

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Programming and Allocations Committee**

October 8, 2025

Agenda Item 2e-25-1057

FY 2025 Federal Earmark Repurposing Update

Subject:

Update to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) earmark repurposing process enabled through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2025.

Background:

The federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2025 includes a provision enabling states to repurpose unused earmark balances from projects that have not substantially progressed, or that are completed and closed.

In July, the Commission directed staff to develop the list of available earmark balances in the Bay Area recommended for repurposing and submit necessary documentation to Caltrans by the required deadline. This agenda item is an informational update on this year's earmark repurposing process.

FY 2025 Earmark Repurposing – MTC Submittal

Caltrans distributed the list of earmark balances eligible for repurposing on August 12, 2025, with requests for repurposing any balances due by August 22, 2025. Under this extremely compressed timeline, staff worked with affected project sponsors and County Transportation Agencies (CTAs) to verify the status of projects associated with available earmark balances and identify projects to accept the repurposed funds. By the deadline, staff submitted two repurposing requests to Caltrans, totaling approximately \$1 million, as detailed in the table below.

Earmark Sponsor	Earmark Description	Earmark Balance	Earmark Repurposing – MTC Submittal
Caltrans	Engineering right-of-way and construction of I-580 in the Livermore Valley	\$574,202	Repurpose to: (1) Alameda County Transportation Commission's Oakland/Alameda Access
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)	Modify I-880 and Stevens Creek Boulevard Interchange to ease traffic congestion in San Jose	\$454,583	Repurpose to: (2) VTA's Bascom Avenue Complete Streets

An additional \$3.2 million in available earmark balances were not recommended for repurposing this year, as project sponsors indicated that these balances could still be put to use on the projects for which they were originally earmarked.

Earmark Sponsor	Earmark Description	Earmark Balance	Earmark Status
San Francisco, Transbay Joint Powers Authority	Construct San Francisco Regional Intermodal Terminal	\$814,953	Do not repurpose. Earmark balance will be obligated on TBJPA's Transbay Terminal/Caltrain Downtown Extension: Phase 2 project, consistent with the purpose of the original earmark.
Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation (GGBHTD)	San Francisco: Preliminary work on seismic upgrading of Golden Gate Bridge	\$2,325,332	Do not repurpose. Earmark balance will be obligated on GGBHTD's Golden Gate Suspension Bridget Seismic Retrofit project, consistent with the purpose of the original earmark.
Solano County	Construct I-80 HOV lanes and interchange in Vallejo	\$26,573	Do not repurpose. Earmark balance will be obligated on Solano County's Redwood-Fairgrounds Dr. Interchange Improvements project, consistent with the scope of the original earmark.

FFY 2025-26 Earmark Repurposing

Additional earmark balances may be eligible for repurposing in the current federal fiscal year. Caltrans has provided initial guidance on accessing additional earmark balances, which MTC staff expects to pursue in the coming months. Staff will present additional information on these additional balances along with a recommendation for repurposing eligible earmarks to this Committee in Summer 2026.

Issues:

None.

Recommendations:

Information Only.

Attachments:

None.



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