

Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Programming and Allocations Committee

February 11, 2026

Agenda Item 4a-26-0192

**MTC Resolutions Nos. 4505, Revised, and 4740, Revised**

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**Subject:**

Revisions to the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG 3 and 4) programs, including establishing additional OBAG 4 policies and procedures and programming a total of \$81 million in OBAG 4 funds to MTC for planning and implementation activities by County Transportation Agencies (CTAs) (\$41 million) and MTC (\$40 million).

**Background:**

The OBAG 3 and 4 programs establish the policy and programming framework for investing federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement program (CMAQ) funds for federal fiscal year (FY) 2023 through FY 2030. The Commission adopted the initial OBAG 4 framework last month, following a robust development process with extensive stakeholder input as detailed in **Attachment A**. This framework included key funding decisions related to the pre-commitment of OBAG 4 capacity for near-term transit operations through the Senate Bill (SB) 125 package and regional set-asides for implementation of the Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) Policy.

This month, staff recommend revisions to the OBAG 3 and 4 programs as summarized below and detailed in **Attachment B**.

***General OBAG 4 Policies***

The general OBAG 4 policies as proposed are largely similar to prior cycles, and continue to require consistency with relevant federal, state, and regional requirements. Notably, staff recommend changes to accommodate MTC's new Transit Priority Policy for Roadways (MTC Resolution No. 4739) and associated updates to the Complete Streets checklist and process.

***OBAG 4 County Program***

Similarly, proposed revisions to the OBAG 4 county program largely maintain policies and procedures from prior cycles. Notable recommended changes include:

- Expand the existing minimum geographic investment thresholds to include Transit Oriented Communities (TOCs) as an eligible geography, in addition to Priority Development Areas (PDAs), reflecting the need to support both geographies. As proposed, at least 50% of funds in each North Bay county must be invested in projects within a mile or less of a PDA or TOC, and 80% of funds in the remaining counties must meet this requirement (up from the 70% PDA investment threshold in OBAG 3).
- Simplify the CTA minimum project evaluation criteria to increase flexibility and emphasize local expertise.

- Extend the CTA nomination deadline to October 31, 2026 (one month later than the comparable OBAG 3 deadline) in response to CTA feedback.

Staff propose to continue the CTA county target structure from OBAG 3, using the same formula with updated data (**Table 1**). Nomination target factors include:

- Population (50%),
- Recent housing production (30%) by building permits,
- Planned growth (20%) by Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) targets, and
- Additional weighting for affordability in the housing factors.

Draft OBAG 4 county program policies were shared with CTAs and other stakeholders for review in advance of this action, and the proposed policies incorporate their feedback. Notably, staff now recommend distributing the \$5 million in regional North Bay augmentation funds set aside by the Commission last month through the OBAG 4 county program (**Table 1**), as suggested by CTA staff.

Table 1: Proposed OBAG 4 County Program Summary

County	County Target Share	County Target*	North Bay Augmentation Target*	Total Nomination Target**
Alameda	20.3%	\$64,770,000	-	\$77,724,000
Contra Costa	13.6%	\$43,418,000	-	\$52,102,000
Marin	2.9%	\$9,275,000	\$1,250,000	\$12,630,000
Napa	1.5%	\$4,823,000	\$1,250,000	\$7,288,000
San Francisco	14.8%	\$47,213,000	-	\$56,656,000
San Mateo	9.5%	\$30,208,000	-	\$36,249,000
Santa Clara	26.7%	\$85,271,000	-	\$102,325,000
Solano	4.8%	\$15,275,000	\$1,250,000	\$19,830,000
Sonoma	5.9%	\$18,747,000	\$1,250,000	\$23,996,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$319,000,000</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$388,800,000</b>

\*Targets for reference, actual awards subject to competitive project evaluation and selection

\*\*Nomination targets based on 120% of available funds

Following Commission approval, staff plan to coordinate with CTAs to initiate the OBAG 4 county call for projects using the nomination targets in **Table 1** above, according to the schedule and policies summarized in **Attachments A and B**, respectively. Staff plan to return to the Commission in early 2027 with recommended OBAG 4 county program awards.

In addition, staff recommend programming a total of \$41 million in OBAG 4 county funds to MTC for CTA base planning and implementation activities in support of OBAG 4 and *Plan Bay*

Area 2050+. The Commission previously approved \$18.7 million for CTA planning through an advance programming action in October 2025, and this month staff recommend incorporating the full \$41 million into the OBAG 4 program. As in prior cycles, CTAs may request to augment these base amounts through the project nomination process.

### ***OBAG 4 Regional Program***

Aside from the TOC Policy incentives established by the Commission last month, the proposed OBAG 4 regional program policies and structure remain similar to prior cycles. Staff recommend revisions to clarify and simplify the regional program categories and goal areas as follows:

- **Planning and Implementation:** Provide dedicated resources and staff support to carry out OBAG 4 programs and other performance-based planning and programming activities.
- **Growth Framework:** Assist local efforts to create a range of housing options that align with Plan Bay Area growth geographies.
- **Environment:** Reduce transportation emissions and protect and enhance open space.
- **Complete Streets:** Maintain and improve local streets and roads for all users, with a focus on safety and equity.
- **Multimodal Networks:** Improve mobility options and services across the Bay Area's multimodal transportation system, with an emphasis on transit transformation.
- **TOC Incentive and North Bay Set-Asides:** Incentivize and reward TOC Policy implementation progress, address the unique transportation and land use needs of North Bay communities.

Staff recommend distributing OBAG 4 regional program capacity among these categories as detailed in **Table 2**. Staff will return to the Commission and relevant Committees later this year to recommend specific regional programs under each category, consistent with the goals above.

Table 2: Proposed OBAG 4 Regional Program Categories

Regional Program Category	Amount
Planning and Implementation	\$40 million
Growth Framework	\$35 million
Environment	\$90 million
Complete Streets	\$30 million
Multimodal Networks	\$115 million
TOC and North Bay Set-Asides	\$50 million
<b>Total Regional Program</b>	<b>\$360 million</b>

This proposed structure includes a recommendation to program \$40 million to MTC for planning and implementation of OBAG 4 Regional Programs. The Commission previously approved \$12.7 million for MTC planning and implementation through an advance programming action in October 2025, and this month staff recommend incorporating the full \$40 million into the OBAG 4 program.

**Issues:**

None.

**Recommendations:**

Refer MTC Resolutions Nos. 4505, Revised, and 4740, Revised to the Commission for approval. Resolution No. 4505 is also recommended for revisions under Agenda Item 2b, and is included once under that item with all proposed revisions. Only items referred by the Committee will be forwarded to the Commission for approval.

**Attachments:**

- MTC Resolution No. 4740, Revised
  - Attachment A
  - Attachment B-1
  - Attachment B-2
- Attachment A: OBAG 4 Development Timeline
- Attachment B: Proposed OBAG 4 Policy Summary
- Presentation



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Andrew B. Fremier

Date: January 28, 2026  
W.I.: 1512  
Referred By: Commission  
Revised: 02/25/26-C

## ABSTRACT

### Resolution No. 4740, Revised

Adoption of the project selection and programming policies for the fourth round of the One Bay Area Grant program (OBAG 4). This resolution supersedes MTC Resolution No. 4678.

The OBAG 4 project selection and programming policies outline the project categories that are to be funded with various fund sources, including federal funding assigned to MTC for programming, to implement the Regional Transportation Plan (*Plan Bay Area 2050+*) and to be included in the federal Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the OBAG 4 funding delivery period.

The resolution includes the following attachments:

Attachment A – OBAG 4 Project Selection and Programming Policies

Attachment B – OBAG 4 Project Lists

With the adoption of the project selection and programming policies, Attachments B-1 and B-3 program \$101,164,422 in Transit Operations Program funds to various projects as previously programmed under MTC Resolution No. 4678, \$45,000,000 in Regional Program funds for a Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) Set-Aside program, and \$5,000,000 in Regional Program funds for a North Bay Augmentation.

On February 25, 2026, Attachments A, B-1, and B-2 were revised to incorporate additional policies, program \$41,000,000 in County Program funds to MTC for base planning and implementation activities by various County Transportation Agencies (CTAs), and program \$40,000,000 in Regional Program funds to MTC for planning and implementation activities.

Further discussion of the project selection and programming policy is contained in memorandums to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission dated January 28, 2026 and the Programming and Allocations Committee dated February 11, 2026.

Date: January 28, 2026  
W.I.: 1512

RE: One Bay Area Grant Program (OBAG 4) Project Selection and Programming Policies

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION NO. 4740

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 is required to prepare and endorse a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which includes federal funds; and

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

WHEREAS, state and federal funds assigned for RTPA/MPO programming discretion are subject to availability and must be used within prescribed funding deadlines; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Obligation Authority (OA) Management Policy allows RTPAs and MPOs to exchange regional Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), and other federal funds assigned to the RTPA or MPO with Caltrans and other regions, when a region or Caltrans-managed local program has excess or insufficient apportionment available to deliver its annual federal program; and

WHEREAS, Title 23 CFR § 630, Subpart G, allows the advancement of federal-aid projects and expenditure of eligible costs prior to the obligation of funds (referred to as “Advance Construction” or “AC”) with reimbursement of eligible expenditures permitted following conversion of the AC to a regular obligation; and

WHEREAS, MTC, in cooperation with transit operators, Caltrans, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), Bay Area County Transportation Agencies (CTAs), counties, cities, and interested stakeholders, has developed policies and procedures to be used in the selection of projects to be funded with various funding including regional federal funds as set

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MTC Resolution No. 4740

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forth in Attachments A and B of this Resolution, incorporated herein as though set forth at length; and

WHEREAS, using the policies set forth in Attachment A of this Resolution, MTC, in cooperation with the Bay Area Partnership and interested stakeholders, will develop a program of projects to be funded with these funds for inclusion in the federal TIP, as set forth in Attachment B of this Resolution, incorporated herein as though set forth at length; and

WHEREAS the federal TIP and subsequent TIP revisions and updates are subject to public review and comment; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that MTC approves the “Project Selection and Programming Policies” for projects to be funded in the OBAG 4 program as set forth in Attachments A and B of this Resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED that the funds assigned to MTC as the RTPA and MPO for programming and project selection shall be pooled and distributed on a regional basis for implementation of project selection criteria, policies, procedures, and programming, consistent with implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP); and be it further

RESOLVED that the projects will be included in the federal TIP subject to final federal approval and requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Executive Director or designee may make technical adjustments and other non-substantial revisions, including changes to project sponsor, updates to fund sources and distributions to reflect final funding criteria and availability; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Executive Director or designee is authorized to revise Attachment B as necessary to reflect the programming of projects as the projects are selected, revised, and included in the federal TIP; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Executive Director or designee is authorized to execute Advance Construction (AC) Authorizations with Caltrans and/or the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for federal projects sponsored or implemented by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission; and be it further

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RESOLVED that the Executive Director or designee is authorized to execute agreements and Letters/Memorandums of Understanding with Caltrans and other MPOs and RTPAs for the exchange of regional Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and other federal funds assigned to MTC for programming discretion, consistent with Caltrans' Obligation Authority (OA) Management Policy; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Executive Director or designee shall make available a copy of this resolution, and attachments as may be required and appropriate.

RESOLVED that MTC Resolution No. 4678 is superseded by this resolution.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Sue Noack, Chair

The above resolution was entered into  
by the Metropolitan Transportation  
Commission at the regular meeting  
of the Commission held in San Francisco,  
California and at other remote locations  
on January 28, 2026

Date: January 28, 2022  
W.E.: 1512  
Referred by: Commission  
Revised: 02/25/26-C

Attachment A  
Resolution No. 4740

## **One Bay Area Grant (OBAG 4) Program**

### Project Selection and Programming Policies

## **One Bay Area Grant (OBAG 4) Program**

### Project Selection and Programming Policies

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## Overview

### Summary

The One Bay Area Grant Program (OBAG 4) establishes the policy framework and commitments for investing federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds for a four-year period covering federal fiscal year (FY) 2026-27 through FY 2029-30. Attachment A outlines the OBAG 4 program principles and objectives, revenue estimates, program architecture, and programming policies. Attachment B details the projects, funding amounts, and project sponsors, as they are approved by the Commission.

### Purpose and Background

The purpose of the OBAG program is to collaboratively implement *Plan Bay Area* priorities for transportation, housing, and the environment through complementary local and regional investments that improve connectivity, equity, and sustainability. The inaugural OBAG 1 program was designed to support the first *Plan Bay Area* (adopted by the Commission in 2012 and 2013, respectively). Pursuant to Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg 2008), the initial Plan and subsequent editions align long-range regional transportation planning with housing and land use, in part to achieve state greenhouse gas reduction targets. The OBAG framework leverages discretionary federal highway funding to advance these interrelated *Plan Bay Area* goal areas.

Previous OBAG cycles included:

- OBAG 1: FY 2012-13 through FY 2016-27 (MTC Resolution No. 4035)
- OBAG 2: FY 2017-18 through FY 2021-22 (MTC Resolution No. 4202)
- OBAG 3: FY 2022-23 through FY 2025-26 (MTC Resolution No. 4505)

The OBAG 4 cycle will continue to support *Plan Bay Area* implementation through complementary and mutually reinforcing county and regional program components, applying the principles listed below.

### Principles

The OBAG 4 County Program is designed to:

- Provide a flexible funding source to deliver local priority projects that support shared objectives, with an emphasis on local road safety, complete streets, and state of good repair.
- Encourage local partner agencies to advance *Plan Bay Area* policies and goals through effective incentives.

The OBAG 4 Regional Program is designed to:

- Implement effective regional initiatives and services, with an emphasis on housing access, reduced emissions, and an optimized experience for all travelers.
- Advance local agency progress towards regional goals through coordinated planning, technical assistance, and targeted capital investment.
- Address interjurisdictional challenges and improve key multimodal corridors with regional leadership and strategic support.

## **Capacity**

### *Initial Estimate*

Initial OBAG 4 programming capacity is \$820 million, based on anticipated federal transportation program apportionments from the regional STP and CMAQ programs for the four-year cycle period covering FY 2026-27 through FY 2029-30. Actual apportionments will be subject to federal reauthorization and/or extension(s) of the surface transportation program, and the Commission may adjust OBAG 4 programming capacity accordingly. Such adjustments include increasing or decreasing funding amounts to one or more programs, postponement of projects, expansion of existing programs, development of new programs, or adjustments to subsequent program cycles.

As federal programs are subject to change with each federal surface transportation authorization, any reference to specific fund sources in the OBAG 4 programming resolution (i.e. STP/CMAQ) serve as a proxy for replacement or new federal fund sources for which MTC has project selection and programming authority. However, MTC may elect to program replacement or new federal fund sources outside of the OBAG 4 program resolution.

OBAG 4 programming capacity is based upon apportionment rather than obligation authority. As the amount of obligation authority available to the region is less than the region's annual apportionments, there is typically a carryover balance of apportionment each year. MTC's successful project delivery in recent years has allowed the region to capture additional, unused obligation authority from other states, enabling the region to advance the delivery of additional projects each year. MTC staff will continue to monitor apportionment and obligation authority balances throughout the OBAG 4 period to support the accelerated delivery of programmed projects.

### *SB 125 Transit Operations Commitment*

In December 2024, the Commission committed approximately \$100 million in future STP/CMAQ capacity (MTC Resolution No. 4678) as part of the region's contribution to sustaining near-term transit operations through the Senate Bill 125 (Skinner 2023) framework.

In recognition of both the regional importance and the local benefits of an effective transit system, the SB 125 commitment is deducted off the top of the OBAG 4 program. As in OBAG 3, the remaining \$720 million in available OBAG 4 capacity is divided evenly between the regional and county components (\$360 million each).

The OBAG 4 program supersedes MTC Resolution No. 4678, and the transit operating projects previously programmed by the Commission are incorporated herein.

## Structure

As in previous cycles, the OBAG 4 program is divided into regional and county components as detailed below.

### *Regional Program*

The OBAG 4 regional program is organized into six categories by project type and goal area:

- **Planning and Implementation:** Provide dedicated resources and staff support to carry out OBAG 4 programs and other performance-based planning and programming activities.
- **Growth Framework:** Assist local efforts to create a range of housing options that align with Plan Bay Area growth geographies.
- **Environment:** Reduce transportation emissions and protect and enhance open space.
- **Complete Streets:** Maintain and improve local streets and roads for all users, with a focus on safety and equity.
- **Multimodal Network:** Improve mobility options and services across the Bay Area's multimodal transportation system, with an emphasis on transit transformation.
- **Set-Asides:** Incentivize and reward TOC Policy implementation progress, address the unique transportation and land use needs of rural communities.

### *County Program*

The OBAG 4 county program is organized by Bay Area county (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma Counties). The program supports local priority projects that advance shared objectives, with an emphasis on local road safety, complete streets, and state of good repair. Sponsors are also required to meet planning and reporting standards related to housing, safety, and asset management. MTC partners with each County Transportation Agency (CTA) to identify local priorities and administer the program within each county.

## Project Lists

Attachments B-1, B-2, and B-3 to this resolution list projects selected by the Commission through the OBAG 4 regional program, county program, and SB 125 transit operating programs, respectively.

## General Policies

### **Project Delivery**

#### *Regional Project Delivery Policy*

OBAG 4 projects are subject to MTC's Regional Project Delivery Policy (MTC Resolution No. 3606 or its successor). This policy is intended to promote timely project delivery, ensure adherence to federal and state deadlines, and facilitate regional apportionment and obligation management.

Associated processes and requirements as implemented in OBAG 4 include:

- **Single Point of Contact (SPOC):** Project sponsors must identify and maintain a staff position that serves as a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for delivery of all Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds by the sponsor, including OBAG 4 awards. The person in this position must have sufficient knowledge and expertise in the federal-aid delivery process to

coordinate issues and questions that may arise from project inception to project close-out. Sponsors must provide SPOC contact information when programming funds in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and must notify MTC immediately if the SPOC contact has changed. The SPOC will be expected to work closely with FHWA, Caltrans, MTC, and their respective CTA on all issues related to federal funding for all FHWA-funded projects implemented by the sponsor.

- **Resolution of Local Support:** Project sponsors must provide a Resolution of Local Support, approved by the sponsor's governing body, which commits the sponsor to compliance with applicable requirements for OBAG 4 awards. Sponsors must use the latest resolution template provided by MTC and must upload a signed and/or certified copy in MTC's Fund Management System (FMS), or its successor, in order to add OBAG 4 funds to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP):** Project sponsors must work with their respective CTA and MTC to amend OBAG 4 awards into the federal Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP is a comprehensive listing of transportation projects that receive federal funds, are subject to a federally required action, or are regionally significant for air quality conformity or modeling purposes. OBAG 4 awards must be included in the TIP in order for sponsors to obligate the funds through the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Division of Local Assistance (DLA). Sponsors must submit complete project information in MTC's Fund Management System (FMS), or its successor TIP management platform, by the applicable deadline provided by MTC for timely inclusion in the TIP.
- **Annual Obligation Plan (AOP):** Project sponsors must work with their respective CTA and MTC to include OBAG 4 funds in each applicable Annual Obligation Plan (AOP). MTC and Caltrans DLA use the AOP to prioritize FHWA funds, including OBAG 4 awards, for projects that are ready for delivery each federal fiscal year. Sponsors must meet applicable project requirements and milestones established by MTC prior to including a project in the AOP.

#### *Obligation Deadline*

Project sponsors are responsible for ensuring that OBAG 4 awards are obligated by FHWA or transferred to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) within the federal fiscal year the funds are programmed in the TIP. The obligation deadline for OBAG 4 awards is September 30, 2031.

In the event of unforeseen and extraordinary circumstances outside of the sponsor's control, MTC staff may approve one-time extensions up to 24 months beyond the OBAG 4 obligation deadline. To be considered for an extension, sponsors must submit a request to MTC staff that includes the following elements:

- **Schedule:** Requests must include a current project schedule with the original and requested extension dates for obligation of each outstanding project phase and key prerequisite milestones.
- **Delays:** Requests must describe the unforeseen and extraordinary circumstances outside of the sponsor's control that contributed to the requested extension, directly relating the number of months of the requested extension to the delay(s).

- **Approval:** Requests must be written on the sponsor agency letterhead and signed by the sponsor City Manager, County Administrator, General Manager, equivalent agency executive, or their designee.

Obligation extensions are not guaranteed, and requests are subject to review and approval by MTC staff.

#### *Delivery Issues*

OBAG 4 awards are predicated on the sponsor's ability to deliver the project as awarded within established deadlines. Sponsors that are unable to deliver awarded projects on time may have their OBAG 4 funds rescinded and reprogrammed to other projects. Any OBAG 4 funds remaining after project completion will be returned to MTC for future programming (savings are not retained by the project sponsor, nor within the county).

Project sponsors that continue to miss delivery milestones and funding deadlines for any federal funds are required to prepare and update a delivery status report on all projects with FHWA-administered funds they manage, and participate, if requested, in a consultation meeting with the CTA, MTC, and Caltrans prior to MTC approving future programming or including any funding revisions for the agency in the TIP. The purpose of the status report and consultation is to ensure the local public agency has the resources and technical capacity to deliver FHWA federal-aid projects, is fully aware of the required delivery deadlines, and has developed a delivery timeline that takes into consideration the requirements and lead-time of the federal-aid process within available resources.

#### **Project Requirements**

##### *Federal and State Requirements*

OBAG 4 projects must comply with applicable federal and state requirements, including:

- **Federal Fund Source Eligibility:** Projects must be eligible for STP or CMAQ funds in order to be selected for OBAG 4 programming of those fund sources. However, eligibility for STP or CMAQ alone does not guarantee eligibility for funding through the OBAG 4 program. Projects must meet all program requirements and project selection criteria to be eligible for OBAG 4 funds.
  - STP is a flexible source of federal funding, with a wide range of projects that may be considered eligible. Eligible projects include roadway and bridge improvements (construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, resurfacing, restoration), public transit capital improvements, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and programs, highway and transit safety projects, transportation demand management, and transportation planning activities. STP funded projects generally must be located on the federal-aid highway system, with some exceptions including bicycle and pedestrian projects. The STP program, including federal eligibility, is detailed in 23 U.S.C. § 133.
  - CMAQ is a more targeted federal funding source for transportation projects that generate emissions reductions that benefit a nonattainment or maintenance area for ozone, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter. Eligible project categories that meet this basic criteria include: Transportation Control Measures (TCMS) in an approved

State Implementation Plan (SIP), transit expansion projects, transit vehicles and equipment, bicycle and pedestrian facilities and programs, travel demand management, public education and outreach activities, congestion reduction and traffic flow improvements, carpool, vanpool, and carshare programs, travel demand management, outreach and rideshare activities, telecommuting programs, and intermodal freight projects. The CMAQ program, including federal eligibility, is detailed in 23 U.S.C. § 149.

- **Plan Bay Area Consistency:** Projects funded through OBAG 4 must be consistent with the latest adopted Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), anticipated to be *Plan Bay Area 2050+* during the OBAG 4 period. As part of the project selection and TIP programming processes, project sponsors must identify each project's relationship with meeting the goals and objectives of the RTP, including the specific RTP ID number or reference. RTP consistency will be verified by MTC staff for all OBAG 4 projects as part of the project selection and TIP programming processes.
- **Civil Rights Compliance:** OBAG 4 investments must be consistent with federal civil rights requirements, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and public participation. Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in all programs, services, or activities of public entities. MTC's 2023 *Public Participation Plan* (MTC Resolution No. 4174), or its successor, establishes standards for public involvement in MTC's planning and programming processes consistent with federal requirements (23 C.F.R. § 450.316). MTC is committed to effective public engagement and equitable investments, including specific consideration for the needs of those traditionally underserved by existing transportation systems, such as low-income and minority communities.
- **Minimum Match:** Project sponsors are responsible for contributing at least the minimum non-federal matching funds for OBAG 4 awards, currently 11.47% of the total cost for projects in California. Sponsors are also responsible for securing any additional funds to cover cost increases for the OBAG 4 project as awarded. Per MTC's Regional Toll Credit Policy (MTC Resolution No. 4008 or its successor), sponsors may request to expend the required local matching funds in earlier project phase(s) and use toll credits to eliminate the match requirement for the construction phase. For programs and projects of regional significance, MTC may elect to use toll credits to waive the local match requirement entirely.
- **Air Quality Conformity:** The TIP, including OBAG 4 projects, must conform with federal Clean Air Act (CAA) requirements and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations. In the Bay Area, MTC is responsible for making a regional air quality conformity determination for the TIP. Projects that are considered air quality neutral are generally exempt from the requirement to determine project-level conformity (40 C.F.R. § 93.126). New non-exempt projects will not be considered for funding in the OBAG 4 program if they are inconsistent with the adopted long-range plan and TIP. Additionally, the EPA has designated the Bay Area as a non-attainment area for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). Therefore, based on consultation with the MTC Air Quality Conformity Task Force, projects deemed Projects of Air Quality Concern (POAQC) for PM<sub>2.5</sub> must complete hot-spot analyses

as required by the Transportation Conformity Rule. Generally, POAQC are those projects that result in significant increases in, or concentrations of, emissions from diesel vehicles.

- **Environmental Clearance:** Project sponsors are responsible for compliance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code § 21000 et seq.), the State Environmental Impact Report Guidelines (14 California Code of Regulations Section § 15000 et seq.), and the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.) standards and procedures for all projects with federal funds.
- **CMAQ Benefit Calculations:** For projects that are eligible for CMAQ funds, sponsors must provide the project information necessary for MTC to calculate the expected emission reductions associated with project implementation, using the template provided by MTC. In accordance with federal requirements, MTC will consider the cost-effectiveness of air quality improvements when assigning CMAQ funds and report on air quality benefits from CMAQ-funded projects.

#### *Regional Policies*

In addition, OBAG 4 projects must comply with applicable regional policies, including:

- **Complete Streets:** Project sponsors must satisfy applicable project requirements from MTC's Complete Streets Policy (MTC Resolution No. 4493) or its successor.
- **Transit Priority:** Project sponsors must satisfy applicable project requirements from MTC's Transit Priority Policy for Roadways (MTC Resolution No. 4739) or its successor.

MTC Complete Streets and Transit Priority Policies will be implemented through the Complete Streets Checklist. Sponsors must complete a checklist for each relevant OBAG 4 project application, which may require review by a county or local Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PBAC) and/or transit operator.

To simplify and streamline OBAG 4 administration, all programming amounts must be rounded to the nearest thousand.

#### *Fund Exchanges*

For select OBAG 4 regional programs, federal STP and CMAQ funding may be exchanged with non-federal funds for projects that are consistent with program objectives but are ineligible for, or poorly suited to, federal funding. Projects involved in a local fund exchange that receive federal funds (recipient projects) must comply with all OBAG 4 requirements, while those receiving local funds (target projects) need only comply with applicable requirements, including regional policies. Exchanges must also be consistent with MTC's Exchange Policy for Regional Discretionary Funds (MTC Resolution No. 3331), which requires target projects to be included in the TIP for tracking purposes.

#### **Regional Fund Management**

##### *Programming Years*

OBAG 4 funding is available in federal fiscal years (FY) 2026-27 through FY 2029-30. Funds may be programmed in any of these years, conditioned upon the availability of federal apportionment and obligation authority (OA) and subject to TIP financial constraint requirements. In addition, in order

to provide uninterrupted funding to ongoing efforts and to provide more time to prepare for the effective delivery of capital projects, priority of funding for the first year of programming apportionment (FY 2026-27) will be provided to ongoing programs, such as regional and CTA planning activities, non-infrastructure projects and programs, and the preliminary engineering phase of capital projects. Specific programming timelines will be determined through the development of the Annual Obligation Plan (AOP) as detailed above.

#### *Fund Source Assignment*

OBAG 4 program funding is expected to comprise of approximately 60% STP and 40% CMAQ funding. MTC will select projects throughout the nine-county Bay Area based on the established project selection criteria and programming policies. STP and CMAQ funds will be assigned to specific projects as part of the project selection process. Following the initial project selection and fund assignment process, MTC may re-assign fund sources to reflect available apportionment or obligation authority, or to otherwise effectively manage regional STP and CMAQ funds.

#### *Apportionment Exchanges*

State and federal timely use funds provisions, such as Sections 182.6 and 182.7 of the California Streets and Highways Code, require federal apportionment to be obligated within three years of federal eligibility. If a region of the state is unable to fully obligate their lapsing STP or CMAQ balances in a given year, another region in the state can enter into temporary exchange agreements to obligate the older, unused STP or CMAQ balances in exchange for an equal amount of future year STP or CMAQ funds. Such exchanges benefit both regions by avoiding the loss of funds in one region, while another region can advance projects that may be stalled due to a lack of eligible funding.

To facilitate such apportionment exchanges, the MTC Executive Director or designee is authorized to sign letters of understanding with Caltrans and other regions for the exchange of STP or CMAQ funds with the following conditions and limitations:

- The exchange does not negatively impact the delivery of Bay Area STP/CMAQ projects.
- The exchange is a dollar for dollar exchange.
- The exchange is allowed under Caltrans' obligation authority management policy.
- Exchanges over \$2 million are reported to a standing Committee of the Commission for information.
- The Letter of Understanding can be executed in time for the MTC to secure the funds prior to any lapse or rescission.
- If any timely use of funds deadlines or Caltrans processes are not met in time and therefore result in the loss of apportionment balance, MTC's apportionment shall not be negatively affected and the Letter of Understanding is null and void.

Apportionment exchanges beyond these conditions and limitations may be approved by a standing Committee of the Commission.

### *Advance Construction*

When certain federal funds are not available for obligation due to an insufficient balance of apportionment or obligation authority in a given fiscal year, project sponsors may request authorization from FHWA and Caltrans to proceed with the project under advance construction (AC) procedures. AC procedures allow FHWA to authorize work to begin on a project without obligating federal funds. Project sponsors given the federal authorization to proceed with a project under AC procedures use local funds to perform work eligible for future federal reimbursement. Once federal apportionment or obligation authority becomes available, the sponsor may then seek to convert the amount authorized through AC into a real obligation of federal funds.

AC procedures streamline the delivery of federal projects and programs by allowing projects to proceed when current year apportionments or obligation authority has run out, and enables the region and the state to better manage the use of obligation authority for large projects.

To facilitate AC procedures on regional projects, the MTC Executive Director or designee, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer, is authorized to execute AC authorizations with Caltrans and/or FHWA for federal projects sponsored or implemented by MTC, with the following conditions and limitations:

- The agency must have sufficient local funds to pay for all project costs until the federal funds become available.
- The project must comply with all federal requirements including programming in the TIP.
- The federal authorization date establishes the start date for performance federally-reimbursable work.

## **Regional Program Policies**

### **Calls for Projects**

MTC will apply the following guidelines when developing and implementing local grant opportunities with regional OBAG 4 funds:

- **Outreach:** To encourage stakeholder input and applicant participation, MTC staff should provide notice of upcoming and/or active calls for projects at standing meetings of Partnership Working Groups and on the MTC and/or ABAG website.
- **Coordination:** To streamline the application process and maximize participation, calls for projects for OBAG 4 regional programs should be consolidated with one another and/or coordinated with similar grant opportunities outside of the OBAG 4 program, with a standard of one call for projects per year. MTC will coordinate with CTAs and prospective applicants when developing call for projects schedules.
- **Timeliness:** To avoid conflicting with the OBAG 4 county call for projects while still providing sufficient time for project delivery, OBAG 4 regional calls for projects should generally be conducted between federal fiscal year (FY) 2026-27 and FY 2028-29.

### **Regional Program Set-Asides**

MTC's Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) Policy (MTC Resolution No. 4530) was adopted in 2022 as a mechanism to advance the *Plan Bay Area* goal of walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods near

transit that support ridership, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and expand access to opportunity. The policy sets standards for density, affordable housing policies, parking management, and multimodal access in the half-mile areas surrounding rail, ferry, and bus rapid transit stops and stations. In recognition that local jurisdictions need sufficient time to fully implement these standards, the OBAG 4 program incorporates a balanced, incentive-based approach to reward TOC Policy progress.

#### *TOC Set-Aside*

To incentivize jurisdiction progress on TOC Policy standards, MTC has set aside \$45 million in regional OBAG 4 funds for top performers. The methodology for TOC compliance incentive score calculations is subject to Commission approval and associated administrative guidance.

#### *North Bay Augmentation*

To support the unique land use and transportation needs of rural communities, particularly among North Bay counties with limited transit service and few or no TOC areas, the OBAG 4 regional program also includes an additional \$5 million North Bay augmentation. MTC will target to distribute these funds approximately evenly between the four North Bay Counties of Marin, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma. North Bay augmentation funds will be distributed through the county call for projects and are subject to the county program policies (below). The call for projects for North Bay augmentation funds will be coordinated with the TOC set-aside.

### **County Program Policies**

#### **Roles**

The OBAG 4 county program is a partnership between MTC and each of the County Transportation Agencies (CTAs) representing the Bay Area. CTAs administer the call for projects within their respective counties and are responsible for public outreach, initial project screening and evaluation, project nominations to MTC, and sponsor support and coordination throughout project delivery, consistent with regional requirements. MTC is responsible for administering the overall call for projects, final project evaluation and selection, and implementation of regional requirements throughout project delivery, with support from the CTAs.

#### **Eligible Activities**

County program projects must meet general OBAG 4 project requirements as detailed above, including eligibility for federal STP or CMAQ funds. Subject to these limitations, eligible project types include:

- CTA planning and program implementation activities (see below).
- Local planning grants for *Plan Bay Area 2050+* Growth Geographies or Transit Oriented Communities (TOCs).
- Transportation demand management programs.
- Mobility Hub planning and implementation.
- Parking reduction and curb management programs.
- Shared micromobility capital projects.
- Bicycle and pedestrian access to open space and parklands.

- Bicycle and pedestrian improvements and programs.
- Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) projects and programs.
- Safety projects, local roadway safety plans (LRSP), and Vision Zero planning activities
- Complete streets and sustainable streets improvements
- Streetscape projects to encourage biking, walking, and transit use
- Example project elements include bulb outs, sidewalk widening, crosswalk enhancements, audible signal modification, mid-block crossing and signals, new striping for bicycle lanes and road diets, pedestrian street lighting, medians, pedestrian refuges, wayfinding signage, tree grates, bollards, permanent bicycle racks, signal modification for bicycle detection, street trees, raised planters, planters, costs associated with on-site storm water management, permeable paving, and pedestrian-scaled street furniture including bus shelters, benches, magazine racks, and garbage and recycling bins.
- Local streets and roads preservation projects on the federal-aid system. Projects should be based on a needs analysis from the jurisdiction's Pavement Management Program:
  - Pavement rehabilitation projects must be consistent with segments recommended for treatment within the programming cycle by the jurisdiction's PMP. Preventive maintenance projects with a PCI rating of 70 or above are eligible only if the jurisdiction's PMP demonstrates that the preventive maintenance strategy is a cost-effective method of extending the service life of the pavement.
  - Eligible non-pavement activities include rehabilitation or replacement of existing features on the roadway facility, such as bridge structures, storm drains, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), curbs, gutters, culverts, medians, guardrails, safety features, signals, signage, sidewalks, ramps, complete streets elements, and features that bring the facility to current standards.
- Rural road improvements on the federal aid system.
- Community-Based Transportation Plans (CBTPs) or participatory budgeting (PB) processes in Equity Priority Communities (in addition to CBTP and PB processes administered through the Regional Programs).
- Implementation of projects identified through CBTPs or PB processes.
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan implementation.
- Transit capital improvements, including vehicles for new or expanded service.
- Transit station improvements such as plazas, station access improvements, bicycle parking, or parking management for Transit Oriented Development (TOD).
- Local actions to advance implementation of the Transit Transformation Action Plan, including local transit priority projects and mapping and wayfinding elements consistent with MTC standards.
- Cost-effective, technology-driven active operational management strategies for local arterials and highways (for highways, when used to augment state or federal funds and developed/implemented in coordination with MTC).
- Mobility management and coordination projects that meet the specific needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities and enhance transportation access for populations beyond those served by one agency or organization within a community. Examples include the integration and coordination of services for individuals with disabilities, seniors, and low-

income individuals; individualized travel training and trip planning activities; development and operation of one-stop transportation traveler call centers to coordinate transportation information on all travel modes and to manage eligibility requirements and arrangements for customers among supporting programs; and the operation of transportation brokerages to coordinate providers, funding agencies, and passengers.

Activities *not* eligible for funding include: air quality non-exempt projects, new roadways, roadway extensions, right of way acquisition for future expansion, operations, and routine maintenance.

### **CTA Planning**

Similar to prior cycles, the OBAG 4 county program includes dedicated funding to support planning and programming activities throughout the nine Bay Area counties. Administered by MTC through funding agreements with each CTA, these funds are used to cooperatively implement *Plan Bay Area 2050+* and associated regional policies, development of countywide transportation plans, outreach activities, and the advancement of additional plans and projects as determined by MTC.

Base CTA planning awards are programmed to each CTA in Attachment B-2 and are based on:

- 5% of the initial OBAG 4 program capacity.
- \$3.85 million minimum funding amount for each county, reflecting the fixed costs associated with planning and program implementation.
- distribution of remaining funds over the \$3.85 million minimum amounts proportionate to the county nomination target factors (detailed below).

CTAs may request additional funding to augment these base funding levels for countywide planning and programming through the call for projects process (requires CTA governing body approval).

### **Nomination Targets**

County nomination targets establish the maximum funding request that each CTA may make through OBAG 4 county project nominations. Similar to prior OBAG cycles, these targets are based on population, recent housing production and planned growth, and housing affordability. However, the OBAG 4 nomination targets do not commit or imply a guaranteed share of funding to any individual county or jurisdiction.

To ensure a sufficient pool of projects for regional selection, MTC is soliciting nominations for 120% of the available funding capacity for the county program. Each CTA's nomination target is calculated as a percent share of this overall nomination total, using the following factors:

- **Population:** 50% of the nomination target is based on a county's share of the regional population, using 2024 population estimates from the California Department of Finance.
- **Housing Production:** 30% of the nomination target is based on a county's share of regional housing production during the current and previous Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) cycles (2007 to 2023), using building permit data compiled by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG).

- **Planned Growth:** 20% of the nomination target is based on a county's share of regional housing allocations through the 2023-31 RHNA cycle.
- **Housing Affordability:** For housing production and RHNA factors, 60% of each factor is calculated based on the production or planned growth in affordable housing alone, while the remaining 40% considers all housing types. Affordable housing is defined as housing for very low-, low-, or moderate-income households, categories established by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) based on housing cost as a proportion of local area median income (AMI). For the purposes of calculating nomination targets, county-specific AMI values are used.

The county, regional North Bay augmentation, and total nomination targets are detailed by county in Table 2 below. CTAs may only nominate projects for the OBAG 4 county and regional North Bay augmentation programs up to the target nomination amounts listed below.

Table 2: County Nomination Targets

County	County Target Share	County Target*	North Bay Augmentation Target*	Total Nomination Target**
Alameda	20.3%	\$64,770,000	-	\$77,724,000
Contra Costa	13.6%	\$43,418,000	-	\$52,102,000
Marin	2.9%	\$9,275,000	\$1,250,000	\$12,630,000
Napa	1.5%	\$4,823,000	\$1,250,000	\$7,288,000
San Francisco	14.8%	\$47,213,000	-	\$56,656,000
San Mateo	9.5%	\$30,208,000	-	\$36,249,000
Santa Clara	26.7%	\$85,271,000	-	\$102,325,000
Solano	4.8%	\$15,275,000	\$1,250,000	\$19,830,000
Sonoma	5.9%	\$18,747,000	\$1,250,000	\$23,996,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$319,000,000</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$388,800,000</b>

\*Targets for reference only, actual awards subject to competitive project evaluation and selection

\*\*Nomination targets based on 120% of available funds

## Outreach

MTC partners with CTAs to conduct public engagement and local agency outreach for the county program call for projects, consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and associated federal requirements. The existing relationships CTAs have with local jurisdictions, elected officials, transit agencies, federally-recognized Tribal governments, community organizations and stakeholders, and members of the public within their respective counties make them well suited to assist MTC in this role.

CTAs should develop outreach plans consistent with this section, and each CTA must have their plan approved by MTC staff prior to initiating the call for projects activities in their respective

county. In addition, CTAs are required to submit documentation to MTC demonstrating compliance with this section during the project nomination process as detailed below.

### *Public Engagement*

As part of their call for projects process, CTAs are required to conduct countywide outreach and engagement with stakeholders and the public to solicit project ideas. CTAs are expected to implement their public outreach and engagement efforts in a manner consistent with MTC's *Public Participation Plan* (MTC Resolution No. 4174), which can be found at [mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/public-participation-plan](http://mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/public-participation-plan). CTAs should make every effort to follow current best practices related to virtual and in-person public participation, outreach, and engagement. CTAs should also make meaningful efforts to lower participation barriers for hard-to-reach populations, Limited English Proficient (LEP) speakers, people with disabilities, and those who are historically challenged from engaging in public decision-making processes.

At a minimum, MTC and CTAs are required to:

- Execute effective and meaningful local outreach and engagement efforts during the call for projects by working closely with local jurisdictions, elected officials, transit agencies, community-based organizations, other relevant stakeholders, and the public through the project solicitation process.
- Explain the local call for projects process, informing stakeholders and the public about methods for public engagement; relevant key milestones; the timing and opportunities for public comments on project ideas, including all standing public meetings and any County & Local Program call for projects-specific events and/or meetings; and when decisions are to be made on the list of projects to be submitted to MTC.
- Hold public meetings and/or workshops at times that are conducive to public participation to solicit public input on project ideas to submit.
- When possible, schedule meetings/events at times and locations that prioritize participation from Equity Priority Communities and other communities that have historically been systematically left out of the decision-making process.
- Post notices of public meetings and hearing(s) on their agency website; include information on how to request language assistance for individuals with limited English proficiency, as well as reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities. If agency protocol has not been established, CTAs should refer to MTC's Plan for Assisting Limited English Proficient Populations at [mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/get-language-assistance](http://mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/get-language-assistance) or the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Offer language assistance and accommodations for people with disabilities on all collateral materials and meeting notices. Establish a reasonable amount of time to request assistance in advance and include this information in materials and meeting notices. CTAs may refer to ABAG's Regional Housing Technical Assistance program best practice guidance for offering language translation services: [abag.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2021-11/Best\\_Practices\\_Multilingual\\_Engagement\\_10-2021.pdf](http://abag.ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2021-11/Best_Practices_Multilingual_Engagement_10-2021.pdf).

- Hold in-person public meetings, when health protocols allow for in-person meetings to be safely held, in central locations that are accessible via multiple transportation modes, especially public transit, and ensure all locations are accessible to persons with disabilities.
- Respond to written public comments, and whenever possible, post all written comments to the agency's website and summarize how public feedback impacted the decision-making process.

CTAs with recent public engagement efforts relevant to the county program call for projects are encouraged to incorporate the results of these efforts into their project prioritization process, provided that such efforts are:

- Completed recently or concurrently (up to 12 months prior to the county program call for projects, with older but relevant outreach considered by MTC staff on a case-by-case basis).
- Sufficiently comprehensive to determine public support and priorities for transportation project types eligible for funding under OBAG 4 (for example, development of a Countywide Transportation Plan or Countywide Capital Improvement Program).
- Conducted in an accessible, equitable manner consistent with federal Title VI nondiscrimination requirements.
- Supplemental to other, dedicated opportunities for public input on OBAG 4 county program funding specifically that meet the minimum outreach requirements detailed in the paragraph above.

#### *Agency Coordination*

CTAs are expected to work closely with regional stakeholders during the call for project process, including MTC, Caltrans, and potential project sponsors. At a minimum, MTC and CTAs are required to communicate the call for projects and solicit applications from all local jurisdictions, transit agencies, and federally recognized Tribal governments within their county boundaries. For counties with federally recognized Tribal governments within their jurisdictions, MTC and CTAs are required to offer opportunities for government-to-government consultation to the Tribes.

#### *Title VI Responsibilities*

Call for projects processes must be consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and associated metropolitan public participation requirements, which require specific consideration for low-income and minority populations. Effective engagement with low-income and minority communities is critical for both local and regional decisions. MTC and CTAs are required to ensure that underserved communities are provided opportunities for access and input to the project submittal process. This may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Assisting community-based organizations, Equity Priority Communities, and any other underserved community interested in having projects submitted for funding.
- Removing barriers for persons with limited-English proficiency and other communities that have historically been systematically left out of the decision-making process to provide input on the project solicitation and evaluation processes.

## Resources

CTAs may refer to MTC's Public Participation Plan for further guidance on Title VI outreach strategies, found at [mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/public-participation-plan](https://mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/public-participation-plan).

Additional resources related to Title VI, civil rights compliance, and virtual participation are available from these agencies:

- FHWA at [highways.dot.gov/civil-rights/title-vi-civil-rights-act-1964-and-additional-nondiscrimination-requirements](https://highways.dot.gov/civil-rights/title-vi-civil-rights-act-1964-and-additional-nondiscrimination-requirements).
- ADA at <https://www.ada.gov/resources/title-ii-primer/>.
- Caltrans at [dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/local-civil-compliance/title-vi](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/local-civil-compliance/title-vi).
- MTC at [mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/title-vi-civil-rights-act](https://mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/title-vi-civil-rights-act) and [mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/language-assistance](https://mtc.ca.gov/about-mtc/public-participation/language-assistance).
- ABAG at [abag.ca.gov/our-work/housing/regional-housing-technical-assistance/support-local-engagement](https://abag.ca.gov/our-work/housing/regional-housing-technical-assistance/support-local-engagement) and [abag.ca.gov/tools-resources/digital-library/bestpracticesmultilingualengagement10-2021pdf](https://abag.ca.gov/tools-resources/digital-library/bestpracticesmultilingualengagement10-2021pdf).

Additionally, CTAs are encouraged to use the following resources to source MTC pre-approved consultant services for their outreach efforts:

- **Public Engagement Bench:** for public engagement, digital engagement, and promotion, available at [mtc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=10319899&GUID=1A85853F-2602-40DC-BB10-D2E9D02D0A5B](https://mtc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=10319899&GUID=1A85853F-2602-40DC-BB10-D2E9D02D0A5B).
- **Equity Consultant Bench:** for general support with outreach activities, available at [mtc.ca.gov/digital-library/5026631-equity-bench-consultant-catalog-2024](https://mtc.ca.gov/digital-library/5026631-equity-bench-consultant-catalog-2024).
- **Translation and Interpreter Services Consultant Bench:** for translation, interpretation, and American Sign Language (ASL) services to ensure meaningful access by Limited English Proficiency (LEP) populations (as required under Title VI) and provide accessibility accommodations (as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act), available at [mtc.legistar.com/gateway.aspx?M=F&ID=5b527bad-4840-4614-8ce8-72d94770e4e6.pdf](https://mtc.legistar.com/gateway.aspx?M=F&ID=5b527bad-4840-4614-8ce8-72d94770e4e6.pdf).

Consultant benches include consultant firms pre-qualified by MTC through Request for Qualifications (RFQ) processes which included "Cooperative Use" language, allowing other agencies to use MTC's processes to satisfy their own contracting and procurement guidelines.

## Documentation

To demonstrate compliance with outreach requirements, CTAs are required to submit the following documentation to MTC staff by October 31, 2026:

- A copy of the CTA's public outreach and engagement plan, developed in coordination with MTC.
- Copies or text of public notice(s) of opportunities for members of the public to provide input on County & Local Program criteria and/or project nominations, which must include information on how to request language assistance and accessibility accommodations.
- A list of CBOs or other organizations representing potentially impacted groups that the CTA contacted for input on the county program.
- Dates, times, and locations of public meetings, hearings, and/or workshops where opportunity for public input on the county program was afforded.

- A summary of public input received during the call for projects process, and how such feedback, and the results of any relevant prior outreach, was used in the CTA evaluation and decision-making process.
- A description of correspondence and/or meetings with all applicable local jurisdictions, transit agencies, and federally-recognized tribal governments informing each of the call for projects opportunity.
- If information from prior or concurrent outreach efforts was incorporated into the CTA's call for projects process, a narrative description of these efforts, how the results informed project prioritization, and how the CTA met the minimum public involvement requirements for the OBAG 3 call for projects described above.

## **Sponsor Requirements**

Bay Area cities, counties, transit agencies, federally-recognized Tribal governments, and CTAs are eligible to apply for OBAG 4 county program funds. All sponsors must comply with the general OBAG 4 project requirements detailed above. In addition, jurisdiction sponsors are subject to the following county program requirements:

- **State Housing Law Compliance:** Jurisdiction sponsors must have a general plan housing element adopted and certified by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for the 2023-31 Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) cycle and maintain certification throughout the OBAG 3 program period. Jurisdictions must also submit Housing Element Annual Reports to HCD each year by the April 1 deadline throughout the OBAG 4 program period. Finally, jurisdictions must comply with the Housing Accountability Act and other state housing laws related to surplus lands, accessory dwelling units, and density bonuses throughout the OBAG 4 program period.
- **Safety Planning:** Jurisdiction sponsors must complete and maintain a Local Roadway Safety Plan (LRSP) or equivalent safety plan, as defined by the California Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) guidelines, including the requirement that plans be updated within five years.
- **Pavement Management:** Jurisdiction sponsors must maintain a certified Pavement Management Program (StreetSaver® or equivalent), updated as prescribed by MTC staff. In addition, jurisdictions must fully participate in statewide local streets and road needs assessment surveys (including any assigned funding contribution).
- **Performance Reporting:** Jurisdiction sponsors must provide traffic count data to MTC to support FHWA's Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) on an annual basis, or as directed by MTC staff.

MTC will monitor and regularly report on sponsor jurisdiction compliance with these requirements. Sponsors that fail to comply with requirements will be subject to the following enforcement actions by MTC:

- **Delay Funds:** MTC will deprioritize county awards for inclusion in the Annual Obligation Plan (AOP) from sponsors with minor or initial compliance issues.
- **Withhold Funds:** MTC will withhold or reverse TIP programming for county awards from sponsors with substantial and/or sustained compliance issues.

- **Rescind Funds:** MTC will rescind and reprogram county awards from noncompliant sponsors that do not, or are unable to, develop a reasonable plan to comply and delivery funds within the OBAG 4 period.

Compliance determinations and enforcement steps are subject to MTC staff determination and, in the case of award rescissions, Commission action.

### **Project Requirements**

County program projects are subject to the general OBAG 4 requirements and project delivery processes detailed above. Applicants must provide the following for each project:

- **Application Form:** completed application, using the form provided by MTC.
- **Complete Streets Checklist:** due at the time of application for applicable projects.
- **Air Quality Inputs:** due at the time of application for CMAQ-eligible projects requesting \$1 million or more, or prior to TIP programming for smaller projects if requested by MTC staff.
- **Resolution of Local Support:** due prior to TIP programming.
- **TIP Revision Request:** due in MTC's Fund Management System (FMS) or successor TIP management platform by the deadline provided by MTC.

OBAG 4 county project applications must meet the following minimum grant request thresholds:

- \$500,000 or more for projects in counties with a population over one million (Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara Counties).
- \$250,000 or more for projects in counties with a population under one million (Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Solano, and Sonoma Counties).

On a case-by-case basis, MTC may accept a grant application below the county minimum, but no less than \$150,000. Such exceptions are subject to MTC staff discretion and Commission programming approval, and may be limited to non-infrastructure projects, safety projects, and/or projects that are already federalized.

Consistent with general OBAG 4 project requirements, all county program awards will be rounded to the nearest \$1,000.

### **Geographic Minimums**

Similar to previous cycles, a minimum share of OBAG 4 county program funds must be invested in projects that support growth areas within each county. In OBAG 4, eligible geographies include both Priority Development Areas (PDAs) designated in *Plan Bay Area 2050+* and Transit-Oriented Communities (TOCs). To qualify towards a county's geographic minimum, projects need to be located partially or entirely within a mile or less of a PDA or TOC. Countywide projects, such as CTA planning, are excluded from the geographic minimum calculation.

On a case-by-case basis and at the request of a CTA, MTC may consider additional projects as PDA- or TOC-supportive which are not located within a mile or less of either geography but otherwise have a clear and direct connection to PDA(s) and/or TOC(s), such as transit facility improvements. Such determinations are subject to MTC staff discretion.

CTA nominations must meet the following thresholds for PDA- and/or TOC-supportive projects as defined above:

- 50% or more of the nomination request for North Bay counties (Marin, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma).
- 80% or more of the nomination request for remaining counties (Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara).

### **CTA Evaluation**

CTAs are responsible for developing the schedule, process, and any supplemental materials for the call for projects in their respective counties, in coordination with MTC and consistent with regional requirements. CTAs will solicit and collect application materials, screen applicants and projects for eligibility, evaluate applications, and approve and submit county program nominations to MTC.

#### *Screening and Criteria*

CTA eligibility screening must confirm consistency with the OBAG 4 general and county program requirements as detailed above, including eligibility for STP or CMAQ funds and consistency with *Plan Bay Area 2050+*.

At a minimum, CTAs must consider the following criteria in their county program evaluations:

- **Need and Benefits:** CTAs must prioritize projects that effectively address transportation needs and provide clear benefits, with consideration for safety, multi-modal accessibility, emissions reduction, resilience, stormwater management, and state of good repair improvements.
- **Local Priorities:** CTAs must prioritize projects with community support, as demonstrated through Community-Based Transportation Plans, PDA plans, other local planning or project prioritization processes, letters of support, and/or other means identified by the CTA.
- **Equity Impacts:** CTAs must prioritize projects that provide demonstrated benefits to historically marginalized or underserved groups, including benefits to Equity Priority Communities or similar local designations, alignment with agency Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plans, and/or other means identified by the CTA.

CTAs may consider additional factors beyond these minimum criteria, including regional criteria considered by MTC as detailed below and/or other local priorities. CTA project evaluation criteria must be approved by MTC staff prior to the CTA initiating a call for projects.

#### *Nominations*

After completing initial project screening and evaluations, CTAs will submit project nominations and associated documentation to MTC for regional evaluation and project selection. Nomination lists must be approved by the CTA's governing board prior to submission to MTC. CTA project nomination packets are due to MTC by October 31, 2026, and must include the following elements:

- **Nomination List:** A single list of eligible candidate projects for the OBAG 4 county program, scored out of 75 points according to the evaluation criteria developed by the CTA and approved by MTC staff. Nomination lists must comply with all OBAG 4 programming

policies, including sponsor and project requirements, geographic minimums, and CTA nomination targets.

- **Board Approval:** Signed/certified documentation of CTA governing body action approving the project nomination list.
- **Outreach Documentation:** Materials verifying CTA compliance with outreach requirements as described above.
- **Application Materials:** For each nominated project, the regional application form, Complete Streets Checklist, and CMAQ air quality input form, and any other supplemental materials or attachments provided by the applicant, when applicable.

## **MTC Evaluation**

MTC is responsible for evaluation of CTA nominations, air quality benefit calculations, final project scoring, program balancing, and project selection via Commission action.

### *Criteria and Scoring*

MTC will consider the following criteria when evaluating OBAG 4 county program nominations:

- **CTA Priorities (75 points):** CTA scores normalized across counties.
- **Regional Alignment (10 points):** Support for *Plan Bay Area 2050+* strategies, the Regional Safety/Vision Zero Policy (MTC Resolution No. 4400), the Complete Streets Policy (MTC Resolution No. 4493), the Bay Area Transit Transformation Action Plan, and the regional Transit Priority Policy for Roadways (anticipated).
- **Federal Performance Goals (5 points):** Improvements to safety, infrastructure condition, system reliability, freight movement and economic vitality, congestion reduction, and environmental sustainability (23 U.S.C. § 105(b)).
- **Deliverability and Risk (10 points):** Sponsor capacity and expertise, recent delivery of regional funds, and risks to the project schedule or delivery plan.
- **Air Quality Benefits (10 points):** The relative cost-effectiveness in reducing criteria air pollutants, for CMAQ-eligible projects for the purpose of assigning CMAQ funding consistent with federal requirements.

### *Program Balancing*

Nominated projects will be initially prioritized based on total project score as detailed above.

However, to achieve investment thresholds and ensure a balanced program of projects, MTC staff may adjust project prioritization based on the following factors:

- County geographic minimums (PDA- and TOC-supportive investments).
- Relative STP and CMAQ availability and project eligibility.
- Overall program balance, including variety of project types, equitable investments, and geographic spread.

MTC staff will coordinate with CTA staff to solicit comments and feedback on the draft OBAG 4 county program of projects, and may refine the recommended awards accordingly.

***Project Selection***

The Commission will consider the recommended OBAG 4 county program of projects in early 2027. Eligible projects nominated by CTAs but not initially awarded by the Commission will be considered if additional county program capacity becomes available. Approved projects and any subsequent revisions by the Commission will be detailed in Attachment B-2.

**Attachment B-1**  
**MTC Resolution No. 4740**  
**OBAG 4 Regional Programs**  
**FY 2026-27 through FY 2029-30**  
**February 2026**

MTC Res. No. 4740 Attachment B-1

Adopted: 01/28/26-C

Revised: 02/25/26-C

**OBAG 4 Regional Programs Project List**

PROJECT CATEGORY AND TITLE	SPONSOR	Total STP/CMAQ	Total Other
<b>OBAG 4 REGIONAL PROGRAMS</b>		<b>\$360,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>1. PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>			
<u>Regional Planning and Program Implementation (Added)</u>	<u>MTC</u>	<u>\$40,000,000</u>	
<b>1. PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>			
<u>Growth Framework Balance (Added)</u>	<u>TBD</u>	<u>\$35,000,000</u>	
<b>2. GROWTH FRAMEWORK</b>			
<u>Environment Balance (Added)</u>	<u>TBD</u>	<u>\$90,000,000</u>	
<b>3. ENVIRONMENT</b>			
<u>Complete Streets Balance (Added)</u>	<u>TDB</u>	<u>\$30,000,000</u>	
<b>4. COMPLETE STREETS</b>			
<u>Multimodal Networks Balance (Added)</u>	<u>TBD</u>	<u>\$115,000,000</u>	
<b>5. MULTIMODAL NETWORKS</b>			
<u>TOC Set-Aside</u>	TBD	\$45,000,000	
North Bay Augmentation	TBD	\$5,000,000	
<b>6. SET-ASIDES</b>			
<b>OBAG 4 REGIONAL PROGRAMS</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$360,000,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Attachment B-2**  
**MTC Resolution No. 4740**  
**OBAG 4 County Programs**  
**FY 2026-27 through FY 2029-30**  
**February 2026**

MTC Res. No. 4740 Attachment B-2

Adopted: 01/28/26-C

Revised: 02/25/26-C

**OBAG 4 County Programs Project List**

PROJECT CATEGORY AND TITLE	SPONSOR	Total STP/CMAQ
<b>OBAG 4 COUNTY PROGRAMS</b>		<b>\$360,000,000</b>
<b>ALAMEDA COUNTY</b>		
CTA Planning		
<b><u>ACTC: Planning and Implementation Base (Added)</u></b>	<b>MTC</b>	<b>\$5,368,000</b>
<b>ALAMEDA COUNTY</b>		<b>\$5,368,000</b>
<b>CONTRA COSTA COUNTY</b>		
CTA Planning		
<b><u>CCTA: Planning and Implementation Base (Added)</u></b>	<b>MTC</b>	<b>\$4,868,000</b>
<b>CONTRA COSTA COUNTY</b>		<b>\$4,868,000</b>
<b>MARIN COUNTY</b>		
CTA Planning		
<b><u>TAM: Planning and Implementation Base (Added)</u></b>	<b>MTC</b>	<b>\$3,850,000</b>
<b>MARIN COUNTY</b>		<b>\$3,850,000</b>
<b>NAPA COUNTY</b>		
CTA Planning		
<b><u>NVTA: Planning and Implementation Base (Added)</u></b>	<b>MTC</b>	<b>\$3,850,000</b>
<b>NAPA COUNTY</b>		<b>\$3,850,000</b>
<b>SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY</b>		
CTA Planning		
<b><u>SFCTA: Planning and Implementation Base (Added)</u></b>	<b>MTC</b>	<b>\$4,957,000</b>
<b>SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY</b>		<b>\$4,957,000</b>
<b>SAN MATEO COUNTY</b>		
CTA Planning		
<b><u>C/CAG: Planning and Implementation Base (Added)</u></b>	<b>MTC</b>	<b>\$4,558,000</b>
<b>SAN MATEO COUNTY</b>		<b>\$4,558,000</b>
<b>SANTA CLARA COUNTY</b>		
CTA Planning		
<b><u>VTA: Planning and Implementation Base (Added)</u></b>	<b>MTC</b>	<b>\$5,849,000</b>
<b>SANTA CLARA COUNTY</b>		<b>\$5,849,000</b>
<b>SOLANO COUNTY</b>		
CTA Planning		
<b><u>STA: Planning and Implementation Base (Added)</u></b>	<b>MTC</b>	<b>\$3,850,000</b>
<b>SOLANO COUNTY</b>		<b>\$3,850,000</b>
<b>SONOMA COUNTY</b>		
CTA Planning		
<b><u>SCTCA: Planning and Implementation Base (Added)</u></b>	<b>MTC</b>	<b>\$3,850,000</b>
<b>SONOMA COUNTY</b>		<b>\$3,850,000</b>
<b>UNPROGRAMMED BALANCE</b>		<b>\$319,000,000</b>
<b>OBAG 4 COUNTY PROGRAMS</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$360,000,000</b>