



# 2024 Paratransit Discretionary Grant Program Notice of Call for Projects

12/11/2023

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To All Interested Parties:

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is initiating a call for projects for its 2024 Paratransit Discretionary Grant Program (PDGP) for eligible transportation projects and programs targeted towards older adults and people with disabilities. Through the 2024 PDGP an estimated \$12 million of funding is available for a five-year funding period, fiscal years 2024-2025 through 2028-2029.

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 2024 PDGP call for projects is local sales tax revenue from Measures B and BB.

The 2024 PDGP's application period will open Monday, December 11, 2023 and close Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Eligible applicants with projects/programs that are implementation ready during fiscal years 2024-25 through 2028-2029 should apply during this time. Alameda CTC's 2024 PDGP funding recommendations will be considered by the Commission in late spring 2024.

## Program Goals

The 2024 PDGP will be focused on mobility management activities that improve consumers' ability to access services, improve coordination between programs, and/or address gaps in the transportation system. The 2024 PDGP is designed to complement DLD funding, which is dedicated to more traditional trip-provision services (e.g. taxi and Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) like Lyft and Uber subsidies, demand response services, etc.). Mobility management activities aim to:

- Equitably enhance people's travel options and access to services
- Effectively communicate and disseminate information to the public including one-call/one-click and other technology solutions
- Encourage older adults and people with disabilities who are able to use fixed-route public transit to do so
- Improve coordination and partnerships between new or existing programs and services
- Address critical gaps in the transportation system for older adults and people with disabilities
- Meet needs cost effectively and efficiently
- Increase equitable access to and utilization of programs and services

Sponsors are encouraged to submit applications for projects and programs that will benefit more than one city or otherwise illustrate advancement of coordination and mobility management goals. Capital improvements and equipment purchases are also eligible if directly related to the implementation of mobility management and meet other criteria, e.g. purchases of software or vehicles that improve access to transportation for older adults and/or people with disabilities.

## Eligible Projects

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

- **Mobility Management Type 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, on-demand wheelchair 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 projects or 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 or program within an eligible category, including but not limited to:
    - Accessible vehicle and equipment purchase
    - Software purchases (e.g. to provide one-call/one-click services, track vehicles, improve fare payment, etc.)
    - Transit stop improvements that support improving access to public transit for older adults and/or people with disabilities
    - Capital projects to improve accessibility at shuttle stops

This funding is not intended for ADA-mandated or City programs or services that would traditionally be funded through DLD allocations. Sponsors are encouraged to submit projects or programs that will benefit more than one city or otherwise illustrate advancement of coordination, mobility management, and equity.

Eligible projects must conform to PAPCO-adopted Implementation Guidelines and Performance Measures – Special Transportation for Older Adults and People with Disabilities (Paratransit) Program (Implementation Guidelines). Refer to the most recent Implementation Guidelines for detailed eligibility requirements and service descriptions here: <https://www.alamedactc.org/programs-projects/senior-disabled-transport>.

## Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants (direct recipients) of funds programmed through the 2024 PDGP 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 if the non-profit provides letter(s) of support from local agency and/or transit provider (entities listed in 1-3 above) to confirm service coordination and project support

Entities that are not identified above as eligible direct recipients may be eligible to receive 2024 PDGP 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 \$12 million is available for programming through the 2024 PDGP.

## Other Requirements

- Funding awards are limited to the maximum grant size of \$250,000 per fiscal year.
- Minimum matching requirements:
  - Projects or Programs: 12% local match for Direct Local Distribution (DLD) recipients, 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.
- 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 Measure B and Measure BB DLD reserves.
- Matching funds contributed to a project or program above the minimum required level may increase the competitiveness of the application.

## Application Process

Applications for the 2024 PDGP will be submitted via email to Krystle Pasco at [kpasco@alamedactc.org](mailto:kpasco@alamedactc.org). Hard copies are not required. Additionally, project sponsors submitting multiple applications will be asked to prioritize each project or program in respect to the total number of its applications i.e. Priority 1 of 4.

**Complete applications (submitted via email with all required attachments) are due no later than Wednesday, January 31, 2024, 11:59 p.m.** Only applications submitted via email will be accepted.

**Alameda CTC will be hosting two (2) virtual application workshops:**

- **December 18, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**
  - Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89065179853?pwd=Hx4su2UTQwbffOxXTGwr7IZh5Q3BuP.1>
  - Dial-in Information: 1 (669) 900-6833
  - Meeting ID: 890 6517 9853
  - Passcode: 863748

- **January 11, 2024, 2:00 p.m.**

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85871456167?pwd=wlnJulVbVBzthxbTLinKkW7KrRmZ.1>

Dial-in Information: 1 (669) 900-6833

Meeting ID: 858 7145 6167

Passcode: 180863

## Evaluation Framework

PAPCO will prioritize 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 Transportation Plan, the Alameda County Needs Assessment, Coordinated Plan, CBTPs, or the Countywide Area Plan for Older Adults
- Support geographically equitable distribution of resources throughout the County
- Demonstrate strategies to ensure equitable access to and utilization of programs and services

## Schedule

The proposed timeline for this programming effort is as follows:

December 11, 2023	Call for Projects released
December 18, 2023, 10:00 a.m.	Alameda CTC staff hosts application workshop
January 11, 2024, 2:00 p.m.	Alameda CTC staff hosts application workshop
January 31, 2024	Applications due
Winter-Spring 2024	Alameda CTC, with PAPCO oversight and approval, develops 2024 PDGP recommendation
Late Spring 2024	Alameda CTC adopts final 2024 PDGP
July 1, 2024	Effective date of grant availability

## Resources

Resources for the 2024 PDGP call for projects, including the application can be accessed from the Alameda CTC's website at: <https://www.alamedactc.org/funding/funding-opportunities>.

## Staff Contact

Krystle Pasco, Alameda CTC Senior Program Analyst and Paratransit Coordinator

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