MTC's **Community Action Resource and Empowerment** (CARE) Program

Power-Building and Engagement Program
(Category 3: Cycle 1)

Policy Advisory Council
*Equity and Access Subcommittee*

March 22, 2024

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Today's Focus

Category 3: Cycle 1 —

Power-Building and Engagement Program

CARE

Category 1
Project Development

Category 2
Participatory Budgeting

Category 3
Power-Building & Engagement

CARE Overview and Funding Objectives

This competitive program is anticipated to include up to a total of $21.5M through OBAG 3 ($13.5M of which **$1.5M in local funds**) and REAP 2.0 ($8M – pending approval).

Projects must support implementation of **Community Based Transportation Plans** or **Coordinated Plan** AND

Support Implementation of Community Based Transportation Plans or Coordinated Plan

+

Must address at least one of these objectives

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

Accelerate Infill Housing

Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions
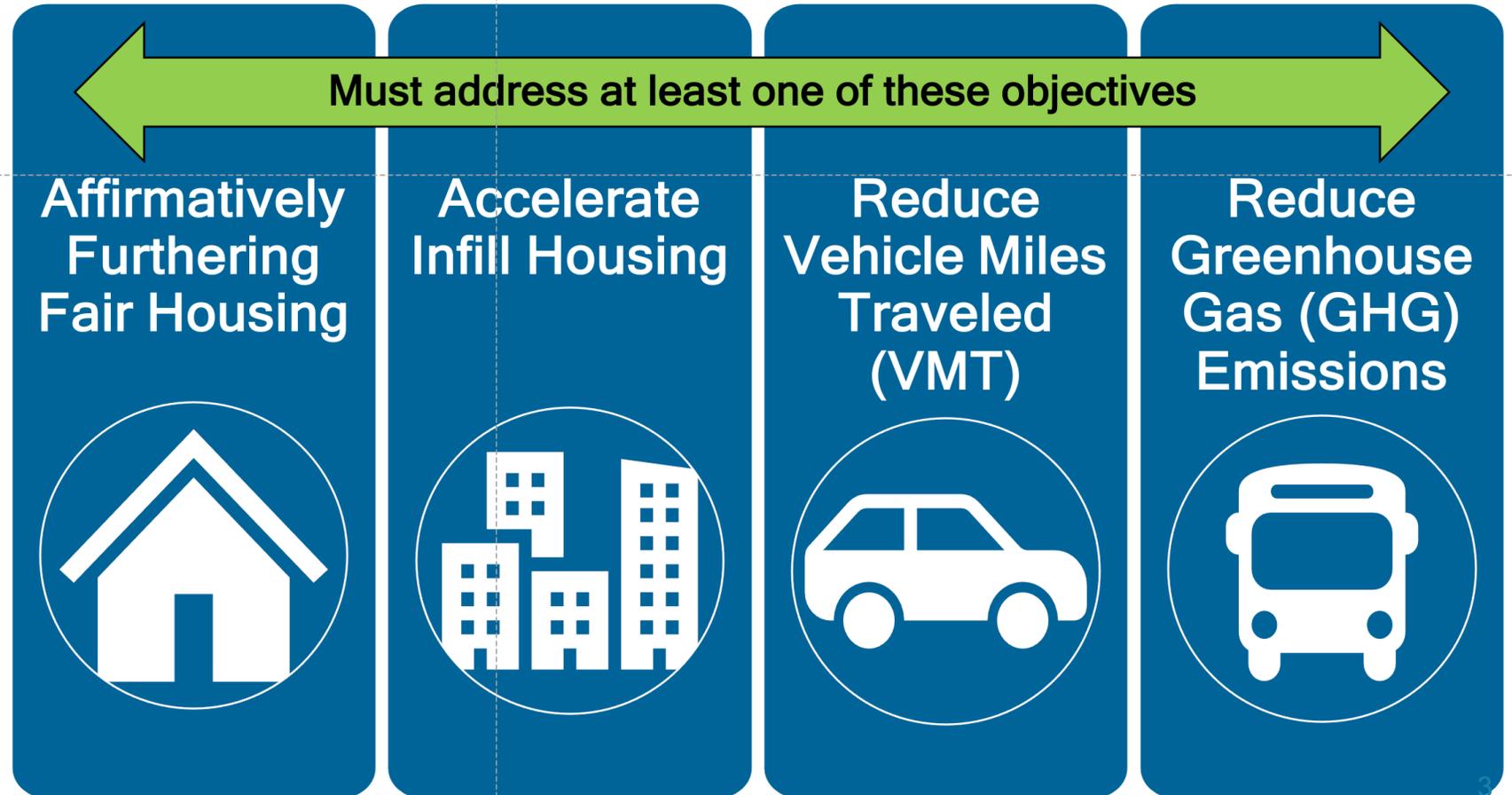
CARE Funding Categories

Project Development to Advance Community Based Transportation Plan Project(s)

Category 1 – *Pending REAP 2*

- **Advancing a CBTP concept to a fundable, viable project**
- **Technical Assistance for Project Development (i.e preliminary engineering, environmental work)**

Implementation of High-Priority Neighborhood Project(s)

Category 2 – *Pending REAP 2*

- **Utilizing a Participatory Budgeting Process or similar robust engagement**
- **Examples: Bus stop enhancements, quick-build pedestrian/bicycle/transit improvements**

Community Power-Building and Engagement (Pb+E)

Category 3 – *Advanced ($1.5M)*

"Power" is the ability to define reality for yourself and for others.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for/from/with community based organizations and local government

Community-level Impact Advancing Regional Goals

Power-Building + Engagement (Pb+E) Goals

Grow **community leadership** and **civic engagement**

Foster inclusive **multi-sector collaboration** between public agencies and community-based organizations

Enable **intersectional leadership** to **implement projects** impacting mobility and community well-being

The program recognizes community-based transportation investments as a foundational element of thriving, healthy communities.

Zip Code

94000

Genetics

Pb+E: Piloting Transformative Elements

- **Participatory** Group Structure and Process (**Community Advisory Working Group**)

- Advancing **capacity building**, **partnerships** and **community-led engagement** initiatives as key equity strategies

- Developing **"learning and action model options"** for flexibility

Key Equity Strategies

Community & Civic Leadership

Multi-Sector Partnerships

Belonging & Civic Engagement

Resilient & More Equitable Communities

Intersectional Action

Participation Throughout the Project Lifecycle and Beyond

Objective:

- Community = Relational + People

- Network = Transactional + Opportunities

- Addressing Inequities
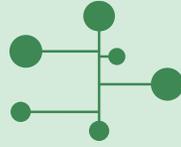
Community, CBOs & Staff

NEW Community Advisory Working Group (CAWG)

- Inform and provide feedback

Government

- MTC Staff

- County Transportation Agencies

Policy

Policy Advisory Council's Equity and Access Sub-Committee

- Advise

Government

- County Transportation Agencies

- Metropolitan Transportation Agency **(Decision-Making Action/ Approvals)**

Residents, CBOs & Stakeholders

Applicants

- Input on capacity building needs and gaps

Awardee Cohort

- Individuals/ entity receiving funds

- Kick-off launch and evaluation/ learning

Concept for Community Advisory Working Group (CAWG)

For Category 3: Power-Building and Engagement

- **12 individuals from local CBOs**, time-limited, non-institutional partners compensated, participants eligible to apply for Category 3 funding

- **Preference** given to CBO representatives in and/or serving **Equity Priority Communities**

- **Proposed Selection:** Mix of MTC Pb+E Program Manager and two Equity & Access Sub-Committee members

1.
Overall context and goals

2.
Concept and strategy

FOUR
Meetings

3.
Technical assistance and capacity building needs and gaps

4.
Evaluation and learning

8

Potential Project Type (1 of 3): **Capacity Building**

Community & Civic Leadership

Multi-Sector Partnerships

Belonging & Civic Engagement

Resilient & More Equitable Communities

Intersectional Action

The process of **strengthening local coordination, leadership, knowledge, skills, expertise**, and **access to resources** in communities with the goal of helping to **develop or increase the ability of that community to independently compete for grants** and **implement projects** in the future.

- **Areas:** Education and awareness raising, trainings, skills building, community engagement, partnership development

- **Working Examples:** Participatory budgeting (Vallejo and SF), resident community planning 101 and leadership, equity key performance indicators, community and agency readiness

Potential Project Type (2 of 3): **Partnerships**

Community & Civic Leadership

Multi-Sector Partnerships

Belonging & Civic Engagement

Resilient & More Equitable Communities

Intersectional Action

Partnership development to build mutually beneficial relationships for meaningful, inclusive collaboration that includes outreach and education. Broad partnerships include a variety of stakeholders such as public agencies, transit operators, CBOs, residents, and underrepresented, overburdened groups.

- **Working Examples:** Mobility management workshops, means-based cross sector partnerships, youth (or other overburdened groups) safety in transit/transportation/housing.

Potential Project Type (3 of 3): **Projects**

Community & Civic Leadership

Multi-Sector Partnerships

Belonging & Civic Engagement

Resilient & More Equitable Communities

Intersectional Action

Community engagement projects that leverage new or existing community gathering and resources sites to implement mobility, affordability or safety strategies including but not limited to messaging, education, engagement activities, leadership development or community assessment and readiness.

- **Working Examples:** Community bicycle rides and walk audits, storytelling efforts, open streets events, mobility and safety demonstration

Potential Learning and Action Models

Capacity Building

Concept:

- Increase readiness to engage community and sector partners
- Broadened access to educational resources for community partners, CBOs, local government

Funding

- Set-Aside depending on level of need/interest

Partnerships

Concept:

- New collaboration of local multi-sector partners

Funding

- Tiered:
  - under $10K,
  - $11K–$25K,
  - $26K–$40K

Projects

Concept:

- Implementation of a discrete initiative
- Community sees/feels improvement

Funding

- Tiered:
  - under $10K,
  - $11K–$25K,
  - $26K–$40K
- Example: https://scag.ca.gov/gohuman

Action Learning Cohort Model

Concept:

- Multi-Sector approach for projects
- **Actionable pathway:** Increase learning and readiness for competitive funding

Partnership
Capacity Building: TA and Coaching
Projects

12

Anticipated Timeline and Next Steps

MARCH-APRIL
- Launch Invitation for CAWG (4/4)
- Application Due (4/19)
- Notification (4/26)

MAY-JUNE
- CAWG Meetings 1,2, 3
- Launch Call for Projects (5/30)
- Information Sessions

JULY
- Call for Applications Closes (7/31)

AUGUST
- Proposal Review
- Notice of Conditional Award
- Scope Refinement

OCTOBER
- On-boarding and Project Implementation

GO!
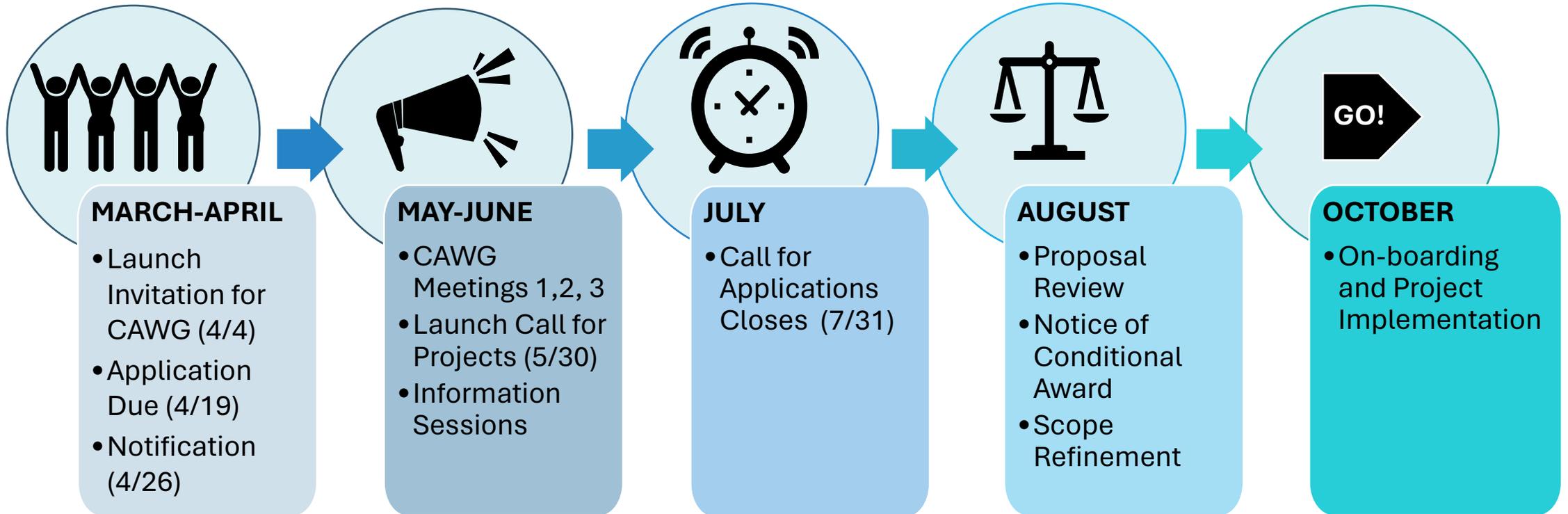
Questions

- What are your overall thoughts on Power-building and Engagement approach?

- How might we conduct outreach to invite individuals to participate in the Community Advisory Working Group?

- What area(s) of the Power-Building and Engagement Program are most interesting to you?

Key Equity Strategies

Community & Civic Leadership

Multi-Sector Partnerships

Belonging & Civic Engagement

Resilient & More Equitable Communities

Intersectional Action