ALAMEDA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

2024 Paratransit Discretionary Grant Program Application Workshop

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Today's Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions

- Overview of the 2024 Paratransit Discretionary Grant Program

- Application Walk-Through

- Schedule

- Q&A

Alameda County Transportation Commission

- **2010:** merger between:
  - ➢ Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (ACCMA)
  - ➢ Alameda County Transportation Improvement Authority (ACTIA)
- **Mission** is to is to plan, fund and deliver transportation programs and projects that expand access and improve mobility to foster a vibrant and livable Alameda County.

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- Transportation Sales Taxes

  ➢ **1986:** Voters approved Measure B ½ cent sales tax

  ➢ **2000:** Voters reauthorized Measure B

  ➢ **2014:** Voters approved Measure BB

    - Increased to 1 cent

    - Authorized collection for 30 years

Paratransit Program Funding

- Allocations from the TEPs to Transportation for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

  ➢ Measure B: 10.45%

  ➢ Measure BB: 10.00%

- 3 types of funding

  ➢ DLD funding for East Bay Paratransit (Measure B: 5.53%; Measure BB: 6.00%)

  ➢ DLD funding for city paratransit programs (Measure B: 3.39%; Measure BB: 3.00%)

  ➢ Discretionary funds for coordination and filling gaps (Measure B: 1.43%; Measure BB: 1.00%)

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Background

- The Paratransit Discretionary Grant Program (PDGP) funds projects and programs through a competitive process to meet needs that are not currently being met through existing ADA-mandated paratransit or City programs.

- Approximately $12M in available Measure B and BB

- 5-year programming period; FY2024-25 to FY2028-29

- 2020 PDGP
  - Call for Projects in November 2018
  - Fifteen applications – $10.5 million requested
  - Fourteen applications were funded fully or partially for a total of $8.99 million
  - Grant period: July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2024

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Program Focus

- Complement Direct Local Distribution (DLD) funded programs (traditional trip-provision services).

- 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.

Mobility Management

- 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

Mobility Management (continued)

- Examples of mobility management activities include:

  - Travel Training

  - Trip planning assistance to improve access

  - One-Call/One-Click type programs

  - Door-through-Door/Volunteer Driver Programs

  - Programs or projects that provide critical, on-demand wheelchair accessible transportation service throughout Alameda County

Mobility Management (continued)

- More examples include:

  - ➤ 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)

  - ➤ Projects or programs that fill unique and/or critical transportation needs and gaps that are not addressed through traditional trip-provision models
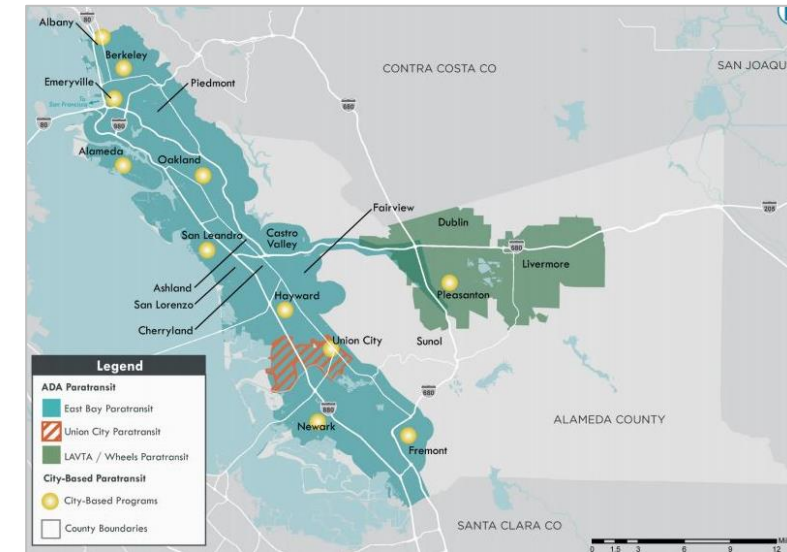
Mobility Management (continued)

- More examples include:

  - ➢ 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

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Program Priorities

- Priority (in no particular order) will be given as follows:

  ➤ Projects or programs that are identified in a Countywide or Regional Plan or Assessment

  ➤ Multi-jurisdictional projects or programs

  ➤ Projects or programs that provide critical, on-demand wheelchair accessible transportation service throughout Alameda County

  ➤ Projects or programs that increase equitable access to and utilization of existing programs and services

  ➤ Other priorities as recommended by PAPCO

Evaluation Framework

- Projects and programs will be evaluated based on:

  ➢ Demonstrate effectiveness at meeting mobility management goals

  ➢ Project sufficient demand for the project or program

  ➢ 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

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Evaluation Framework (continued)

➢ Are cost effective

➢ Leverage funds (including MB and MBB DLD reserves)

➢ Have been identified as a priority in relevant countywide or regional plans or needs

➢ Support geographically equitable distribution of resources throughout the County

➢ Demonstrate strategies to ensure equitable access to and utilization of programs and services

Eligible Applicants

- Cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Oakland, Piedmont, Pleasanton, San Leandro, Union City

- County of Alameda

- 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)

- East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD)

- Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC)

- Non-profit organizations if the non-profit provides letter(s) of support from local agency and/or transit providers to confirm service coordination and project or program support

Requirements

- Maximum grant size is $250,000 per fiscal year; there is no minimum grant size.

- **Minimum Matching Requirements**

  ➢ Projects or Programs: 12% local match for 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 MB/MBB DLD reserves.

  ➢ Matching funds contributed to a project or program beyond the minimum required level may increase the competitiveness of the application.

Requirements (continued)

- **Letter(s) of Support**

  ➢ All applicants must work in coordination with other service providers in their planning area.

  ➢ To demonstrate this support:
    - Applicants must describe how they are coordinating with local jurisdictions, transit agencies, and non-profit organizations to fill service gaps and complement existing services.
    - Non-profit organizations are required to provide a letter(s) of support from a local agency and/or transit providers to confirm service coordination and project or program support.
    - All applicants are encouraged to provide letters from partners to demonstrate community support and coordination.

Implementation Guidelines

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

- Refer to the most recent guidelines for detailed eligibility requirements and service descriptions here: https://www.alamedactc.org/programs-projects/senior-disabled-transport

Equitable Access and Utilization

- In accordance with Alameda CTC's equity goals and initiatives, projects and programs will be expected to understand the demographic makeup of their community, including race/ethnicity, gender, orientation, limited English proficiency, income, age, and disability.

- Projects and programs should be designed to conduct equitable and inclusive engagement and measure and report equity outcomes of program participation.

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Monitoring and Performance Measures

- Progress reports will be required every six (6) months illustrating program/project progress and funds spent.

- Applicants must identify program/project goals, deliverables, and performance measures that will be reported on in these progress reports.

Application Walk Through

- **Section A:** Summary Information

- **Section B:** General Information

- **Section C:** Need/Benefits/Readiness

- **Section D:** Cost and Funding Sources

- **Section E:** Milestone Schedule

- **Section F:** Performance Measures and Targets

- **Section G:** Attachments

Application Walk Through (continued)

- **Section A:** Summary Information

  - ➢ Primary and secondary contact

- **Section B:** General Information

  - ➢ Q5 (detailed scope) – separate attachment, 2 pages max
  - ➢ Q8 (map) – separate attachment, Google maps okay
  - ➢ Q9 (service area) – select all that apply or Countywide

Application Walk Through (continued)

- **Section C:** Need/Benefits/Readiness

  - **Need/benefits** – see list of example countywide/regional plans or assessments
  - **Coordination** – include list of partners
  - **Readiness** – implementation ready and sustainability
  - **Demand** – include number of service units and letters of support
  - **Technology and Innovation** – describe innovation/emerging tech
  - **Equity** – include demographic data and inclusive outreach and engagement approach

Application Walk Through (continued)

- **Section D:** Cost and Funding Sources

  ➤ Required detailed budget (Excel file)
  - Estimated Expenditures
    - ✓ Staff/labor
    - ✓ Other direct costs
  - Estimated Revenues
    - ✓ Funding sources
    - ✓ Required match

  ➤ See tab: Description of Costs for more info on eligible costs

Application Walk Through (continued)

- **Section E:** Milestone Schedule

  ➢ Include key tasks or milestones

- **Section F:** Performance Measures and Targets

  ➢ Include measures and targets based on 6-month reporting periods

  ➢ Refer to most recent Paratransit Program Implementation Guidelines and Performance Measures:

    ▪ https://www.alamedactc.org/programs-projects/senior-disabled-transport

Application Walk Through (continued)

- **Section G:** Attachments

  1. **Program/Project Scope** (Section B, Question 5)
  2. **Limits/Location Map** (Section B, Question 8)
  3. **Need/Benefit Document(s)** (Section C, Question 10)
  4. **Letter(s) of Support** (Section C, Question 11)
  5. **List of partners** (Section C, Question 12)
  6. **Partner Agency Letter(s)** (Section C, Question 12)
  7. **Detailed Budget** (Section D)
  8. **Additional Information** (if necessary)

Schedule

- **Dec 11** – call for projects is released

- **Dec 18/Jan 11** – application workshops

- **Jan 31, 2024** – applications due

- **Feb/Mar** – staff analysis and recommend

- **Mar 25** – PAPCO will consider/approve recommendation
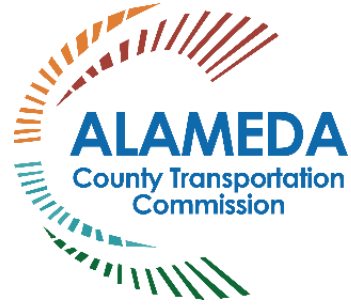
- **Jul 1** – grants start

Resources

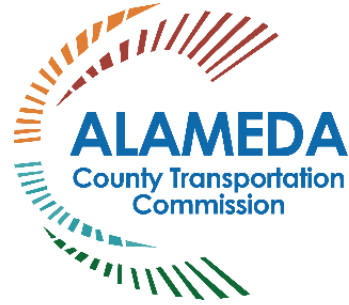Resources for the 2024 PDGP call for projects, including the application, can be accessed from the Alameda CTC's website at: https://www.alamedactc.org/funding/funding-opportunities.

Interested Parties List:

https://forms.gle/cEfahcMCdvf32MVA9

Q&A

Thank You

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For more information, visit www.AlamedaCTC.org