

## **December 2024 Recommended RM3 Allocations – Project Summaries**

### **RM3 Project #26 - North Bay Transit Improvements**

RM3 provides \$100 million in toll funds to RM3 Project 26, North Bay Transit Access Improvements. This RM3 programmatic category funds transit improvements in the Counties of Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano, and Contra Costa. The project sponsor is the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. In June 2021, MTC programmed the RM3 North Bay Transit Access Improvements program to the five County Transportation Agencies (CTAs) by splitting the funding equally. Each county was programmed \$20 million and MTC delegated project selection to each CTA for their county's share of the funds. Two allocations under this category are proposed for this month:

#### **RM3 Project #26.6 - Zero Emission Bus and Infrastructure Project (\$6.7 million)**

This project will upgrade the WCCTA Maintenance in preparation for Hydrogen vehicles, the purchase and installation of a Hydrogen fueling system and replacement of up to twenty-five 35-foot, 40-foot and 45-foot diesel buses with Zero Emission Vehicles per ICT Regulation. WCCTA intends to buy 100% zero-emission vehicles for its transit fleet starting in 2027 allowing for a full transition to zero emissions by 2040. RM3 funding provides match funding to FTA Low-NO grant, received July 2024. The project management planning will begin in November 2024 for the facility upgrade as a Design/Build contract, which is anticipated to begin early 2025, followed by the fueling infrastructure to begin early 2026. This project is estimated to be completed in December 2027.

Contra County Transportation Authority (CCTA) has approved WestCAT to request this allocation as part of its overall \$20 million programming for the category.

#### **RM3 Project #26.7 – State Route 37/ Fairgrounds Drive Interchange Improvements Project (\$3 million)**

As requested by Solano Transportation Authority and as a complement to the \$15 million allocated to this overall project under the State Route 37 Improvements Program (RM3 Project #23.1), this \$3 million allocation will go toward transit and transit-access specific elements of the interchange project. The SR 37 and Fairgrounds Drive Interchange project

will provide roadway and intersection improvements along portions of Fairgrounds Drive, as well as a new diverging diamond interchange design at SR 37 and Fairgrounds Drive.

Transit and transit-access elements of this project include:

- A new consolidated bus stop location for the Solano Express Red Line, on the south side of the intersection, relocated from the current bus stops at the eastbound and westbound on-ramps of SR 37. This bus stop will be closer to the proposed Solano County Mobility Hub Park and Ride Lot, as well as area destinations including Six Flags. The bus stop will also be long enough to accommodate two buses simultaneously.
- Transit signal priority for the Red Line while traveling through the signalized intersections within the project area.
- Safer pedestrian access to the relocated bus stop via signalized intersections, shorter crossings, and barrier-protected, enhanced-width sidewalks through the interchange.
- Green-painted bike lanes through the intersection.

Staff have reviewed the transit and transit access elements of this project – the construction of which, per STA staff, is estimated at approximately \$5 million of the \$25 million low bid package – and found this allocation request compliant with the statutory language for the North Bay Transit Access Improvements RM3 project category, as it provides funding for transit improvements, including transit facilities and access to transit facilities, and completes the construction funding plan.

The updated total construction phase cost is estimated at \$31.5 million. In addition to the \$18 million overall RM3 contribution, funding sources include local, county, and state sources.

### **RM3 Project #31 - Interstate 80 Transit Improvements**

This RM3 programmatic category provides \$25 million to fund improvements to support expanded bus service in the Interstate 80 corridor including, but not limited to, bus purchases and expansion of the WestCAT storage yard and maintenance facility, and to fund implementation of

the San Pablo Avenue Multi-modal Corridor (AC Transit). The project sponsor is CCTA. Two allocations under this category are proposed this month:

**RM3 Project #31.1 - San Pablo Avenue Multimodal Corridor Project (\$1 million)**

This allocation to CCTA will fund public outreach for the San Pablo Avenue Multimodal Corridor Study Phase 2 recommendations in Contra Costa County, including the cities of El Cerrito, Richmond and San Pablo. The Project would advance the multimodal safety improvements and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) concepts by publicly vetting the proposed changes to the stakeholders along the multijurisdictional corridor, and building consensus among stakeholders by conducting an in-depth economic analysis of the financial effect of the transportation investments recommended in the Study. Stakeholder consensus on a vision for the corridor will allow for advancing a well-defined project to the environmental and design phases. This phase, to be completed in 2026, is fully funded by RM3 and will initiate after funds are approved. The estimated total cost for completing the project is \$124 million.

**RM3 Project #31.2 - Express Bus Service in I-80 Corridor (Bus Acquisition) Project (\$1.75 million)**

This project will allow WestCAT to purchase three 45ft Over-The-Road coaches to maintain and expand Express Bus service levels along the I-80 and Bay Bridge corridor, providing direct transit access to the Salesforce Transit Center in San Francisco and to El Cerrito Del Norte BART. This recommended RM3 allocation provides local match funding to an FTA grant. The estimated total cost for completing the project by 2026 is \$10.6 million.

Contra County Transportation Authority has approved WestCAT to request this allocation as part of its overall \$25 million programming for the category.