the approximately \$2.8 million in unspent earmark apportionment and obligation authority that are available for repurposing. The remaining \$2.2 million is not recommended for repurposing at this time, as the project sponsors are actively working towards obligating the funds consistent with the originally designated earmarks. MTC's submittal letter to Caltrans is provided as **Attachment B**.

Table 1 below, details the recommendation from staff that was submitted to Caltrans on August 18, 2017.

Table 1. Bay Area Repurposed Earmarks, 2017

Original Earmarks			Projects to Receive Repurposed Earmarks		
Sponsor	Earmark Description	Balance	Sponsor	Project	Amount
ACTC	Install emergency vehicle preemption equipment along major arterials in the I-880 corridor, Alameda County	\$21,000	Port of Oakland	GoPort	\$21,000
Hayward	Upgrade Industrial Parkway Southwest between Whipple Rd. and improved segment of the parkway, Hayward	<\$1,000			
ACTC/ San Leandro	Replace 880 overpass at Davis St. in San Leandro	\$540,000	City of Dublin	Dublin Blvd Extension	\$540,000
Menlo Park	Modifies 9 traffic signals between Willow Road and Middlefield Road and Hamilton Avenue, Menlo Park	\$14,000	San Mateo C/CAG	SM US101 Managed Lanes	\$48,000
SFDPW	Implement SFgo Van Ness Corridor Improvements	<\$1,000			
Santa Clara County	Oregon-Page Mill expressway Improvements between U.S. 101 and SR 82, Palo Alto	\$34,000			
			Total Repurposed		\$610,000

Issues: None.

Recommendation: Information.

Attachments: Attachment A – ACTC, C/CAG earmark repurposing request letters
Attachment B – MTC’s Earmark Repurposing Recommendation Letter to Caltrans, submitted 8/18/17



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Executive Director
Arthur L. Dao

August 4, 2017

Mr. Steve Heminger
Executive Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
The Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: 2017 Federal Earmark Repurposing – Alameda County Projects

Dear Mr. Heminger,

At the July 26, 2017 meeting of the MTC Commission, staff presented a list of projects within the region with balances available for repurposing subject to the provisions contained in the 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act. In response, the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) recommends the following actions for the \$561,304 available for repurposing from the projects within Alameda County from the following projects:

Sponsor	Earmark Description	Balance	Notes
ACTC	Install emergency vehicle preemption equipment along major arterials in the I-880 corridor.	\$20,975	Project completed and closed.
Hayward	Upgrade Industrial Parkway Southwest between Whipple Rd. and improved segment of the parkway, Hayward	\$389	Project completed and closed.
San Leandro	Replace 880 overpass at Davis St. in San Leandro	\$539,940	Earmark is not yet obligated.

Alameda CTC is requesting the repurposing of the above earmark funds to the following two projects: (1) Dublin Boulevard Extension to North Canyons Parkway, and (2) 7th Street Grade Separation/Global Opportunities at the Port of Oakland (GoPort) projects, as detailed on page 2.

These two projects are within the vicinity of the three original earmarks and both projects will obligate the repurposed funds by the September 2020 deadline established in the 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act. From a readiness perspective, these projects are both currently in the Environmental (ENV) phase and are ready to start the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process during FY 2017-18, following approval of the repurposing action and after the funds have been added to the projects in the TIP.

These projects will have a significant regional, state and national impact on congestion relief, goods movement, jobs and associated economic benefits. The reprogramming is requested because federalizing these projects during the ENV phase is needed to advance the delivery strategy which is to obtain NEPA clearance for both projects so that they will be eligible to pursue federal funding opportunities for future phases.

The current and proposed programming for the Dublin Boulevard Extension to North Canyons Parkway project, TIP ID ALA150003, is detailed in the below tables:

Current Programming				
Project/Phase	Federal Earmark	Local Match	Measure BB	Total
I-880 Davis Street I/C (PS&E, CON)	\$539,940	\$135,000	-	\$674,940
Dublin Blvd. Extension (PS&E)	-	\$1,043,000	\$5,914,000	\$6,957,000
Total	\$539,940	\$1,178,000	\$5,914,000	\$7,631,940

Proposed Programming				
Project/Phase	Federal Earmark	Local Match	Measure BB	Total
I-880 Davis Street I/C (PS&E, CON)	-	\$135,000	\$539,940	\$674,940
Dublin Blvd. Extension (PS&E)	\$539,940	\$1,043,000	\$5,374,060	\$6,957,000
Total	\$539,940	\$1,178,000	\$5,914,000	\$7,631,940

The remaining \$21,364 available is proposed to be reprogrammed to the 7th Street Grade Separation/Global Opportunities at the Port of Oakland (GoPort) project, TIP ID ALA090027.

Alameda CTC has obtained concurrence from the cities of Dublin, San Leandro and Hayward regarding this proposal and we look forward to your response. If you or your staff have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Vivek Bhat, Director of Programming and Project Controls, at (510) 208-7430.

Sincerely,



ARTHUR L. DAO
Executive Director

cc: Alix Bockelman, Deputy Executive Director, Policy, MTC
Sylvia Fung, Chief, Office of Local Assistance, Caltrans District 4
Obaid Khan, Transportation and Operations Manager, City of Dublin
Abhishek Parikh, City Traffic Engineer, City of Hayward
Michael Stella, Principal Engineer, City of San Leandro
Trinity Nguyen, Director of Project Delivery, Alameda CTC
Vivek Bhat, Director of Programming and Project Controls, Alameda CTC

C/CAG

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August 9, 2017

Mr. Steve Heminger
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105-2066

RE: Request for additional repurposed earmark for the US 101 Managed Lane Project

Mr. Heminger:

City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) of San Mateo County, the Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for San Mateo County, is requesting an augmentation of funds for the US 101 Managed Lanes Project.

The "US 101 Managed Lanes" project is the highest priority project in San Mateo County. It is a project with large countywide and regional impacts. This segment of the US 101 corridor connects the Silicon Valley and San Francisco, with SFO and two bridges connecting to the East Bay in between. It is arguably the backbone corridor for the most economically productive area in the State. In recent years, this corridor has experienced a drastic increase in congestion. If it is not fixed in a timely manner, it will result in severe negative impacts to our local community as well as enormous negative regional and statewide economic impacts.

C/CAG, the San Mateo County Transportation Authority, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) have been collaborating on this project for several years to-date. C/CAG appreciates the effort that MTC has taken to help direct \$9.4 million in 2016 repurposed earmark to this project.

This project would be able to further utilize the \$48,440 available in 2017 repurposed earmark and will be able to obligate the funds before September 20, 2020. I thank you and your staff very much for your consideration of this project. Please feel free to contact my staff Jean Higaki, at (650) 599-1462 or jhigaki@smcgov.org with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,


Sandy Wong, Executive Director
City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County

cc: Alix Bockelman, Deputy Executive Director, Policy
Anne Richman, Director of Programming and Allocations



METROPOLITAN
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Bay Area Metro Center
375 Beale Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94105
415.778.6700
www.mtc.ca.gov

August 15, 2017

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Deputy Executive Director, Policy

Andrew B. Fremier
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

Mr. Bijan Sartipi
District Director
Caltrans, District 4
P.O. Box 23660
Oakland, CA 94623-0660

RE: Earmark Repurposing – Bay Area Earmarks

Dear Mr. Sartipi,

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has developed a list of Bay Area earmarks to repurpose, as well as the projects recommended to receive those repurposed funds. Specifically, MTC recommends directing approximately \$610,000 in unobligated balances to 3 projects as shown in **Attachment 1**. The supporting documentation, or “fact sheets,” for the official transfer requests has been submitted to the Office of Local Assistance electronically.

MTC’s recommendation is based on the latest project information from Caltrans and project sponsors. Should there be changes to the amounts available for repurposing on any earmarks subject to this provision, please coordinate with our staff to ensure that all available balances from the region are directed onto eligible projects, consistent with this recommendation.

We appreciate the efforts that have been taken to collaborate with the regions and project sponsors throughout this process. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Anne Richman, Director of Programming and Allocations at 415-778-6722.

Sincerely,

Steve Heminger
Executive Director

Attachment
SH:ma

cc: Malcolm Dougherty, Caltrans Headquarters
John Hoole, Local Assistance
Sylvia Fung, Local Assistance

MTC Earmark Repurposing Recommendation, 2017

8/15/2017

Attachment 1

Bay Area Earmarks Recommended for Repurposing

Sponsor	Demo ID	Earmark Description	Balance Available	MTC Recommendation
ACTC	CA497	Install emergency vehicle preemption equipment along major arterials in the I- 880 corridor, Alameda County	\$20,975	Repurpose to new project: Port of Oakland, GoPort Total: \$21,364
Hayward	CA161	Upgrade Industrial Parkway Southwest between Whipple Rd. and improved segment of the parkway, Hayward	\$389	
ACTC/ San Leandro	CA394	Replace 880 overpass at Davis St. in San Leandro	\$539,940	Repurpose to new project: City of Dublin, Dublin Blvd Extension Total: \$539,940
Menlo Park	CA628	Modifies 9 traffic signals between Willow Road and Middlefield Road and Hamilton Avenue, Menlo Park	\$14,126	Repurpose to new project: San Mateo C/CAG, US 101 Managed Lanes Total: \$48,440
SFDPW	CA661	Implement SFgo Van Ness Corridor Improvements	\$561	
Santa Clara County	CA539	Oregon-Page Mill expressway Improvements between U.S. 101 and SR 82, Palo Alto	\$33,754	
Total:			\$609,744	

Do Not Repurpose (shown for informational purposes only)

Sponsor	Demo ID	Earmark Description	Balance Available	Proposal
San Jose	CA449	Coyote Creek Trail Project- Story Road to Montague Expressway	\$1,799,800	Do not repurpose Keep on project for next phase
Solano County	CA547 CA720	Construct I-80 HOV lanes and interchange in Vallejo	\$424,212	Do not repurpose, Currently programmed to Redwood- Fairgrounds Dr Interchange Imps
Total:			\$2,224,012	