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Referred by: PAC  
Revised: 10/26/22-C  
03/22/23-C  
11/15/23-C  
12/20/23-C  
05/22/24-C  
09/25/24-C

ABSTRACT  
Resolution No. 4519, Revised

This resolution adopts the Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework and the Blue Ribbon Program of Projects.

The resolution contains the following attachments:

Attachment A – Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework  
Attachment B – Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Program of Projects

On October 26, 2022, Attachment B was revised to reflect updated programming of funds to Transit Transformation Action Plan projects and to program State Transit Assistance Population-Based funds to 22 transit operators for their participation in the Clipper® BayPass pilot program (Institutional Pass Pilot).

On March 22, 2023 Attachment B was revised to reflect updated programming of funds to AC Transit and BART for transit operator staff support for the delivery of the Transit Transformation Action Plan.

On November 15, 2023 Attachment B was revised to program an additional \$1 million in State Transit Assistance (STA) Population-Based funds for Fare Coordination/Integration projects and to deprogram \$315,000 in STA Revenue-Based Exchange funds not currently required to support initiatives in the Transit Planning category.

On December 20, 2023, Attachment B was revised to program an additional \$1,785,860 in STA Population-Based funds for the Mapping and Wayfinding Standards and \$25,000 in STA Revenue-Based Exchange Funds to support Transit Priority activities.

On May 22, 2024, Attachment B was revised to program approximately \$425,000 in STA Population-Based funds for Clipper BayPass program administration, approximately \$12.4 million in Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Formula Funds to the Regional Mapping & Wayfinding Project, and \$15 million in STA Revenue-Based Exchange funds for the BusAID program.

On September 25, 2024, Attachment B was revised to program State Transit Assistance Population-Based funds to transit operators to reimburse each of them for their participation in the Clipper® BayPass pilot program's Phase 1.

**ABSTRACT**

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Further information is contained in memorandum to the Programming and Allocations Committee Summary Sheets dated June 8, 2022, October 12, 2022, March 8, 2023, and November 8, 2023, December 13, 2023, May 8, 2024, and September 11, 2024.

Date: June 22, 2022  
W.I.: 1514  
Referred by: PAC

RE: Adoption of the Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework and Program of Projects

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION NO. 4519

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) for the San Francisco Bay Area pursuant to Government Code Section 66500 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, MTC is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area region; and

WHEREAS, MTC, as the RTPA/MPO for the San Francisco Bay Area, is assigned programming and project selection responsibilities for certain state and federal funds; and

WHEREAS, MTC convened the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force (Task Force) to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force developed and endorsed the Transit Transformation Action Plan (Action Plan) in July 2021 and the Action Plan was received and accepted by MTC in September 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Action Plan identifies near-term actions needed to achieve a more connected, efficient, and user-focused mobility network across the Bay Area and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) (H.R. 1319) was signed into law in response to the nationwide Coronavirus pandemic and provides supplemental appropriations for Emergency Transit Operations Assistance through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 Urbanized Area and Section 5311 Rural Area formula programs; and

WHEREAS, MTC approved an ARP funding distribution policy in MTC Resolution No. 4481, which identified that a minimum of \$85 million in ARP funds “should support the

implementation of certain recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force”; and

WHEREAS, to best position Bay Area transit agencies to compete for additional FTA discretionary financial assistance, MTC distributed the reserved \$85 million in ARP funds to operators and in return transit operators agreed to collectively provide an equivalent amount in alternate near-term revenue sources to implement the Action Plan and recommendations from the Task Force; and

WHEREAS, MTC staff, in discussion with transit operators have identified the contribution amounts by operator or county and likely fund sources in Attachment A, Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework, incorporated herein as though set forth at length, and MTC staff is working with transit operators to secure these funds; and

WHEREAS, the fund sources identified in Attachment A, Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework, may be subject to change; and

WHEREAS, the initiatives and related programming amounts for each initiative are identified in Attachment B, Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Program of Projects, incorporated herein as though set forth at length; and

WHEREAS, each initiative identified in Attachment B, Blue Ribbon Action Plan Program of Projects will be comprised of one or more projects, which are or will be identified in Attachment B, Blue Ribbon Program of Projects; and

WHEREAS Attachment B, Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Program of Projects, will be revised to identify projects and programming amounts under the various initiative as projects are ready to proceed; and

WHEREAS, programming and allocations of funds related to each initiative and project identified in Attachment B, Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Program of Projects will be further subject to the program policies for each fund source, respectively; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that MTC approves the Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework as set forth in Attachment A of this Resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that MTC approves the Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Program of Projects and programming set forth in Attachment B of this Resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director or designee is authorized to revise the fund sources in Attachment A, Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director or designee may make technical adjustments and other non-substantial revisions to Attachment A, Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework and/or Attachment B, Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Program of Projects; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director or designee is authorized to revise Attachment B, Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Program of Projects, to add projects and related programming under each initiative up to \$1,000,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, staff shall return to the Commission to revise this Resolution to add projects and related programming that exceed \$1,000,000.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Alfredo Pedroza, Chair

The above resolution was entered into by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at a duly called and noticed meeting held in San Francisco, California and at other remote locations on June 22, 2022.

## **Attachment A: Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework**

### **I. Funding**

This funding framework pertains to the \$85 million in funds anticipated to be available to support implementation of the Transit Transformation Action Plan (Action Plan). The Action Plan was developed as part of the Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force and sets a course for accelerating the Bay Area's transit network transformation while integrating with recovery actions that are on-going in the wake of the pandemic.

As part of the distribution of federal COVID relief funds provided through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP), MTC initially set aside a minimum amount of \$85 million in ARP funding for the implementation of Blue Ribbon initiatives. In October 2021, to address and optimize transit operator funding opportunities at the Federal level, the \$85 million was directly distributed to transit operators and, in exchange, transit operators agreed to work with MTC staff to identify alternate near-term revenue sources. Transit operators and County Transportation Agencies, in the case of Sonoma and Solano, have agreed to provide funding in the respective amounts shown in Table 1 to support implementation of the Action Plan.

The \$85 million in funding is focused on three initiatives to accelerate transformation of the transit system for the benefit of transit customers in the San Francisco Bay Area and to support on-going transit recovery in the wake of the pandemic. These initiatives are Fare Coordination/Integration, Regional Mapping and Wayfinding (Customer Information), and Transit Priority on Roadways. The \$85 million is primarily intended to support near-term implementation activities for these initiatives. A smaller share of the funds is also available to support other initiatives coming out of the Action Plan and to provide staff resources for implementation.

More funding is needed to fully implement the three accelerated initiatives as well as other actions in the Action Plan. MTC will collaborate with partner agencies, including transit operators, to advocate for and secure other funds to implement the Action Plan.

**Table 1: Funding Amounts by Operator**

<b>Operator</b>	<b>Funding</b>
AC Transit	\$ 6,175,442
ACE	\$ 335,130
BART	\$ 30,908,967
Caltrain	\$ 3,839,537
CCCTA	\$ 548,920
ECCTA	\$ 178,426
GGBHTD	\$ 5,390,277
LAVTA	\$ 535,322
Marin Transit	\$ 243,613
NVTA	\$ 216,814
SamTrans	\$ 1,460,519
SFMTA	\$ 26,921,813
Solano County Operators	\$ 613,192
Sonoma County Operators	\$ 868,262
Union City Transit	\$ 42,344
VTA	\$ 5,202,490
WCCTA	\$ 270,627
WETA	\$ 1,248,305
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 85,000,000</b>

**II. Fund Sources**

MTC and transit operators have identified a variety of fund sources to fulfill the \$85 million funding commitment. These potential fund sources include, but are not limited to:

- Population-based State Transit Assistance (STA);
- Revenue-based STA;
- Federal Transit Administration funds through the Transit Capital Priorities; and
- Federal STP/CMAQ funds through One Bay Area Grant Programs.

The specific fund sources will be identified through programming actions contained in Attachment B, Blue Ribbon Action Plan Program of Projects, to this resolution. MTC and transit operators will continue to work together to secure funds to fulfill the \$85 million funding commitment. MTC will be able to independently program some of these fund sources while others will require additional coordination with and participation of transit operators.

Funding exchanges may be needed to implement the Blue Ribbon Action Plan Program of Projects. MTC will pursue funding exchanges, as necessary, to fulfill the \$85 million funding commitment.

### **III. Programming and Allocations Process**

The Blue Ribbon Action Plan Program of Projects, Attachment B, identifies the programmed amounts for each initiative. Specific programming actions within each initiative will be taken as projects are ready to move forward. Should additional funding be secured to implement the projects identified in Attachment B, recommendations to shift funds between initiatives may be made based on project eligibility for different funding and overall needs of the Blue Ribbon Program.

Programming of funds, up to \$1 million, may be made through the Executive Director's Administrative Authority.

Additional actions may be needed following the adoption of the Blue Ribbon Program of Projects that are specific to the fund source assigned to a project. Project sponsors are responsible for ensuring completion and compliance with any additional actions needed to secure the funds identified for the project through this resolution in Attachment B.

A summary of subsequent actions necessary to obligate or encumber the expected fund sources is provided below. This information is not exhaustive and additional fund sources may be identified and incorporated into the Blue Ribbon Funding Plan at a future date. Project sponsors are responsible for complying with all policies related to the respective fund sources programmed to the project in Attachment B.

#### *State Transit Assistance Funds:*

An allocation request should be submitted to MTC by the project sponsor or subrecipients in order to encumber funds to the project. MTC Resolution No. 4524 allocates FY22-23 Population-based STA funds. MTC Resolution No. 4529 allocates revenue-based STA funds.

#### *Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5307 or 5311:*

Following or concurrent with the programming through Attachment B, these funds must be programmed through the MTC Transit Capital Priorities Program. The project sponsor must



then add the funds to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and, following approval of the TIP, submit a request to FTA for the funds.

*Federal Transportation Program Funds—Surface Transportation Block Grant (STP) or Congestion Management and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) funds:*

Along with the programming through Attachment B, these funds must be formally amended into the One Bay Area Grant Program. The project sponsor must then add the funds to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and following approval of the TIP, submit a request to Caltrans for the funds. Caltrans will issue an authorization to proceed.

#### **IV. Timely Use of Funds**

Project sponsors shall adhere to the respective project delivery milestones, invoice, and funding expiration deadline, or other requirements of the funding received.

The Blue Ribbon funds are intended to support the near-term (approximately three years) implementation of Transit Transformation Action Plan. Should priorities or conditions change, or if a project is not ready to advance, funds may be reassigned to another project.

**Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Program of Projects**

Initiative	Action # <sup>1</sup>	Sponsor	Project	Funding by Initiative	Total Project Programming	Fund Sources					Notes
						Population-based STA <sup>2</sup>	STA Revenue-based STA Exchange <sup>2</sup>	FTA Section 5307	OBAG 2	RM 2 Marketing	
						\$ 21,358,796	\$ 49,101,973	\$ 13,789,231	\$ 750,000	\$ 315,000	
<b>I. Fare Coordination/Integration (Actions 1-3)</b>											
	1a	MTC	Clipper® BayPass (Institutional Pass Pilot)	\$ 28,000,000	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 6,000,000					
			AC Transit (Phase 1)			\$ 196,912					
			BART (Phase 1) <sup>5</sup>			\$ 2,331,423					
			Caltrain (Phase 1)			\$ 392,066					
			CCCTA (Phase 1)			\$ 7,637					
			ECCTA (Phase 1)			\$ 5,000					
			FAST (Phase 1)			\$ 5,001					
			GGBHTD (Phase 1)			\$ 420,866					
			LAVTA (Phase 1)			\$ 5,723					
			Marin Transit (Phase 1)			\$ 41,522					
			NVTA (Phase 1)			\$ 5,000					
			Petaluma Transit (Phase 1)			\$ 7,893					
			SamTrans (Phase 1)			\$ 103,963					
			Santa Rosa CityBus (Phase 1)			\$ 22,758					
			SFMTA (Phase 1)			\$ 463,365					
			SMART (Phase 1)			\$ 163,605					
			SoTrans (Phase 1)			\$ 7,561					
			Sonoma County Transit (Phase 1)			\$ 138,098					
			Union City Transit (Phase 1)			\$ 7,070					
			Vacaville City Coach (Phase 1)			\$ 5,000					
			VTA (Phase 1)			\$ 103,770					
			WestCAT (Phase 1)			\$ 5,389					
			WETA (Phase 1)			\$ 60,379					
			Total Phase 1 Programming <sup>4</sup>			\$ 4,500,000					
			Total Phase 2 Programming			\$ 1,000,000					
			BayPass Program Administration / Consultant Contracts			\$ 348,236					
<b>II. Regional Mapping and Wayfinding (Actions 4-6)</b>											
	4a	MTC	Mapping and Wayfinding Standards		\$ 2,410,000	\$ 2,410,000					
	5	MTC	Mapping and Wayfinding Pilots		\$ 13,789,231		\$ 13,789,231				
<b>III. Transit Priority on Roadways (Actions 7-12)</b>											
	25a(9aX)	MTC	Regional Transit Card (RTC) Improvements (exchange with Bay Bridge Forward) <sup>3</sup>		\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000					
	9a	MTC	Bay Bridge Forward - Preliminary Engineering		\$ 750,000			\$ 750,000			
	9b	Various	Bus Accelerated Infrastructure Delivery (BusAID)		\$ 15,000,000		\$ 15,000,000				
	12	MTC	Transit Priority Policy and Corridor Assessment		\$ 25,000		\$ 25,000				
<b>IV. Transit Planning (Actions 13-20)</b>											
				\$ 3,250,000							
<b>V. Accessibility (Actions 21-25)</b>											
	23a	MTC	Paratransit Fare Payment Clipper		\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000					
<b>VI. Staff Support</b>											
		MTC	MTC Staff		\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000					
		AC Transit/ BART	Transit Operator Staff <sup>5</sup>		\$ 4,000,000		\$ 3,685,000		\$ 315,000		
			AC Transit				\$ 1,764,738				
			BART				\$ 1,919,960			\$ 315,000	
			<b>Total Programming</b>	<b>\$ 85,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 45,474,231</b>	<b>\$ 11,910,000</b>	<b>\$ 18,710,000</b>	<b>\$ 13,789,231</b>	<b>\$ 750,000</b>	<b>\$ 315,000</b>	
			<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$ 39,525,769</b>		<b>\$ 9,448,796</b>	<b>\$ 30,391,973</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	

**Notes:**

- Action # refers to the twenty-seven actions in the Transit Transformation Action Plan. Actions 26 and 27, related to Funding, are not included in this Blue Ribbon Program of Projects. Additional alphabetical identifiers have been added to identify projects related to the initiative and action. "X" signifies a funding exchange.
- Population-based STA is programmed to the Blue Ribbon Program through MTC Res. No. 4450, FY 2022-23 Fund Estimate. STA Revenue-based STA Exchange funds are programmed through MTC Res. No. 4529.
- The Bay Bridge Forward project, 9a, will receive OBAG 2 funds from the RTC project (Action 25a) and the RTC Project will be allocated \$500,000 in Blue Ribbon funds.
- Clipper BayPass Phase 1 programming covers the initial two years of the program (August 2022 to August 2024).
- These funds will support staff work related to Fare Coordination/Integration Study implementation, Mapping and Wayfinding project development, Transit Priority coordination, overall implementation of the Action Plan, and Transit 2050+ (connected network planning).
- BART's total Phase 1 (August 2022 to August 2024) Clipper BayPass reimbursement allocation totals \$4,332,098. Of this total, \$2,331,423 is STA Population-Based funds programmed through MTC Resolution 4519 (Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Program of Projects) while the remaining \$2,000,675 is to be fulfilled with FY 2024-25 STA Population-Based Regional Program funds programmed to Clipper BayPass via MTC Resolution 4642 and allocated via Programming and Allocations Committee action in September 2024.