

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Programming and Allocations Committee**

May 13, 2026

Agenda Item 2f-26-0630

MTC Resolution No. 4672. Programming of \$8.8 million in FY 2025-26 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) World Cup Funding

Subject:

Programming of \$8.8 million in FY2025-26 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) World Cup funds apportioned to the region.

Background:

In March 2026, the FTA announced apportionment of \$100.3 million nationwide, funded through the 2026 federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, into public transit systems related to hosting the 2026 International Association Football Federation (FIFA) World Cup. These funds were distributed relatively flatly across the eleven host regions in the United States, with number of World Cup matches and stadium seating capacity serving as distribution factors. An apportionment of \$8,807,888 was made to the San Jose Urbanized Area (UZA) by virtue of the six World Cup matches to be held in June and July 2026 at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara. As designated recipient of FTA formula funds for the large UZAs in the region, MTC is responsible for providing FTA with a suballocation letter determining the funding distribution among eligible operators. FTA has asked for this distribution by June 1, 2026.

Information Gathering and Proposed Distribution Process:

Along with apportionments, FTA published Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and hosted a webinar that helped clarify the purpose and eligible uses of these funds. Overall, the purpose is to reimburse public transportation expenses incurred to support matches or other events for the FIFA World Cup. Public transportation services are eligible for reimbursement.

Due to the stated purpose of the funds and the relatively small amount of funding available compared to the total expected transit costs of hosting the World Cup, MTC staff issued a request for information to regional transit operators focused on:

1. Additional service hours or miles directly serving the six World Cup matches in Santa Clara or transfer service, and costs thereof

2. Additional service hours or miles for World Cup-focused events generally (e.g., fan events throughout the region), and costs thereof

Staff noted that a proportional distribution would be considered based on responses received, with significantly heavier weight given to match-focused service. Staff received and verified responses from six operators, totaling \$16.7 million in funding requests. These include direct and transfer service by VTA, direct service by ACE, and transfer service by Caltrain, BART, SFMTA, and AC Transit.

Today's proposed distribution would weight match-based needs 90% and other requests 10%. Although no operator receives its full request, a meaningful amount will be available to defray the added costs of providing efficient and safe transit service to and from the matches, as well as throughout the system on gameday.

Issues:

Because this funding apportionment was made only to the San Jose UZA, only operators providing service directly into that UZA are eligible to claim funds. Of the six operators recommended for funding, only SFMTA does not serve the San Jose UZA. Therefore, the amount recommended today will need to be attained through a funding swap. The details of this proposed swap are memorialized on Attachment A to MTC Resolution No. 4672.

Recommendations:

Refer MTC Resolution No. 4672 to the Commission for approval.

Attachments:

- MTC Resolution No. 4672
 - Attachment A - 2026 FTA World Cup Funding Program of Projects



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