

Date: May 22, 2024
W.I.: 1621
Referred by: Regional Network Management (RNM)
Revised: 11/20/24-C

ABSTRACT

Resolution No. 4647, Revised

This resolution adopts the Bus Accelerated Infrastructure Delivery (BusAID) Program, which is a Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan initiative to reduce transit travel times and improve transit reliability, with a focus on near-term improvements.

The resolution contains the following attachments:

Attachment A – BusAID Program Guidelines

Attachment B – BusAID Project Funding Recommendations

On November 20, 2024, Attachments A and B were revised to include BusAID Round 1.2 project funding recommendations.

Further discussion of the project selection criteria and programming policy is contained in memorandums to the Programming and Allocations Committee dated May 8, 2024 and the Regional Network Management Committee dated May 10, 2024 and November 8, 2024.

Date: May 22, 2024
W.I.: 1621
Referred by: Regional Network Management (RNM)

RE: Adoption of the Bus Accelerated Infrastructure Delivery (BusAID) Program

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 4647

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 MTC Resolution No. 4519, the Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan Funding Framework and the Blue Ribbon Program of Projects, and MTC staff worked with transit operators to secure these funds; and

WHEREAS, the Bus Accelerated Infrastructure Delivery (BusAID) Program was developed as a Blue Ribbon Transit Transformation Action Plan initiative to reduce transit travel times and improve transit reliability and focus on near-term improvements; and

WHEREAS, MTC staff has developed guidelines to be used in the selection of projects to be funded with various funding including local and federal funds as set forth in Attachment A, BusAID Program Guidelines, of this Resolution and recommends the projects as set forth in Attachment B, BusAID Project Funding Recommendations, of this Resolution, incorporated herein as though set forth at length; and

WHEREAS, programming and allocations of funds related to each project identified in Attachment B, BusAID Project Funding Recommendations will be further subject to the program policies for each fund source, respectively; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that MTC approves BusAID Program Guidelines as set forth in Attachment A and the BusAID Project Funding Recommendations as set forth in Attachment B of this Resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director or designee may make technical adjustments and other non-substantial revisions to Attachment A: BusAID Program Guidelines and Attachment B: BusAID Project Funding Recommendations, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director [or designee] is authorized to make programming changes to Attachment B of up to \$1,000,000 for each project, in consultation with the affected sponsor, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director [or designee] is authorized to update the project sponsor or fund sources identified in Attachment B, in consultation with the affected sponsor, to reflect programming and allocations actions taken by the Commission.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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 May 22, 2024.