

**Alameda County Transportation Commission
Implementation Guidelines for the
Local Transportation Technology Program
Funded through Vehicle Registration Fees**
(Adopted December 16, 2011)

Section 1. Purpose

- A. To delineate eligible uses of Local Transportation Technology funds authorized under Alameda County Transportation Commission Master Program Funding Agreements, these implementation guidelines have been developed to specify the requirements that local jurisdictions must follow in their use of Vehicle Registration Fees (VRF) discretionary funds. These guidelines are incorporated by reference in the Master Program Funding Agreements. All other terms and conditions for programs are contained in the agreements themselves. The intent of the implementation guidelines is to:
1. Provide guidance on Local Transportation Technology funds eligible uses and expenditures.
 2. Define the terms in the Master Program Funding Agreements.
 3. Guide Local Transportation Technology Program implementation.

Section 2. Authority

- A. These Implementation Guidelines have been adopted by the Alameda County Transportation Commission and set forth eligible uses and expenditures for the Local Transportation Technology funds. The Alameda CTC may update these guidelines on an as-needed basis and will do so with involvement of its technical and community advisory committees (as applicable). Exceptions to these guidelines must be requested in writing and be approved by the Alameda CTC Board.

Section 3. Background

- A. Alameda CTC developed Implementation Guidelines for the Local Transportation Technology funds to clarify eligible fund uses and expenditures in association with new, 10-year Master Program Funding Agreements with local jurisdictions and Alameda County that include a new local, voter-approved revenue stream, the Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF), which will provide approximately \$11 million per year for transportation improvements throughout the County. The VRF includes 10 percent of net revenues for a Local Transportation Technology Program. These Implementation Guidelines define the eligible uses and allocation process for the VRF Local Transportation Technology funds and reflect new policies approved by the Alameda CTC.

Section 4. Definition of Terms

- A. **Alameda CTC:** The Alameda County Transportation Commission is a Joint Powers Authority created by the merger of the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency, which performed long-range planning and funding for countywide transportation projects

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and programs, and the Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority, which administered the voter-approved, half-cent transportation sales taxes in Alameda County (the Measure B sales tax programs approved in 1986 and 2000).

- B. **Capital project:** A capital investment that typically requires the following phases: planning/feasibility, scoping, environmental clearance, design, right-of-way, construction, and completion.
- C. **Construction:** Construction of a new capital project, including development of preliminary engineering and construction documents, including plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E).
- D. **Cost Allocation Plans (CAPs):** CAPs and indirect cost (IDC) rate proposals are plans that provide a systematic manner to identify, accumulate, and distribute allowable direct and indirect costs to Local Transportation Technology programs funded through the Alameda CTC Master Program Funding Agreements.
- E. **Direct cost:** A cost completely attributed to the provision of a service, operations, a program, a capital cost, or a product. These costs include documented hourly project staff labor charges (salaries, wages, and benefits) that are directly and solely related to the implementation of Alameda CTC-funded Local Transportation Technology projects, consultants, and materials. These funds may be used for travel or training if they are directly related to the implementation of the Local Transportation Technology funds.
- F. **Education and promotion:** Marketing, education, information, outreach, and promotional campaigns and programs.
- G. **Emergency evacuation plan:** An evacuation plan for use during emergencies and natural disasters.
- H. **Environmental documents:** Preparation of environmental documents, such as those related to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), or permits required by state or federal permitting agencies.
- I. **Equipment and new vehicles:** Purchase or lease of vehicles, and equipment for service improvements, such as information dissemination, fare collection, etc.
- J. **Flush Plan:** An optimal traffic signal timing plan for traffic flushing of vehicles through arterial streets back to a major highway in case of traffic incidents.
- K. **Grants:** Funding for plans, programs, or projects based on a competitive call for projects; evaluated based on adopted evaluation criteria; and allocated based on a reimbursement basis.
- L. **Indirect cost:** Also known as “overhead,” any cost of doing business other than direct costs. These costs include utilities, rent, administrative staff, officers’ salaries, accounting department costs, and personnel department costs, which are requisite for general operation of the organization but are not directly allocable to a particular service or product.
- M. **Maintenance:** Repairs, renovation, or upgrade of existing facility or infrastructure.

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- N. **Measure B:** Alameda County’s half-cent transportation sales tax, originally approved in 1986, and reauthorized by voters in November 2000. Collection of the sales tax began on April 1, 2002. Administered by the Alameda CTC, Measure B funds four types of programs in 20 local jurisdictions: bicycle and pedestrian, local streets and roads, mass transit, and paratransit.
- O. **Operations:** Provision of services that operate transportation facilities and programs. Operations costs do not include the costs to operate community outreach or other programs not directly related to a specific transportation service, program, or product.
- P. **Planning:** Identification of project and program current conditions and needs and development of strategies and plans to address the identified needs.
- Q. **Planning area:** Four geographical sub-areas of the county (Planning Areas 1, 2, 3, and 4). The sub-areas of the county are defined by the Alameda CTC as follows:
1. Planning Area 1 – North Area: Cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and Piedmont
 2. Planning Area 2 – Central Area: Cities of Hayward and San Leandro, and the unincorporated areas of Castro Valley and San Lorenzo, as well as other unincorporated lands in that area
 3. Planning Area 3 – South Area: Cities of Fremont, Newark, and Union City
 4. Planning Area 4 – East Area: Cities of Dublin, Livermore, and Pleasanton, and all unincorporated lands in that area
- R. **Project completion/closeout:** Inspection/project acceptance, final invoicing, final reporting, and the processes for closing out a project.
- S. **Scoping and project feasibility:** Early capital project phases that identify project needs, costs, and implementation feasibility.
- T. **Smart Corridors Program:** A multi-modal advanced transportation management system, which provides real-time traffic conditions along major transportation corridors to allow participating agencies to better manage congestion and incidents along regional routes; improve transportation mobility, efficiency, and safety; and provide timely, multi-modal transportation information to agency transportation managers and to the public.
- U. **Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF):** Measure F, Alameda County’s VRF Program, approved by the voters in November 2010 with 63 percent of the vote. It will generate approximately \$11 million per year through a \$10 per year vehicle registration fee. Administered by the Alameda CTC, the VRF funds four main types of programs and the distribution percentage is as follows: local streets and roads (60 percent); transit (25 percent); local transportation technology (10 percent); and bicycle and pedestrian projects (5 percent).

Section 5. Local Transportation Technology Fund Allocations

- A. These Implementation Guidelines provide guidance on the VRF Local Transportation Technology Fund allocation process.

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1. *General:* The VRF Expenditure Plan dedicates 10 percent of net revenues for the VRF Local Transportation Technology fund for technology projects. Alameda CTC awards VRF Local Transportation Technology funds on a discretionary basis. These funds are intended to continue and improve the performance of road, transit, pedestrian and bicyclist technology applications, and to accommodate emerging vehicle technologies such as electric and plug-in-hybrid vehicles.
2. *Eligible Uses:* The Alameda CTC will administer these funds and adopt VRF Local Transportation Technology Program Guidelines that will provide program eligibility and fund usage guidelines and requirements, definitions of terms, geographic equity, evaluation criteria, award details, and monitoring requirements. Eligible projects include:
 - a. Development, installation, operations, monitoring, and maintenance of local street and arterial transportation management technology such as the Smart Corridors Program, traffic signal interconnection, transit and emergency vehicle priority, advanced traffic management systems, and advanced traveler information systems
 - b. Infrastructure for alternative vehicle fuels such as electric and plug-in-hybrid vehicle stations
 - c. New or emerging transportation technologies that provide congestion or pollution mitigation
 - d. Advanced signal technology for walking and bicycling
 - e. Development and implementation of flush plans
 - f. Development of emergency evacuation plans

Section 6. Adoption of Implementation Guidelines

- A. Implementation Guidelines are adopted by the Alameda CTC on an as-needed basis. Changes to Implementation Guidelines will be brought through the Alameda CTC's Technical Advisory Committee for review and comment, as well as any other Alameda CTC committees as necessary, before changes are adopted by the Alameda CTC Board.