



November 6, 2018

2020 PARATRANSIT DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM

NOTICE OF CALL FOR PROJECTS

To All Interested Parties:

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is initiating a call for projects for its 2020 Paratransit Discretionary Grant Program (Paratransit Program) for eligible transportation projects and programs targeted towards seniors and people with disabilities. Through the 2020 Paratransit Program an estimated \$9 million of funding is available for a five-year funding period, fiscal years 2019-2020 through 2023-2024.

Alameda CTC is responsible for planning, funding and delivering transportation projects and programs within Alameda County. This includes the programming of federal, state, regional and local transportation funding. These discretionary funds are programmed and allocated on a competitive basis, and final recommendations are documented within Alameda CTC's Comprehensive Investment Plan (CIP). The funding available for the 2020 Paratransit Program call for projects is local sales tax revenue from Measures B and BB.

The 2020 Paratransit Program's application period will open Tuesday, November 6, 2018 and close Friday, December 14, 2018. Eligible applicants with projects/programs that are implementation ready during fiscal years 2019-20 through 2023-2024 should apply during this time. Alameda CTC's 2020 Paratransit Program funding recommendations will be considered by the Commission in late spring 2019.

Program Goals

The 2020 Paratransit Program funding will be focused on mobility management types of activities that improve consumers' ability to access services, improve coordination between programs, and/or address gaps in the transportation system. The 2020 Paratransit Program is intended to complement Alameda CTC's Direct Local Distribution (DLD) funding which is dedicated to more traditional trip-provision services (e.g. ADA-mandated paratransit or City-based services, taxi subsidies, specialized accessible van services, etc.). In general, mobility management activities aim to:

- Enhance people's travel options and access to services
- Promote awareness and education
- Effectively communicate/disseminate information to the public

- Improve coordination and partnerships
- Address critical gaps in the transportation system for seniors and people with disabilities
- Encourage seniors and people with disabilities who are able to use fixed-route public transit to do so
- Meet needs cost effectively and efficiently

Sponsors are encouraged to submit applications for programs that will benefit more than one city or otherwise illustrate advancement of coordination and mobility management goals. Capital improvements and equipment purchases may be eligible if directly related to the implementation of one or more of the above mobility management activities. For example, transit stop improvements that support improving access to public transit for seniors and/or people with disabilities. Eligible project types are detailed below.

Eligible Projects

Eligible projects may include (but are not limited to):

- **Mobility Management Programs**
 - Travel Training
 - Trip planning assistance to improve access
 - One-Call/One-Click type programs
 - Door-through-Door/Volunteer Driver Programs
 - Projects that provide critical, same-day accessible transportation service throughout Alameda County
 - Coordination of service provision at the planning area level or countywide (separate from the cost of traditional trip provision, e.g. the administration costs for a planning area-wide program)
 - Transportation programs that fill unique and/or critical needs and gaps that are not filled through traditional trip-provision models
- **Capital Projects/Procurement**
 - Capital improvements and equipment purchases are eligible if directly related to the implementation of a project within an eligible category, including but not limited to:
 - Transit stop improvements that support improving access to public transit for seniors and/or people with disabilities
 - Accessible vehicle and equipment purchase
 - Capital projects to improve accessibility at shuttle stops.

Eligible projects must conform to the Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO)-adopted *Implementation Guidelines and Performance Measures – Special Transportation for Seniors and People with Disabilities (Paratransit) Program*

(Implementation Guidelines). Refer to the Implementation Guidelines for detailed eligibility requirements and service descriptions here:
https://www.alamedactc.org/app_pages/view/4000.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants (direct recipients) of 2020 Paratransit Program funding, are limited to the following:

1. Cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Oakland, Piedmont, Pleasanton, San Leandro, Union City
2. County of Alameda
3. Transit agencies Altamont Corridor Express (ACE), Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit), San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART), Livermore Valley Transportation Authority (LAVTA), Union City Transit, and San Francisco Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA)
4. East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD)
5. Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC)
6. Non-profit organizations (*exclusively for programs targeted towards seniors and/or people with disabilities and if the non-profit provides letter(s) of support from local agency and/or transit provider to confirm service coordination and project support*)

Entities that are not identified above as eligible direct recipients may be eligible to receive 2020 Paratransit Program funds as sub-recipients by partnering with an eligible direct recipient that is willing to pass through the funds to a sub-recipient. Exceptions allowing other entities to directly receive funds may be granted by Alameda CTC on a case-by-case basis.

Fund Estimate

At this time, an estimated total of approximately \$9 million is available for programming through the 2020 Paratransit Program.

Other Requirements

- Funding awards are limited to the maximum grant size of \$250,000 per fiscal year.
- Minimum required local matching funds:
 - Programs: 12% local match for Direct Local Distribution (DLD) recipients (Cities and County), and 5% for non-DLD recipients
 - Plans and Studies: 50% local match
 - Shuttle and transit operations: 50% local match
- "In-kind" costs are not eligible for reimbursement or for local match contributions.

- Matching funds must be expended concurrently and proportionally to the Alameda CTC's administered funds allocated to the phase for the project.
- DLD recipients must demonstrate a commitment to using their DLD reserves.
- Matching funds contributed to a project above the minimum required level may increase the competitiveness of the application.

Application Process

Project applications for the 2020 Paratransit Program will be submitted through an online grant application system. Once applicants create a system user account or access an existing account, they will be able to create, manage and submit multiple project applications. Project sponsors submitting multiple applications will be asked to prioritize each project in respect to the total number of its applications s i.e. Priority 1 of 4.

Complete project applications (submitted online applications with attachments) are due no later than Friday, December 14, 2018. Only project nominations submitted through the online application system will be accepted and the system will automatically close at 11:59 p.m. on December 14th.

Alameda CTC will be hosting a 2020 Paratransit Program Application Workshop:

- **November 13, 2018, 9:30 a.m.**
This workshop will focus exclusively on the online 2020 Paratransit Program application and provide an interactive overview of online system, including how to create an account, access an existing account, and submit an application.

Evaluation Framework

The Paratransit Advisory and Planning Committee (PAPCO) has historically supported projects and programs that:

- Demonstrate effectiveness at meeting mobility management goals
- Project sufficient demand for the program/service/project
- Are ready for implementation
- Provide service across jurisdictional boundaries
- Demonstrate coordination and collaboration with other service providers in their planning area
- Are effective, according to adopted performance measures and past performance (where applicable) or projected performance supported by substantive evidence of potential for success
- Are cost effective
- Leverage funds (including DLD reserves)
- Have been identified as a priority in relevant countywide or regional plans or needs assessments such as the Alameda Countywide Transit Plan, the Alameda County Needs Assessment, or the Coordinated Plan
- Support equitable distribution of resources throughout the County

Schedule

November 6, 2018	2020 Paratransit Program Call for Projects released
November 13, 2018	Application workshop for 2020 Paratransit Program's online application
December 14, 2018	2020 Paratransit Program applications due
Fall 2018 – Spring 2019	Alameda CTC, with PAPCO oversight and approval, develops 2020 Paratransit Program recommendation
Late Spring 2019	Alameda CTC adopts final 2020 Paratransit Program
July 1, 2019	Funding period commences

Resources

Resources for the 2020 Paratransit Program call for projects, including a link to the online application can be accessed from the Alameda CTC's website at:
https://www.alamedactc.org/app_pages/view/4000

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