

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Programming and Allocations Committee**

February 12, 2025

Agenda Item 4a-25-0152

MTC Resolution No. 4639, Revised

Subject:

Adoption of the Regional Measure 3 (RM3) Safe Routes to Transit & Bay Trail (SR2TBT) Cycle 1 Program of Projects, which programs \$75 million in new funding capacity for fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28.

Background:

Bay Area voters approved RM3 on June 5, 2018; on December 19, 2018, the Bay Area Toll Authority (BATA) adopted a toll schedule phasing in the resulting toll increase. BATA implemented the first, second, and third dollars of the toll increase on January 1, 2019, January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2025, respectively.

RM3 provides \$150 million in funding for a competitive grant program to fund bicycle and pedestrian access improvements on and in the vicinity of the state-owned toll bridges connecting to rail transit stations and ferry terminals. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is listed as the project sponsor and is responsible for administering a competitive grant program for the funds. MTC Resolution No. 4404, Revised, establishes policies and procedures to guide the delivery of capital projects funded by RM3. MTC Resolution No. 4639 established MTC's policies, procedures, and project selection criteria specific to the SR2TBT program. Applications for the first cycle of the SR2TBT program were due to MTC on October 14, 2024, and \$75 million is available for programming. MTC staff's recommended project awards and recommended contingency projects are listed in Attachment 1.

MTC's Project Selection Process

In response to the Call for Projects, MTC received 51 applications requesting approximately \$315 million, approximately four times the available amount. MTC staff determined that all projects were eligible. MTC Funding Policy and Programs staff assembled an eleven-member evaluation committee and divided the committee into two review teams that reviewed half of the applications received. Attachment 3 to this memo lists the number of evaluators and their agency affiliation. Staff ensured there were no conflicts of interest in the evaluators' review of

applications. The review committee scored applications against the established application criteria from the program guidelines for a maximum point score of 100 points. The program guidelines, application, and evaluation criteria prioritize projects that enhance safety but also advance multiple program goals, including supporting the Bay Trail Network and Gap Closure Implementation Plan, improving access to public transportation, and reducing congestion in state-owned toll bridge corridors. The three program priorities were weighted equally to select projects that could achieve the greatest cumulative impact across these priorities, maximizing the effectiveness of the available funding.

Project Recommendations

Staff recommends fully funding six projects and partially funding one project for a total of \$75 million (see Attachment 1). Staff also recommends adopting a contingency projects list totaling \$31 million, ranked in order based on the project's evaluation score. All proposed projects in the SRT2BT recommendations benefit MTC Equity Priority Communities (EPCs) and are on the MTC Regional Active Transportation Network. Six of the seven recommended projects are either on the Bay Trail or connected to the Bay Trail through the Connector Trail network.

Project Recommendations Items of Interest

1. Conditional Programming Recommendation

Staff recommends a conditional award of \$23.8 million for the Multimodal Bay Skyway Project, conditioning the award on the project team securing the remaining funding in the current round of Senate Bill 1 (SB1) Solutions for Congested Corridors Program or presenting MTC staff with a deliverable segment that maintains the benefits described in the application using the funds from this program after the CTC adopts the SB1 Cycle 4 competitive programs. Should either condition not be met, staff will return to the Commission to revise recommendations to award funds to projects further down the contingency list.

2. Partial Funding Recommendation

The City of Alameda requested \$6.6 million in SR2TBT funds for the Willie Stargell Avenue Safety Improvements project; however, only \$4.9 million of SR2TBT funds remain after funding higher-scoring projects. Therefore, staff recommends partially

funding the project with \$4.9 million in SR2TBT funds. Alameda also submitted the same project application for the same request amount as a part of the concurrent Regional Active Transportation Program Cycle 7 call for projects. The Willie Stargell Avenue Safety Improvements project scored highly in the ATP evaluation process and is recommended for funding under item 4ai. MTC staff expects the full project benefits to be delivered as the funding plan will be nearly complete between the recommended funding in the Regional ATP and SR2TBT programs. Should Alameda not be able to deliver the project benefits or to fully fund the project using other funds, staff recommends removing the Willie Stargell Avenue Safety Improvements project from the recommendations list and re-directing the \$4.9 million to other projects on the contingency list.

Issues:

None.

Recommendations:

1. Refer MTC Resolution No. 4639, Revised to the Commission for approval.

Attachments:

- MTC Resolution No. 4639, Revised (Attachment B)
- Attachment 1: Recommended Cycle 1 SR2TBT Program of Projects and Contingency Project List
- Attachment 2: List of SR2TBT Project Evaluators
- Attachment 3: Cycle 1 SR2TBT List of Applications Received



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