



Solano Transportation Authority
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SOLANO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Member Agencies:
Benicia • Dixon • Fairfield • Rio Vista • Suisun City • Vacaville • Vallejo • Solano County

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Email: info@sta.ca.gov • Website: sta.ca.gov

CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CTSA-AC)

9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 28, 2022
Twin Sisters Conference Room – 3rd Floor
423 Main Street
Suisun City, CA 94585

This meeting is being conducting **in person**.
The Zoom link below is available for participants joining the meeting remotely.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82950003500?pwd=ZUlaWldtZHhKRkdzWHRqeWJxcTVzdz09>

Meeting ID: 829 5000 3500
Passcode: 941761

CTSA-AC Committee Members

Supervisor Jim Spring, CTSA Chair
Mayor Harry Price, CTSA Vice Chair
Supervisor Mitch Masburn, STA Board Member Rep.
Mayor Ronald Kott, STA Board Member Rep.

Elaine Clark, Area Agency on Aging
Lori DaMassa, Vacaville City Coach
Vacant, MTC PAC Representative
Diane Feinstein, Fairfield and Suisun Transit
Helen-Marie Cookie Gordon, Vallejo Citizen Rep.
Gerald Huber, Solano Public Health
Louren Kotow, Dixon Read-Ride

Beth Kranda, Solano County Transit (SolTrans)
Kari Rader, Community Action North Bay-
Veteran/Low Income
Ernest Rogers, PCC Member
Susan Rotchy, Independent Living Resources
Brandon Thomson, Rio Vista Delta Breeze

MEETING AGENDA

ITEM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
(9:30 – 9:35 a.m.)
2. **INTRODUCTIONS**
(9:35 – 9:40 a.m.)
3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
(9:40 – 9:45 a.m.)
4. **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**
(9:45 – 9:50 a.m.)

STAFF PERSON

Supervisor Jim Spring, Chair

Group

Committee Members

Continued Next Page...

5. CONSENT CALENDAR Committee Members
Recommendation: Approve the following consent item.
(9:50 – 9:55 a.m.)

A. Minutes of the CTSA-AC Special Meeting of January 20, 2022 Cecilia de Leon, STA
Recommendation:
Approve the CTSA-AC Minutes of January 20, 2022
Pg. 5

6. PRESENTATIONS
(9:55 – 10:20 a.m.)

A. MTC Presentation Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Recommendations for County Mobility Programs Drennen Shelton, MTC

B. Solano Mobility Programs Efforts and Accomplishments 2017-2022 Ron Grassi, STA
Debbie McQuilkin, STA

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Cycle 3 Update and Advisory Committee Process Kathrina Gregana, STA
Recommendation:
Selection of CTSA representative for OBAG 3 Process.
(10:10 – 10:20 a.m.)
Pg. 9

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – DISCUSSION

A. Micro Transit Update (Benicia Lyft Program/Suisun/Rio Vista Uber Pilot) Brandon Thomson, STA
(10:20 – 10:25 a.m.)
Pg. 17

B. Veterans Mobility Program Implementation Update Debbie McQuilkin, STA
(10:25 – 10:30 a.m.)
Pg. 19

9. CTSA-AC MEMBER COMMENTS

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. City of Suisun City Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) Update
2. Vallejo CARB Grant Program Update
3. California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Access for All Wheelchair Program
4. Connected Mobility Implementation Plan Recommendations
5. Intercity Taxi Program Update

11. ADJOURNMENT

The next CTSA-AC meeting is a **Virtual Special Meeting** to discuss the **OBAG 3 Review Process** to be scheduled *the first week of July at a time and date to be determined.*

CTSA-AC Regular Meeting Schedule for the Remainder of Calendar Year 2022

9:30 a.m., Thursday, July 28, 2022, STA Office

9:30 a.m., Thursday, October 27, 2022, STA Office

**For questions, please contact Deborah McQuilkin, STA's Transit Mobility Coordinator
at (707) 399-3231 or dmcquilkin@sta.ca.gov**

Translation Services: For document translation please call:

Para la llamada de traducción de documentos:

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Đối với tài liệu gọi dịch:

Para sa mga dokumento tawag sa pagsasalin:

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CTSA-AC
CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT Minutes for the Meeting of January 20, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Spering called the CTSA-AC virtual meeting to order at **9:33 a.m.**

Voting Members Present: *In Alphabetical Order by Last Name*

Elaine Clark	Area Agency on Aging
Gerald Huber	Solano County Health & Social Services
Louren Kotow	Dixon REDI-Ride
Ronald Kott	STA Board Member/Mayor of Rio Vista
Beth Kranda	SolTrans
Mitch Masburn	Solano County Supervisor
Harry Price	CTSA-AC Vice Chair/STA Board Member/Mayor of Fairfield
Kari Rader	Community Action North Bay
Susan Rotchy	Independent Living Resources
Jim Spering	CTSA-AC Chair/STA Board Member/Solano County Supervisor
Brandon Thomson	Rio Vista Delta Breeze

Voting Members Not Present: *In Alphabetical Order by Last Name*

Lori DaMassa	Vacaville City Coach
Diane Feinstein	Fairfield and Suisun Transit (FAST)
Ernest Rogers	PCC Member

Others Present: *In Alphabetical Order by Last Name*

Nestor Aliga	Guest
Amy Antunano	STA
Michael Brimer	Guest
Richard Burnett	Vallejo Resident
Cecilia de Leon	STA
Ben Edokpayi	Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Representative
Lt. Col. Nikki Droney	Guest

Helen-Marie (Cookie) Gordon	Vallejo Resident
Ron Grassi	STA
Kathrina Gregana	STA
Daryl K. Halls	STA
Cindy Hayes	Independent Living Resources/Travel Training
Shauna Manina	Guest
Debbie McQuilkin	STA
Elizabeth Richards	STA Consultant
Reggie Sironen	BFHP Roads Home
Dedrick Waterford	VA NorCal Veterans

2. INTRODUCTIONS

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mayor Ron Kott, and a second by Beth Kranda, the CTSA-AC approved the June 7, 2021 agenda. (11 Ayes)

4. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Mayor Ron Kott, and a second by Beth Kranda, the CTSA-AC approved the Consent Calendar Items. (11 Ayes)

A. Minutes of the CTSA-AC Special Meeting of June 7, 2021

Recommendation:

Approve the CTSA-AC Minutes of June 7, 2021

B. Appointment/Expansion of CTSA-AC Committee Members

Recommendation:

Forward a recommendation to the STA Board to appoint Helen Marie (Cookie) Gordon and Ben Edokpayi to the CTSA-AC.

6. PRESENTATIONS

A. Veterans Mobility Assessment / CTSA-AC Discussion

Presented by: Elizabeth Richards

Elizabeth Richards provided a broad overview of the Veterans Mobility Assessment. She presented a comprehensive summary of the findings, as well as opportunities and offers, and focused on pilot programs for discussion. The group explored various initiatives and programs to enhance the quality of life for Solano Veterans and their families.

B. Older Adults Pedestrian Safety Project Update

Presented by: Debbie McQuilkin

Debbie McQuilkin provided an overview of the Safe Routes for Seniors project. She reported on the findings and observations in the cities of Fairfield, Vacaville, and Vallejo where pedestrian crash problems exist and where engineering, education, and enforcement measures will be most beneficial. She outlined project deliverables and presented the draft report with potential recommendations.

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. None Presented

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – DISCUSSION

A. Future of Solano Express and Solano County’s Transit System

Daryl K. Halls provided an overview of the Solano County’s transit system. He presented the development of specific goals, objectives, and measures consistent with the mission and vision for the Solano County transit system. He noted that a key input to the development of these goals and objectives is the range of comments and recommendations that have been identified during public outreach process and approvals from the STA Board. He specified these goals and objectives will facilitate assessment of various projects and initiatives that are proposed, planned, and implemented within the Solano County transit system.

B. Solano Connected Mobility Implementation Plan Update

Brandon Thomson provided an overview and presented the development process for the Solano Connected Mobility Implementation Plan. He reported on project status, outreach update, milestone review, and summarized the task force recommendations.

C. Suisun City Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP) Update

Debbie McQuilkin provided a brief update, and addressed outreach efforts and project timeline. She stated the preliminary findings and draft recommendations will be presented at the Suisun City Council in March, with the final report expected to be completed in June 2022.

D. STA Transportation Equity Chapter Update

Kathrina Gregana provided an overview of the STA Transportation Equity Chapter. She noted STA recently reconvened the Equity Working Group, who will assist in making funding recommended as part of the upcoming OBAG 3 program, providing guidance on various transportation plans, and advising STA staff on transportation equity-related issues and projects.

E. One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) 3 Cycle Guidelines and Schedule

Kathrina Gregana provided an overview of the MTC One Bay Grant process. She discussed the OBAG Cycle 3 framework proposal and tentative OBAG 3 schedule. She emphasized that each of the advisory committees will have an opportunity to nominate or recommend a project or program priority that will help guide funding decisions by the STA Board. She requested the Committee provide OBAG projects for consideration for the upcoming Call for Projects for OBAG 3.

F. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Solano Mobility Programs and Call Center Year End Update

1. Travel Training
2. Countywide ADA In-Person Eligibility Program
3. Taxi Card Program utilizing the PEX Card
4. Medical Trip Concierge using GoGo Grandparents
5. Call Center

Debbie McQuilkin and Amy Antunano presented an overall Solano Mobility Programs and Call Center update and reported on the current statistics for the respective programs.

9. CTSA-AC MEMBERS COMMENTS

Members provided comments on the following items:

- **Veterans Mobility Assessment / CTSA-AC Discussion**
 - Staff to focus on programs committed to improving access on VA medical facilities and Travis Air Force Base.
 - Staff to establish a network of transportation options designed for Veterans and their families.
- **Older Adults Pedestrian Safety Project Update**
 - Staff to provide findings for the identified areas to policymakers to plan for specific investments in infrastructure and improvements.
- **One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) 3 Cycle Guidelines and Schedule**
 - Chair Spering asked CTSA Members to provide ideas for projects to be considered for nomination.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Veterans Mobility Assessment Recommendations**
- B. Vallejo CARB Grant Program Update**
- C. CTSA Priorities for OBAG 3 Funding**
- D. Microtransit Presentation**
- E. Solano Mobility Programs Annual Update**
- F. California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Access for All Wheelchair Program**
- G. MTC Presentation Blue Ribbon Transit Recovery Task Force Recommendations for County Mobility Programs**
- H. Connected Mobility Implementation Plan Recommendations**

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at **11:13 a.m.** The next meeting of the CTSA-AC is scheduled to meet on **Thursday, April 28, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.**

CTSA-AC

DATE: April 14, 2022
TO: CTSA-AC
FROM: Kathrina Gregana, Assistant Planner
RE: One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) Cycle 3 Update and Advisory Committee Process

Background:

Every four or five years, STA works with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to program federal transportation planning funds. This process was formally called the federal cycle process until MTC renamed it the One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) process beginning in 2013. This federal transportation funding combined Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) into four or five year grant cycles. Each cycle, MTC develops policies about how the region will use this funding for projects and programs.

MTC recently approved the program framework and the County & Local Program Guidelines for the third cycle of OBAG, called OBAG 3, which covers Fiscal Years (FYs) 2022-23 through 2025-26.

Discussion:

In March 2022, MTC approved the County and Local Program guidelines for the OBAG 3 cycle (included as Attachment A). Below are key takeaways from the program guidelines:

- The percentage share of selected projects located in PDAs is maintained at 50% for Solano County.
- For fund eligibility, local compliance with state and local housing laws remains a requirement, including the adoption of a certified housing element and annual progress reporting; and compliance with current state laws governing surplus lands, density bonus and accessory dwelling units.
- Compliance with the Complete Streets policy and checklist, which was recently updated, continues to be a requirement.
- There is an increased emphasis on investments in equity opportunities and active transportation and safety, including an alignment with the Regional Active Transportation Plan and Regional Safety/Vision Zero Policy.
- The project selection process for the County and Local Program will be more regional in nature, with MTC playing an increased role. The guidelines propose for MTC to review and select projects that are screened, prioritized, and nominated by CTAs.

Over the four-year timeline of OBAG 3, there is a countywide target of \$15.11 million for a Call for Projects and Programs in Solano County.

The Call for Project and Program Nominations is anticipated to open in May 2022 and STA will likely submit a list of Solano OBAG projects and programs for consideration by September 2022. STA staff is still in discussions with the TAC and STA Board on how to proceed with the Call for Projects allocation process.

At their meeting on April 13th, the STA Board approved the OBAG 3 Evaluation Criteria, which assesses priority projects and programs identified by potential project sponsors against the criteria that MTC establishes, as well as STA selected criteria such as the prioritization of projects in Priority Conservation Areas and the expansion of the equity criteria to include Statewide Median Income and Disadvantaged Communities/CalEnviroScreen 4.0. The STA Board also approved the Public Engagement and Outreach Plan to solicit input from stakeholders, Advisory Committees, and members of the public on the OBAG 3 process and project nominations list.

STA staff will also discuss the role of the STA Advisory Committees in the OBAG 3 process that will occur in July, which will involve having each advisory committee nominate a priority project or program from the list of submittals from project sponsors. A Board Workshop is scheduled on July 13th where a representative from each advisory committee will present their priorities to the STA Board. Six STA Advisory Committees will be participating in this process. Staff is requesting the CTSA designate a representative to present the CTSA's priorities at the July workshop.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Recommendation:

Selection of CTSA representative for OBAG 3 Process.

Attachment:

- A. One Bay Area Grant (OBAG) 3 County and Local Program Guidelines



One Bay Area Grant County & Local Program Call for Projects Guidelines

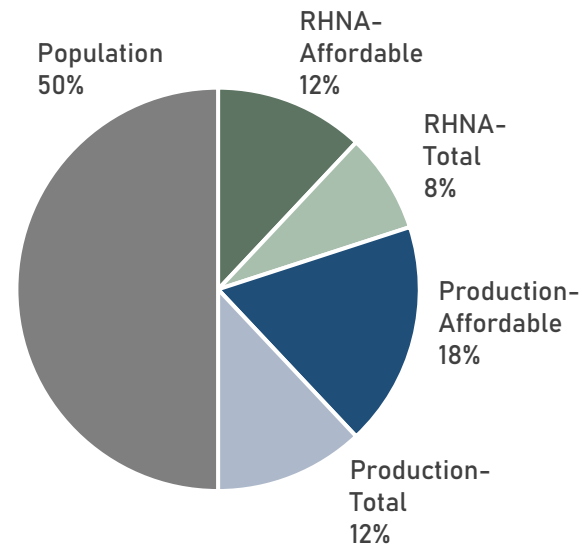
MTC Programming & Allocations Committee
March 9, 2022

Nomination Targets

Factors and Inputs

❖ Maintain OBAG 2 factors and relative weights, updated with the most recent available data

- 50% Population (2021)
- 30% Housing Production (2007-19 building permits, capped at RHNA totals)
- 20% RHNA Allocation (2023-32 period)
- Affordability Weighting (housing factors weighted 60% affordable, 40% total units)



❖ Nomination targets exceed available funds in the County & Local Program (120% of available program capacity)

❖ Targets do not imply nor guarantee amounts for individual jurisdictions

Nomination Targets

County	Targets %	Targets \$M
Alameda	20%	\$83
Contra Costa	14%	\$57
Marin	3%	\$12
Napa	2%	\$6
San Francisco	15%	\$62
San Mateo	9%	\$37
Santa Clara	27%	\$109
Solano	5%	\$19
Sonoma	6%	\$23
CTA Nomination Totals 120% available funds		\$408
Funds Available County & Local Program		\$340

Totals may not add due to rounding.

Call for Projects Process

MTC and CTA Roles

- ❖ MTC initiates regionwide call for projects
- ❖ CTAs assist with local outreach and initial project screening process, using processes reviewed by MTC for consistency with guidelines
- ❖ Countywide nomination targets guide CTAs in the maximum amount of funding requests that they can submit to MTC for project selection
- ❖ MTC selects projects based on initial screening & prioritization by CTAs and additional regional project evaluations

Outreach Requirements and Guidance

- ❖ Engage potential sponsors, interested stakeholders, and members of the public throughout the project solicitation process
- ❖ Ensure opportunities for input are accessible to all, including people with disabilities and limited-English proficiency populations
- ❖ If applicable, CTAs are encouraged to leverage recent, relevant public engagement efforts to supplement dedicated call for projects outreach

Evaluation Criteria

CTA Screening and Nominations

- ❖ Minimum criteria requirements:
 - Screen projects to confirm eligibility for federal funds and regional requirements
 - Prioritize projects based on alignment with federal and regional policies
 - Give greater weight to projects with demonstrated community support
 - Consider project deliverability
- ❖ CTAs may incorporate additional criteria to address local priorities

MTC Regional Evaluation and Selection

- ❖ Confirm CTA, sponsor, and project eligibility
- ❖ Score projects based on:
 - CTA ranking normalized across counties
 - Regional impact, including effectiveness and contribution to regional objectives and significant networks
 - Deliverability, with consideration for sponsor capacity and past performance
 - Cost-effectiveness of air quality improvements (CMAQ funds only)
- ❖ Balance overall program based on investment targets, project type diversity, equity, and geographic spread

Program Requirements

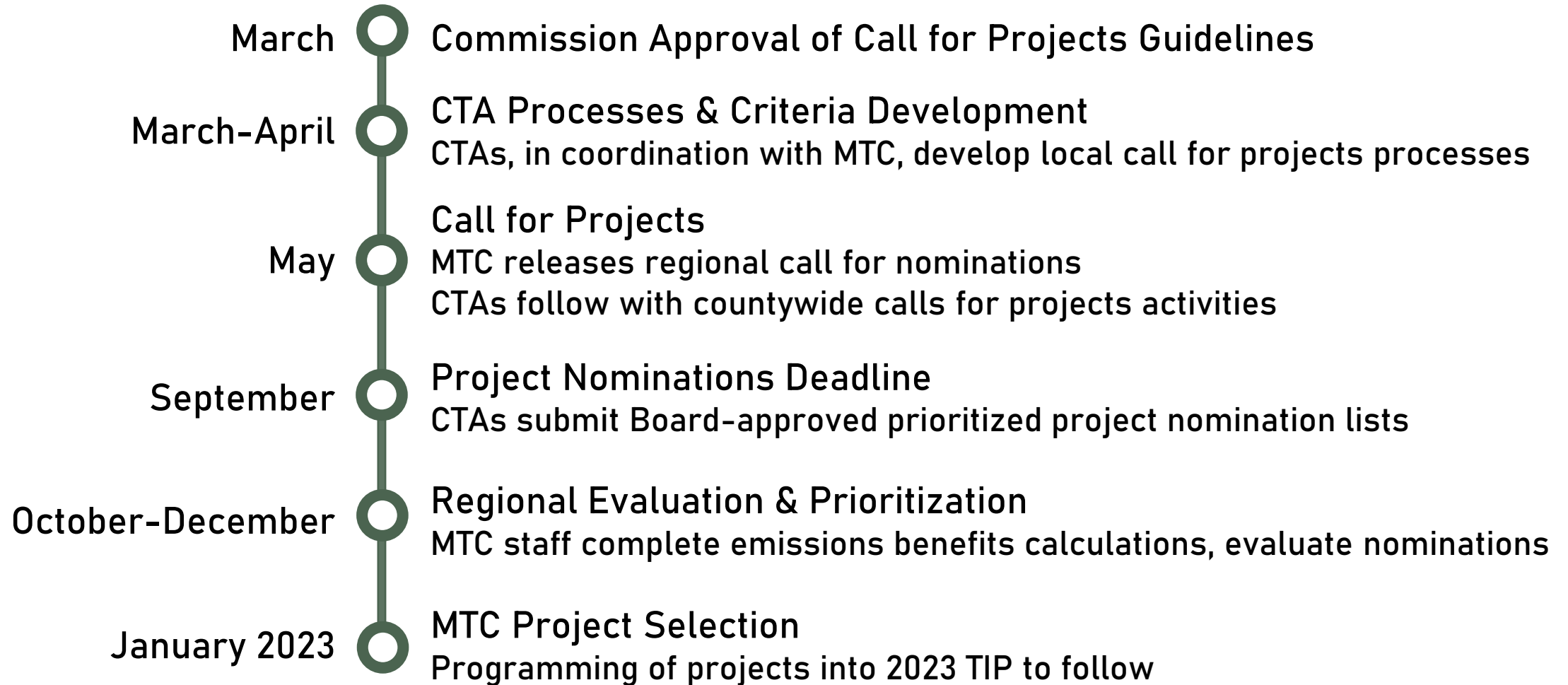
Sponsor Requirements

- ❖ Certified Housing Element and annual progress reporting
- ❖ Compliance with current state laws governing surplus lands, density bonus, and accessory dwelling units, including the Housing Accountability Act
- ❖ Compliance with regional Complete Streets policy & checklist, and state requirements for Local Road Safety Plans (LRSP) or equivalent

Investment Targets

- ❖ County Priority Development Area (PDA) minimum investments
 - 50% North Bay counties
 - 70% elsewhere
 - New uniform definition qualifying projects
- ❖ \$200M program wide Active Transportation investment target
- ❖ \$25M regionwide Safe Routes to School (SRTS) investment target

Planned Implementation Timeline



CTSA-AC

DATE : April 15, 2022
TO: CTSA-AC
FROM: Brandon Thomson, Transit Mobility Coordinator II,
Amy Antunano, Senior Program Coordinator
RE: Micro Transit Update (Benicia Lyft Program/Suisun City/Rio Vista Uber Pilot)

Background:

In 1990, the Solano Transportation Authority (STA) created the Solano Mobility Program to support the transportation needs and services of all Solano County residents, employers, older adults, and people with disabilities. These services include the Intercity Taxi Card Program which subsidizes taxi rides to support Americans with Disabilities (ADA) eligible individuals and GoGo Grandparent providing Uber/Lyft rides to support Older Adults. This work has recently expanded to include innovative ways to connect Solano County's current transportation systems (i.e. transit/rail/ferry) and make it more efficient and cost effective. Through partnering with local operators, this expansion has included the use of technology for first/last mile connections and microtransit or on-demand services.

Discussion:

Benicia Lyft Program with SolTrans

The Benicia Lyft program was rolled out in partnership with SolTrans in June 2019 as a replacement to the Benicia Dial-A-Ride program. It offers rides around Benicia to veterans, ADA eligible individuals, and older adults for a standard \$4 rate or \$3 low-income rate. There is also a taxi component available to individuals who are non-ambulatory or without a cell phone. The total cost for this Program to date is \$9,268 in comparison to the annual cost of \$180,000 for the Benicia Dial-A-Ride service. Recently, the Program included a \$5 one-way ride for anyone traveling within the Benicia city limits. Using the code "5Benicia" on the Lyft app, riders within the Benicia city limits would receive a fixed price of \$5 up to \$20 limit. This is available all days from 6:00am-9:00pm.

Suisun City Subsidized Lyft Program

On August 17, 2021, the Suisun City Council unanimously voted on their resolution of approving Suisun City Transportation Development Act Fund Allocations. This provides Fairfield and Suisun Transit (FAST), operated by the City of Fairfield, paratransit service, DART and local bus routes that serve the City of Suisun City, (Routes 5 and 6) and to operate through the end of this calendar year (December 31, 2022). To fill the transit gap beginning January 2022, STA implemented the Lyft First/Last Mile program and Taxi Card program as transitional services starting until microtransit can be implemented in January 2023.

Rio Vista Delta Breeze

On February 14, 2022, Rio Vista Delta Breeze, STA, and Uber Transit launched a microtransit project for the City of Rio Vista to complement their existing dial-a-ride services. Patrons looking for mobility options within the City of Rio Vista now have the option to request, pay, and track their bus all through their smart phones. Moreover, by partnering with Uber Transit the Rio Vista Delta Breeze is now able to offer a cashless and paperless ticketing process, which reduces contact between the bus operator and patrons. The service is offered Monday through Friday 9:30 am until 5:00 pm. Since complimenting the Rio Vista Delta Breeze's dial-a-ride service, the system has maintained an average of 60 riders per week. For those patrons that do not have access to a smart phone, the Rio Vista Delta

Breeze is still accessible by telephone. The cost of a one-way trip is \$2.00 for general riders and \$1.00 for older adults and people with disabilities.

Fiscal Impact:

The funding for the different Lyft Service Program are provided or are budgeted by both STA and the transit operators or city (Rio Vista, SolTrans, Suisun City) and microtransit services. There is funding in FY 2021-22 for this effort.

Recommendation:

Informational.

CTSA-AC

DATE: April 6, 2022
TO: CTSA-AC
FROM: Debbie McQuilkin, Transit Mobility Program Coordinator
RE: Veterans Mobility Update

Background:

During the updating of the Mobility Study for Older Adults and People with disabilities back in 2019, STA staff learned that the number one issue affecting Solano's older adults was traveling to and from medical appointments within the county. Also, through community feedback, staff learned Solano County veterans had challenges traveling to VA medical centers. This information was presented to this committee and in December 2020, STA staff was given direction to broadly assess both veteran's abilities to get to VA and other medical services as well as the opportunities to improve their mobility.

During 2021, STA staff along with Elizabeth Richards, STA consultant, interviewed 2 dozen individuals and organizations that work with Solano Veterans to gather feedback about this topic. Individuals interviewed included representatives from local non-profits, veterans' organizations and advocates, public officials, VA health care administrators, CalVet, DAV, transportation providers, veterans, and others involved or interested in veterans. The findings were presented to the CTSA at the January 2022 meeting (attachment A), with the most frequently mentioned issue being difficulty in accessing the Martinez VA Center, and the Travis AFB outpatient clinic. Also presented were potential opportunities to address these issues, which included the expansion of 2 existing Solano Mobility Programs for Older Adults and People with Disabilities.

Discussion:

At the March 9, 2022, STA Board meeting, staff presented the recommendations from the CTSA for 2 pilot programs to improve mobility for Solano County veterans. The first recommendation was to expand the existing GoGo or Medical Trip Concierge Program to include ambulatory veterans of any age (currently this program is only for older adults aged 60 and older) so they can travel to and from the Martinez VA Medical Clinic and 2 other locations in Contra Costa County.

The second recommendation called for expansion of the Intercity Taxi Card program to both provide wheelchair accessible rides for veterans to the 3 Contra Costa locations and expand the program to allow veterans of any age to participate in the program so they can access the clinic on base at Travis AFB. The STA Board unanimously approved the recommendations. STA staff has circulated a flyer (Attachment B) to various veteran's organizations to announce the start of the program for veterans, including the two dozen that participated in the initial interview process.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Recommendation:

Informational.

Attachment:

- A. Solano Veterans Mobility Assessment
- B. Solano County Veterans Mobility Program Flyer

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Solano Veterans Mobility Assessment (2021-22)

Background

- STA Board approved Solano Mobility Study for Older Adults and People with Disabilities (Fall 2020)
#1 Transportation Challenge countywide: Traveling to Medical Appointments
Significant community feedback traveling specifically to VA medical centers is challenging
Strategy: Conduct a Veterans Mobility Study
- STA CTSA¹ approved six priority projects (Dec. 2020) including Veterans Mobility Assessment
- “Veteran” defines individuals of all ages who served in the US military for any period of time
- Over 25% of Solano residents 65 or older are veterans
- Two VA² clinics in Solano County: Fairfield (on Travis AFB³) and Mare Island
- Solano County is within VA Northern California Health Care System

Purpose

- Broadly assess veterans’ *ability* to access VA and other medical services and other destinations
- Broadly assess *opportunities* to improve mobility and coordination between Solano VA medical shuttles, public transit, and other transportation services

Approach

- Interview individuals and organizations who work with Solano veterans

Outreach

- Twenty-four (24) individuals were interviewed
- Individuals interviewed included representatives from local non-profits, veterans’ organizations and advocates, public officials, VA health care administrators, CalVet⁴, DAV⁵, transportation providers, veterans, others

Findings

VA health care system is complex

- Not all veterans use the VA health care system
- VA health care services are a benefit that vary by veteran
- VA has a multi-level prioritization method to determine medical benefits

¹ CTSA: Consolidated Transportation Service Agency

² VA: Veterans Administration

³ Travis AFB: Travis Air Force Base

⁴ CalVet: State of California Veteran Services

⁵ DAV: Disabled American Veterans

- Health care services offered vary by location
- “Service-connected” disabilities are defined by a different system than ADA⁶ disabilities related to public transit.
- Sacramento VA medical center has a hospital and most robust health services in the Northern California VA health care system
- Martinez VA medical center has the second highest level of services
- Fairfield and Mare Island are outpatient clinics (OPC) with basic but different services. Fairfield has a joint services agreement with David Grant Medical Center (DGMC) which is located adjacent to the clinic.
- Fairfield OPC is located beyond secured gate of Travis AFB. This has created access challenges to veterans easily accessing clinic at times.

VA offers transportation to VA health care services

- VA Medical Interfacility Shuttle: available to all veterans with medical appointment, veterans only, free, wheelchair accessible, scheduled
- Special Mode Travel: for veterans with mobility impairment as authorized by VA physician, door-to-door, on-demand to VA medical care centers
- Travel Pay: Reimbursement for travel to VA medical appointments for many veterans
- Mobility Devices: Some veterans eligible for mobility devices complimentary from VA

Exchanging information with veteran organizations/advocates is valuable

- Mixed awareness/understanding of transportation services offered by VA and others
- Appreciation for focus on this topic: more so by local entities and veterans and cautious interest from some VA administrators
- Transit and STA mobility programs information sent to 7 organizations and presentations made to two groups with others pending

Opportunities

- Modify select STA mobility management programs to incorporate key out-of-county veteran destinations
- Modify select STA mobility management programs to improve veterans’ access to Travis AFB medical and other services
- Facilitate purchase of transit passes by veterans’ organizations
- Fund select transportation benefits in partnership with local non-profits and County Office of Veteran Services
- Improve and create new mobility options by partnering with other agencies (VA shuttle, DAV, veterans’ organizations, Travis AFB, etc.)
- Utilize veterans’ organizations and individuals as well as established communication channels to enhance and promote veteran mobility options
- Be proactive in supporting veteran organizations, exchanging accurate info, and building trust
- Develop partnerships to improve mobility for veterans (and their dependents) for trips other than medical

⁶ ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act

IMPROVING SOLANO COUNTY VETERANS MOBILITY



Solano County Veterans can now access Veterans Affairs and Medical facilities, both within Solano County and several locations in Contra Costa by participating in STA's Medical Trip Concierge (GoGo) Service or the Solano County Intercity Taxi Card (ITX) Program:

- Both programs are 60% subsidized (80% if Low Income qualified)
- No age restrictions
- No ADA eligibility requirements
- Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles available*



Thank you, Veterans, for your service!

Trips outside of Solano County include:

- Martinez VA Clinic at 150 Muir Rd., Martinez, CA
- Med Evals (QTR Assessment Center) at 2280 Diamond Blvd., Ste. 520, Concord, CA
- The Hume Center at 1333 Willow Pass Rd., Concord, CA

Must provide proof of Veterans status by one of the following:

- Military ID
- DD214
- VA Disability Rating

**Participation in the ITX program required for wheelchair accessible rides and access to Travis AFB Outpatient Clinic*

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION:**

Contact the Solano Mobility Call Center
(800) 535-6883

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