Alameda CTC 2024 CIP Call for Projects - Resources and Guidance for MTC's OBAG 3 Application

MTC OBAG 3 Screen

Federal Funding eligibility

Before completing MTC's OBAG 3 application, applicants should review to make sure the submitted projects and scope meet federal eligibility requirements, as detailed in 23 USC Sec. 133 (STP) and in 23 USC Sec. 149 (CMAQ).

MTC's application states that projects eligible for CMAQ funding must provide inputs for air quality improvement calculations, using templates provided on MTC's OBAG 3 webpage. At the time of Alameda CTC's call for projects, the CMAQ inputs form had not yet been posted. As such, this form will be requested at a later date for projects that are nominated by Alameda CTC for OBAG 3 funds.

MTC OBAG 3 Criteria

POLICY ALIGNMENT
Per MTC, CTAs should evaluate projects for alignment with relevant federal and regional plans and policies.

Federal Performance Goals
How does the project support federal performance measures?
Per MTC OBAG 3 Guidelines : Additional weight should be given to projects that advance Federal Performance Management Goals for safety, asset management, environmental sustainability and system performance, as detailed in 23 USC Sec. 105(b).

Guidance: The application mentions specific performance measures, but the items listed are the federal performance goals, not measures. MTC's guidelines refer to the advancement of the "goals", so MTC has clarified that applicants do not need to provide specific values for the applicable performance measures, just a general description of how the project supports the selected performance target areas.
In the application, first select the federal performance target areas that are supported by the project (select all that apply) and then for a response to how the project supports the required federal performance measures for each target area you've selected, refer to the *MTC/ABAG 2022 List of 28 Federally Required Performance Measures* (see link in cell to right). In you response, either provide specific values for the measures identified for the selected target area(s) or a more general description of how the project supports the selected target areas.

Plan Bay Area 2050 Strategies
How does the project align with Plan Bay Area 2050?
Per MTC OBAG 3 Guidelines: Additional weight should be given to projects that implement multiple Plan Bay Area 2050 strategies, described throughout the Plan (in particular, Chapters 2-5), or implementation actions (Chapter 7); The MTC OBAG 3 application form contains links to the referenced plan and actions.

Regional Policy Alignment
How does the project align with other regional policies and plans
Per MTC OBAG 3 Guidelines: Additional weight should be given to projects that demonstrate consistency with one or more of the following regional plans and policies. The MTC OBAG 3 application form contains links to the referenced policies and plans.

Regional Growth Geographies

Does the project support PBA 2050 Growth Geographies ?

Per MTC OBAG 3 Guidelines : Additional weight should be given to projects that are located in PDAs or Transit-Rich Areas (TRAs), identified in locally-adopted plans (e.g. Specific Plans) for PDAs, or support preservation of Priority Production Areas (PPAs), as defined in Chapter 1 of Plan Bay Area 2050.

Guidance : A link to a GIS map of the Growth Geographies is provided in MTC's application. Within the GIS Growth Geographies map, select the filter (funnel icon), and select the priority areas you want to highlight. TRAs are only viewable by filtering this Growth Geographies map, but individual GIS maps for PDAs, PDAs with 1-mile buffer and PPAs are also linked at right.

The application focuses on the PDA and TRA growth geographies and does not have a separate field for describing project's relationship to PPAs. If applicant would also want to describe a relationship to PPAs, please include this in the field provided for TRA responses, clearly indicating which area(s) - PPAs and/or TRAs are being addressed.

Equity Priority Communities

Does the project invest in historically underserved communities?

Per MTC OBAG 3 Guidelines : Additional weight should be given to projects that invest in historically underserved communities, which may include projects prioritized in a Community-Based Transportation Planning (CBTP) or Participatory Budgeting process, or projects located within Equity Priority Communities with demonstrated community support.

Guidance: Note that the application does not highlight the last part of the above sentence from MTC's guidelines, "...with demonstrated community support". To demonstrate support, it's highly recommended that letters of support from community-based organizations and other community stakeholders be secured for projects in EPCs and those not in an EPC, but otherwise supportive of an EPC or other historically underserved and/or disproportionately-impacted communities. The MTC OBAG 3 application form contains links to EPC maps. See the cell to right for a ink to MTC resources for identifying historically underserved and/or disproportionately-impacted communities.

Local Housing Policies

Is the project located in a jurisdiction with policies that support affordable housing?

Per MTC OBAG 3 Guidelines : Additional weight should be given to projects that are located in jurisdictions with affordable housing protection, preservation, and production strategies, including an emphasis on community stabilization and anti-displacement policies with demonstrated effectiveness.

Refer to the link at right for the MTC affordable housing policy guidance and resources, including lists of the types of affordable housing policies sorted by category (protection, preservation, production).

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Community Support

Does the project have community support, particularly if it is located in a historically underserved community?

Per MTC OBAG 3 Guidelines : CTAs must prioritize project applications with demonstrated public support from communities disproportionately impacted by past discriminatory practices, including redlining, racial covenants, urban renewal, and highway construction that divided low-income and communities of color. Community support may be determined through a variety of means, including (but not limited to):

   o Responses to public outreach, including comments received at public meetings or hearings, feedback from community workshops, survey responses, etc.; and
   o Endorsement by a Community-Based Organization (CBO) representing historically and potentially impacted populations.

DELIVERABILITY AND READINESS

Per MTC OBAG 3 Guidelines : CTAs must evaluate applicants and projects for potential deliverability issues, deprioritizing or excluding projects as needed based on risk. CTAs should ensure that project sponsors have sufficient agency capacity and technical expertise to complete projects in accordance with MTC's Regional Project Delivery Policy (available at https://mtc.ca.gov/funding/federal-funding/project-delivery) and meet OBAG 3 deadlines. Project sponsors must be able to obligate OBAG 3 funds no later than January 31, 2027.