

Metropolitan Transportation Commission Programming and Allocations Committee

May 12, 2021

Agenda Item 2d - 21-0584

MTC Resolution No. 4462

Subject: Adoption of the FY2021-22 Regional State Transit Assistance (STA) Program to program \$8.6 million to MTC projects that support regional coordination including Clipper and the Regional Transit Card programs.

Background: As the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for the nine county Bay Area, MTC is responsible for the programming and allocation of STA funds. STA funds are derived from a sales tax on diesel and split evenly at the state level into a population-based account and a revenue-based account. MTC has discretion over the programming of population-based funds and [MTC Resolution No. 4321](#) establishes the framework (70 percent by County Block Grant formula, 30 percent to a Regional Program, and a small off the top set aside for a Transit Emergency Service Contingency Fund) for the apportionment of these funds. This item presents the proposed annual program for the 30 percent of these funds apportioned to support regional programs.

The proposed STA Regional Coordination Program of projects for FY 2021-22 includes:

- Clipper® operations for \$6.3 million;
- Regional Transit Card for \$1 million
- Other regional transit efforts such as 511 Transit and Transit Hub Signage project for \$1.3 million.

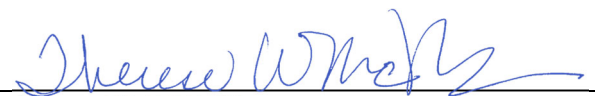
Attachment A to MTC Resolution No. 4462 summarizes the program of projects proposed for FY 2021-22. Attachment B provides more detailed information about each of these projects.

Issues: **This item recommends an exception to MTC Resolution No. 4321 for FY2021-22 to suspend the annual funding for the ClipperSTART as sufficient fund balances are available for the project this year.** As a reminder, the Means-based Fare pilot, Clipper START, launched in July 2020 during the pandemic. MTC sets asides Regional STA funding to partially offset transit agency fare losses resulting from offering a discounted means-based fare. With reduced ridership, the Regional STA subsidy needed to support this program has been lower than anticipated.

Recommendation: Refer MTC Resolution No. 4462 to the Commission for approval.

Attachments: MTC Resolution No. 4462

- Attachment A, STA Regional Coordination Program Summary
- Attachment B, STA Regional Coordination Program: Project Descriptions


Therese W. McMillan

Date: May 26, 2021
W.I.: 1221, 1224, 1229, 2655
2700
Referred by: PAC

ABSTRACT

Resolution No. 4462

This resolution establishes the FY 2021-2022 program for the MTC State Transit Assistance (STA) Regional Coordination Program funds.

The resolution includes the following attachments:

- Attachment A, STA Regional Coordination Program Summary
- Attachment B, STA Regional Coordination Program: Project Descriptions

Further discussion is contained in the MTC Programming and Allocations Committee Summary Sheet dated May 12, 2021.

Date: May 12, 2021
W.I.: 1221, 1224, 1229, 2655
2700
Referred by: PAC

RE: FY 2021-22 MTC Regional Coordination Program for State Transit Assistance (STA) Funds

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 4462

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area pursuant to Government Code Section 66500 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the State Transit Assistance (STA) fund is created pursuant to Public Utilities Code § 99310 et seq., and

WHEREAS, Public Utilities Code § 99313 provides for the allocation by the Controller of State Transit Assistance (STA) funds to MTC based on the ratio of the population of the area under MTC's jurisdiction to the total population of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Public Utilities Code § 99316(a) MTC has created the State Transit Assistance fund with Alameda County for deposit of STA funds received from the State Controller; and

WHEREAS, Public Utilities Code § 99313.6(d) provides that MTC is an eligible claimant for such population-based STA funds for projects to achieve regional transit coordination objectives; and

WHEREAS, MTC has adopted a Transit Coordination Implementation Plan pursuant to Government Code Section 66516.5 which identifies a number of projects to be implemented by MTC and the region's transit agencies to improve coordination of services; and

WHEREAS, the projects listed in Attachment A to this resolution, attached hereto, and incorporated herein as though set forth at length, are consistent with the STA Population-Based Consolidated policy established in MTC Resolution No. 4321; and

WHEREAS, MTC has provided information about the programming of STA funds for projects in FY 2021-22 as shown in Attachment B to this resolution, attached hereto, and incorporated herein as though set forth at length; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the projects and purposes listed in Attachment B comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq., and the State EIR Guidelines (14 Cal. Code of Regs. § 15000 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, MTC has complied with the applicable rules and regulations for an allocation of STA funds under 21 Cal. Code of Regs. § 6730 et seq.; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that STA funds are programmed by MTC in the amounts and for the purposes that are specified in Attachment A and described in Attachment B to this resolution, attached hereto and made a part of this resolution.

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized to make programming changes to Attachment A, up to \$200,000 for each project, in consultation with the affected sponsor.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Alfredo Pedroza, Chair

The above resolution was entered into by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at a regular meeting of the Commission held in San Francisco, California and at other remote locations, on May 26, 2021.

Date: May 26, 2021
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Attachment A
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STA Regional Coordination Program Summary FY 2021-22

Summary of Revenue and Programming			
Estimate New Revenue for FY 2021-22 ¹	\$ 16,074,878		
Carryover Balance ²	\$ 13,272,153		
Carryover Commitments	\$ (3,471,000)		
New Programming	\$ (8,586,000)		
Estimated Balance	\$ 17,290,031		
Programming by Project			
Project Name	Claimant	Carryover Programming	New Programming
Clipper [®]	MTC	\$ -	\$ 6,300,000
Clipper [®]	GGBHTD	\$ -	\$ 10,000
Means-based Fare Pilot Program ³	MTC	see note 3	\$ -
Regional Transit Card	MTC	\$ -	\$ 1,050,000
Mapping and Wayfinding	MTC	\$ 500,000	\$ 100,000
Transit Hub Signage	AC Transit	\$ -	\$ 286,000
Transit Hub Signage	MTC	\$ -	\$ 20,000
511 Transit	MTC	\$ 170,000	\$ 120,000
Regional Paratransit Program	CCCTA	\$ -	\$ 75,000
Transit Project Support	MTC	\$ -	\$ 350,000
Transit Recovery Efforts	MTC	\$ 301,000	\$ -
Grant Management	MTC	\$ -	\$ 75,000
Transit Projects Contingency	MTC	\$ -	\$ 200,000
	Subtotal	\$ 971,000	
Clipper [®] Reserve	MTC	\$ 2,500,000	
	Total	\$ 3,471,000	\$ 8,586,000
<i>Notes:</i>			
1. This amount is based on the January 2021 Governor's Budget proposal.			
2. The carryover amount is based on information from the February FY 2021-22 Fund Estimate and adjusted for additional commitments.			
3. There will be an STA carryover balance of over \$30 M at the end of Fiscal Year 2021 held in a separate account. Therefore, no funds are proposed for programming.			

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STA Regional Coordination Program: Project Descriptions FY 2021-22

The State Transit Assistance (STA) Regional Coordination Program funds have historically supported MTC's regional operations projects as well as other planning and operational efforts to improve coordination of, and access to, transit services in the Bay Area. The proposed FY 2021-22 STA Regional Coordination Program is approximately \$9 million and generally focuses on operating Clipper® (\$6.3 million) and Regional Transit Card transition (\$1 million), with \$1.3million programmed to implement other MTC regional transit projects such as 511 Transit, and Regional Wayfinding consistent with the Commission's Plan Bay Area and other regional planning documents and efforts. In addition, there is approximately \$1 million in carryover commitments. Use of the STA funds by MTC is further subject to MTC's budget and project approval processes. More detail about the specific projects and the amount of STA funds programmed to each follows.

Clipper®

Programmed to MTC: \$ 6,300,000

Programmed to GGBHTD: \$ 10,000

Clipper® allows transit riders to pay transit fares with a reloadable Clipper® smart card. Clipper® may be used on most transit systems in the San Francisco Bay Area. MTC's Clipper® responsibilities include oversight of a contract with Cubic Transportation Systems, Inc. to design, build, operate and maintain the Clipper® system and a number of other contracts related to the implementation and operation of the Clipper® system. In FY 2021-22, the Clipper program will receive an additional \$1 million in Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) funds so that STA funds can be used for the Regional Transit Card project as described below. GGBHTD is programmed \$10,000 for their assistance in the administration of Federal Transit Administration funds.

Regional Transit Card (RTC) \$1,050,000

The RTC is a Clipper product that allows persons with disabilities to ride fixed route transit at a reduced fare. The program is currently administered by AC Transit on behalf of Bay Area transit operators, but MTC will soon be assuming responsibility for the program. These funds will support an upgrade of the database and transition of the program to MTC. Much of the project costs are ineligible for federal funds. As a result, STA funds are proposed to replace the \$1 million CARES funds previously programmed for the work. An additional \$50,000 completes the estimated budget for the initial cost of transitioning the program.

Regional Transit Mapping

Programmed to MTC: \$100,000 plus carryover of \$500,000

The Regional Transit Mapping and Wayfinding project is an effort to develop signage standards and prototypes to make it easier for travelers to navigate and explore the Bay Area using public transit. Staff continues to work on options to advance the project and expects to present those ideas to the Commission in Summer 2021. The project has carryover programming available in the amount of \$500,000. Additional funding will be needed to implement recommendations from the project or the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force and potentially, state legislation [AB 639 (2021)].

Transit Hub Signage

Programmed to AC Transit: \$286,000

Programmed to MTC: \$ 20,000

MTC is committed to maintaining the information in transit information displays (TIDs) at 24 regional transit hubs. MTC has an agreement with AC Transit for them to maintain these displays on behalf of the region. The agreement with AC Transit documents the scope of work in exchange for the direct allocation of STA funds. The agreement extends through FY 2021-22 and identifies the anticipated amounts of STA funds that will be made available to AC Transit, subject to Commission programming and allocation actions.

MTC will use STA funds for ongoing operations, maintenance of other hub signage, and transit connectivity projects.

511 Transit

Programmed to MTC: \$120,000 plus carryover of \$170,000

STA funds will be used to supplement the funds for the 511 Transit program. 511 Transit collects, maintains, updates, and distributes region-wide transit service information for the benefit of the traveling public and MTC's transit partners. These funds are anticipated to be used primarily to support Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force efforts.

Regional Paratransit Program

Programmed to CCCTA: \$75,000

STA funds will support the 'lead agency' for the Regional Paratransit Program. This approach is consistent with the goals of the Transit Coordination and Implementation Plan, which endorses the concept of reimbursement for services provided by a lead agency - currently CCCTA, on behalf of other operators. CCCTA will coordinate paratransit operational activities such as:

- Oversight of the Paratransit Eligibility Program and Regional Eligibility Database, and delivery of the Paratransit Technical Assistance Program through a consultant; and
- Liaison between the Paratransit Technical Coordination Council (PTCC) and MTC, including reporting on the status of activities.

The lead agency will provide progress reports summarizing work performed.

Transit Project Support

Programmed to MTC: \$350,000

Funds will be used to support transit projects including the Transit Recovery Blue Ribbon Task Force, the Fare Integration Study or other transit-related efforts.

Transit Recovery Efforts

Programmed to MTC: ***\$0 Carryover programming of \$301,000***

Funds will be used to support transit recovery efforts related to the COVID-19 pandemic or efforts resulting from the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force. This amount represents the estimated remaining balance of funds resulting from an exchange of CARES Act funds.

Grant Management

Programmed to MTC: ***\$75,000***

MTC administers over \$800 million in funds through the Transportation Development Act and State Transit Assistance Program in addition to other funding programs. These funds will support modernization of funding processes by providing planning support for a grants management portal and database. Funds may also support early implementation efforts including development of financial reporting mechanisms.

Transit Project Contingency

Programmed to MTC: ***\$200,000***

These funds would be used in the event of unforeseen project needs or operating shortfalls with respect to MTC's regional transit projects such as Clipper®, 511 Transit, Regional Transit Mapping, and transit planning. These funds would also allow MTC to respond to unexpected regional or sub-regional transit planning needs or requests as they arise. Unspent contingency funds will be returned to the STA Program.