

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Policy Advisory Council Equity and Access Subcommittee Committee

September 22, 2023

Agenda Item 4b

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

Subject:

Overview of MTC's CARE Program Cycle 1 Draft Guidelines for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 through FY 2025-26.

Background:

MTC's CARE Program, the successor to the Lifeline Transportation Program, is a new funding program that supports transportation-based capacity building, technical assistance, and participatory budgeting for Equity Priority Communities in the nine-county Bay Area region. Administered by MTC, CARE enables community-rooted and cross-sectional partners (i.e., transit/transportation, health, social services, education, etc.) to deliver on high-priority, community-level initiatives and to deepen their relationships to develop the processes, plans, and projects that will drive and sustain transformative transit/transportation mobility, housing, and climate action.

CARE Cycle 1 Development

In [July 2023, MTC staff provided this subcommittee with an overview and a timeline of upcoming milestones](#), including developing the program's draft funding guidelines. Since then, a "call for project ideas" was initiated and completed to inform the draft funding guidelines. The "call for project ideas" results reaffirmed the need for technical assistance, capacity building, and supporting community-based power-building and engagement initiatives.

Fund Source

The total amount available regionally and competitively for Cycle 1 is approximately \$21.5 million through One Bay Area Grant (OBAG 3) and Regional Early Action Program (REAP 2.0) funds.

Guidelines

- **Administration.** CARE Cycle 1 will be administered by MTC and supported by county transportation agencies (CTAs).
- **Funding Availability.** Funding for CARE from REAP 2.0 and OBAG3 will be assigned a minimum of \$1 million to counties for eligible projects based on a competitive process conducted by MTC and coordinated with CARE Program Liaisons in each county. All funded projects must meet the eligibility requirements of the respective funding source.

Timeline:

The anticipated timeline for Cycle 1 is as follows:

Fund Source	Action	Anticipated Date*
All	Commission action on Cycle 1 Program Guidelines	November 15, 2023
All	MTC launches Call for Projects process in coordination with County Transportation Agencies (CTAs)	November 16, 2023
All	Application deadline for Project Sponsors to submit an eligible project(s) to MTC	February 15, 2024
All	MTC Commission approval of Program of Projects	April 24, 2024
All	Project sponsor submits a local resolution of support	April/May 2024
OBAG	Project sponsors awarded OBAG funds submit project(s) in MTC’s Fund Management System (FMS)	April/May 2024

*All dates subject to change.

Next Steps

Staff to continue to solicit feedback on Draft Guidelines from stakeholders (county transportation agencies, cities, transit operators, and community representatives via existing venues) and present Final Guidelines to the Commission for action in October 2023.

Issues:

None.

Recommendations:

Information.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: PowerPoint