

ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Student Transit Pass Program







Tess Lengyel, Deputy Director of Planning and Policy Programs and Projects Committee October 12, 2015

Program Objectives

- Reduce barriers to transportation access to schools
- Improve transportation options for transit travel to school with the use of a student transit pass
- Improve student transit ridership with the aim of educating a new generation of transit riders
- Improve transit access to all students in middle and high schools, subject to funding availability
- Leverage other programs to provide benefit to the model programs implemented including but not limited to the Alameda County Safe Routes to Schools Program and the Alameda County Travel Training program

Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



Program Purpose

The purpose of the Affordable Student Transit Pass Program

- To expand access opportunities to schools on transit by testing different models of possible student transit pass programs for middle-school and high-schools students in Alameda County.
- The programs developed will need to serve and/or address the geographically different areas of the County.
- Students at participating middle schools and high schools will receive transit passes that will provide access to transit services for transport to school and afterschool activities, during the project period.
- The model programs will be evaluated for effectiveness, and successful models will be implemented throughout the County in middle schools and high schools.

Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



4

Pilot Program Length

- The initial STPP pilots will run for approximately three years.
- Different models will be tested to address differences in geography, transit service availability, and economic needs in different areas of the County.
- The aim of the initial model programs is to gather data to determine success factors for implementing a program for all middle and high school students in Alameda County.
- Initiate pilots for 16/17 school year.

Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



Scope of Services Overview

- Define and rationalize realistic models for each planning area
 of the county that will address the program objectives and
 identify goals, performance measures and evaluation tools to
 evaluate effectiveness both on a periodic basis and over the
 three-year pilot term. This includes definition of program
 administration, budgets, eligibility and operational
 parameters.
- 2. Review and analyze existing programs nationally.
- 3. Define how the multiple partners will be engaged in the STPP to establish successful programs, including strategies for low-income communities. This includes school faculty, student and parent engagement in committees, as well as technical advisory and oversight committees.
- **4. Define** how the proposed approach will **tailor each model** STPP program to each unique community and how the program will aim to expand participation at each school site.

Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



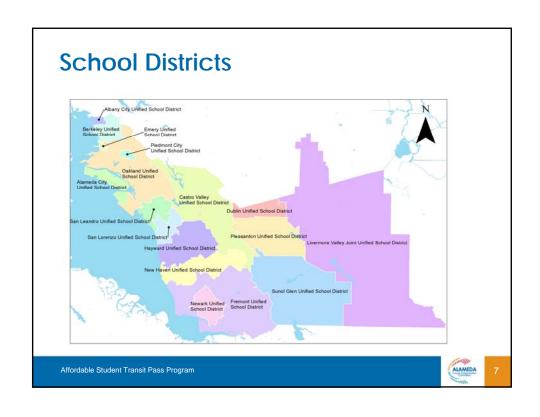
.

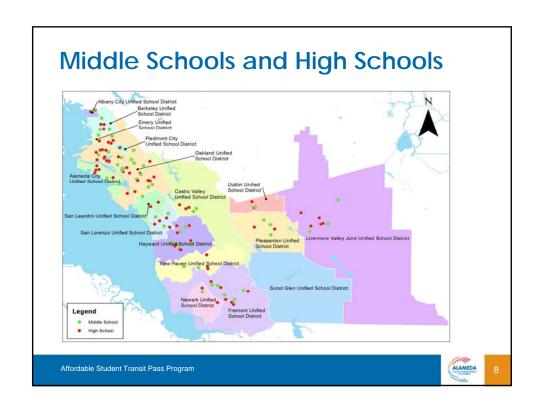
Scope of Services Overview (continued)

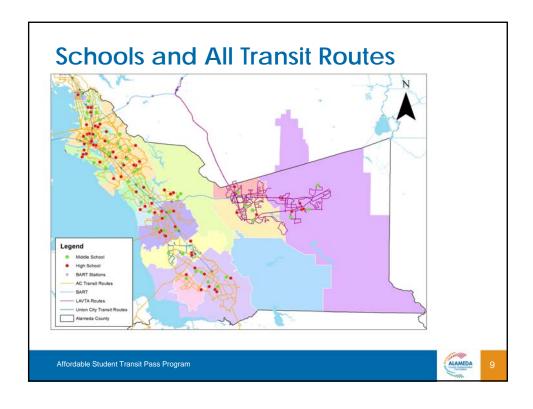
- 5. Develop a program that removes barriers to involvement in a STPP program for students, parents and staff at schools.
- **6. Define** how **technology** can support implementation of the program.
- 7. Implement and evaluate the program.
- **8. Identify opportunities for partnerships**, such as the Alameda County Safe Routes to School Program and Alameda County Travel Training Program, and additional funding.

Affordable Student Transit Pass Program









Program Considerations

- Cost barriers (student and families)
- Student attendance
 - Potential improvement at school
 - Engagement in extracurricular activities
 - Access to job centers
- Types of programs
 - Geographic limitations
 - Accessibility and coordination issues
- · Increased ridership demand on transit operators
 - Peak demand on transit service Before and after school
 - Fare box

Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



Program Considerations (continued)

Potential committees to assist in gathering input and feedback for the program:

- Student/parent/faculty committees
- Oversight committee
- Technical Advisory Committee



Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



11

Student/Parent/Faculty Committee

Recommend each pilot school site to have a committee of:

- **Students**: participation of students in the transit pass program minimum of four
- School liaison: appointed to the program
- Parents: recruited (SR2S parent champion or PTA member)

Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



Oversight Committee

Recommended stakeholders representatives:

- Agency Representation
 - Alameda County Office of Education
 - Alameda County Transportation Commission
- School District Representation
 - Pilot school district representatives
 - School district liaison
 - Student leadership
- Community Representation

Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



4

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Recommended TAC members:

- Alameda County Transportation Commission
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission or Clipper Card staff
- Transit operators
- School district liaison



Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



Contract Recommendation

- Contract award recommendation to Nelson\Nygaard Consulting and Associates Inc.
- Not to exceed \$2 million.
- \$1.4 million would be available for direct costs associated with technology, purchase of transit passes, or other direct expenses to deliver the transit pass program expeditiously to start in the 2016-17 school year.
- \$600,000 for direct services from Nelson\Nygaard to develop and implement the pilot program for three years and perform evaluation and reporting on the project as part of Tasks 1-6 as described in the scope of services in Attachment A.

Affordable Student Transit Pass Program



1.5

