

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Approval of Resolution Authorizing an Application for Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 5 Funding

FROM: Jennifer Yeamans, Senior Grants, Project Management & Contract Specialist

DATE: May 29, 2018

Action Requested

Staff requests the Committee recommend Board approval of Resolution 16-2018 to receive funding from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for the Cycle 5 Lifeline Transportation Program for continued operations of Wheels Route 14 serving North Livermore. This resolution is required to receive funding from MTC if the project receives final approval from MTC and the Alameda County Transportation Commission (CTC), which administers the regional program in Alameda County.

Background

The Lifeline Transportation Program was established by MTC in 2005 to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for community-based transportation projects in the nine Bay Area counties that:

- Are developed through a collaborative and inclusive planning process including outreach to underrepresented communities
- Improve a range of transportation choices
- Address transportation gaps or barriers identified in Community Based Transportation Plans or other substantive local planning efforts involving focused outreach to low-income populations.

Funding for the program is provided on a formula basis to the nine Bay Area counties based on each county's share of the region's population below 200% of the federal poverty level (ratio of income to federal poverty levels depends on household size, but 200% is approximately \$35,000 per year for an average-sized household). The program is administered at the county level by the Congestion Management Agencies, including Alameda CTC. Funding sources for the program include population-based State Transit Assistance funds and FTA Section 5307 funds administered regionally by MTC. MTC's program guidelines require counties to program funds based on a competitive call for projects.

On February 23, 2018, Alameda CTC released a call for projects for the Cycle 5 Lifeline Transportation Program. Based on MTC's Cycle 5 fund estimate, a total of approximately \$4.8 million was available for Alameda County for use in fiscal years 2018-19 and/or 2019-20. Eligible projects must meet the goals of the Lifeline Transportation Program and meet the

eligibility requirements of at least one of the available funding sources. A local match is required for all projects, with a minimum of 20% for projects funded with STA funds and 50% for operating projects funded with FTA 5307 funds. A resolution of local support is also required.

In March 2018, staff applied to Alameda CTC for Lifeline program funds for continued operation of Route 14 service in North Livermore. Route 14 has received Lifeline Transportation Program funds since the program’s inception to improve mobility in the most concentrated area of low-income residents in LAVTA’s service area, the North Livermore community. A map showing the location of the North Livermore Community and Route 14 service is shown in Attachment 2.

Following implementation of the Comprehensive Operations Analysis in 2016, which included extensive public-outreach efforts including outreach directed to low-income riders and community members, the original Route 14 community circulator was redesigned to provide direct, one-seat rides from North Livermore to a wider range of essential destinations, including the Dublin/Pleasanton BART station, the Livermore Transit Center/ACE, and a greater number of employment, shopping, medical, recreational, and social-service destinations.

LAVTA’s funding request for the project reflected the approximate share of Alameda County’s population under 200% of the federal poverty level residing in LAVTA’s service area (6.5%).

Discussion

On May 14, 2018, the Alameda CTC Programs and Projects Committee referred a recommendation to the Alameda CTC approving full funding for LAVTA’s Lifeline Cycle 5 request for \$320,000 in discretionary STA funds. Based on the recommendation of the Alameda CTC anticipated to be approved May 24, 2018, MTC is scheduled to consider the regional Cycle 5 Program of Projects for approval July 25, 2018.

Project Budget

The proposed project budget and schedule is as follows, pending approval by Alameda CTC and MTC.

Fund Source	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	Total
Lifeline Cycle 5 request	\$160,000	\$160,000	\$320,000
TDA 4.0	\$270,000	\$270,000	\$540,000
Farebox Revenue	\$115,000	\$115,000	\$230,000
Total Budget	\$545,000	\$545,000	\$1,090,000

Next Steps

If funding for the project is approved by Alameda CTC and MTC, LAVTA will request funds from MTC for FY 2018-19 and include these funds in the budget for FY2019-20.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Committee forward Resolution 16-2018 to the Board for approval, in support of a funding request to MTC for the Cycle 5 Lifeline Transportation Program for continued operations of Wheels Route 14 serving North Livermore.

Attachments:

1. Resolution 16-2018 for Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 5 Application
2. Route 14 Map showing location of North Livermore Low Income Community
3. Alameda CTC-approved Lifeline Cycle 5 Program of Projects for Alameda County

RESOLUTION NO. 16-2018

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR CYCLE 5
LIFELINE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM FUNDS TO THE
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION FOR CONTINUED
OPERATING ASSISTANCE FOR ROUTE 14 IN NORTH LIVERMORE**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has established a Lifeline Transportation Program to assist in funding projects that 1) are intended to result in improved mobility for low-income residents of the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties, 2) are developed through a collaborative and inclusive planning process and 3) are proposed to address transportation gaps and/or barriers identified through a substantive community-based transportation plan or are otherwise based on a documented assessment of needs; and

WHEREAS, MTC has adopted principles, pursuant to MTC Resolution No. 4309, to guide implementation of the Lifeline Transportation Program for the two year period from Fiscal Year 2016-17 and Fiscal Year 2017-18, and has designated the County Congestion Management Agency (or another countywide entity) in each of the nine Bay Area counties to help with recommending project selections and project administration; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) has been designated by MTC to assist with the Lifeline Transportation Program in Alameda County on behalf of MTC; and

WHEREAS, Alameda CTC conducted a competitive call for projects for the Lifeline Transportation Program in Alameda County; and

WHEREAS, LAVTA submitted a project in response to the competitive call for projects; and

WHEREAS, Alameda CTC has confirmed that LAVTA's proposed project, described more fully on Attachment A to this Resolution, attached to and incorporated herein as though set forth at length, is consistent with the Lifeline Transportation Program goals as set out in MTC Resolution No. 4309; and

WHEREAS, Alameda CTC, after review, recommends LAVTA's proposed project, described more fully on Attachment A to this Resolution, attached to and incorporated herein as though set forth at length, be funded in part under the Lifeline Transportation Program; and

WHEREAS, LAVTA agrees to meet project delivery and obligation deadlines, comply with funding conditions placed on the receipt of funds allocated to the Lifeline Transportation Program, provide for the required local matching funds, and satisfy all other conditions set forth in MTC Resolution No. 4309; and

WHEREAS, LAVTA certifies that the project(s) and purpose(s) for which funds are being requested is in compliance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.), and with the State Environmental Impact Report Guidelines (14 California Code of Regulations Section 1500 et seq.) and if relevant the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 USC Section 4-1 et seq. and the applicable regulations thereunder; and

WHEREAS, there is no legal impediment to LAVTA making the funding request; and

WHEREAS, there is no pending or threatened litigation which might in any way adversely affect the ability of LAVTA to deliver the proposed project for which funds are being requested, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that LAVTA requests MTC program funds available under its Lifeline Transportation Program, in the amounts requested for which LAVTA is eligible, for the project described in Attachment A of this Resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that LAVTA staff shall forward a copy of this Resolution, and such other information as may be required, to MTC, Alameda CTC, and such other agencies as may be appropriate.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority of the State of California on the 4nd day of June 2018.

Karla Brown, Board Chair

ATTEST:

Michael S. Tree, Executive Director

ATTACHMENT A
Lifeline Transportation Program Cycle 5 Projects

Project Name	Project Description	Lifeline Transportation Program Funding Amounts			Local Match Amount	Total Project Cost
		STA	5307	Total Lifeline Funding		
Route 14 Operating Assistance	Wheels Route 14 provides service between the North Livermore Low Income Community and a variety of essential destinations including shopping, employment, healthcare, and direct regional rail connections via the Livermore Transit Center/ACE station and Dublin/Pleasanton BART station.	\$320,000	\$ -	\$320,000	\$770,000	\$1,090,000
Total		\$320,000	\$ -	\$320,000	\$770,000	\$1,090,000

Route 14 Map Showing North Livermore Community



Cycle 5 Lifeline Transportation Program - Proposed Program

Lifeline Cycle 5 - Fund Estimate			
STA	STA 5%	FTA Section 5307	Total Funding
\$ 3,273,938	\$ 83,749	\$ 1,514,825	\$ 4,872,512

Sponsor	Project	Description	Lifeline Funding Request	Total Project Cost	Funding Recommendation			Lifeline \$ Recommended	Rank	Notes
					STA	STA (5% Reserve)	FTA Section 5307			
AC Transit	Preservation of Existing Service in Communities of Concern	The project aims to continue and improve transit service to several key Communities of Concern in the southern, central and northern portions of Alameda County. The routes (Route 20, 40, 51A, 51B, 72, 800, and 801) serve low-income communities that have been identified because of spatial gaps in service in the Community Based Transportation Plan (CBTP).	\$ 3,650,000	\$ 35,541,400	\$ 2,051,426	\$ 83,749	\$ 1,514,825	\$ 3,650,000	1	1
LAVTA	Route 14 Operating Assistance	Wheels Route 14 provides service between the North Livermore Low Income Community and a variety of essential destinations including shopping, employment, healthcare, and direct regional rail connections via the Livermore Transit Center/ACE station and Dublin/Pleasanton BART station.	\$ 320,000	\$ 1,090,000	\$ 320,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 320,000	2	
BART	Coliseum BART Elevator Renovation Project	Renovation of two elevators at the Coliseum BART Station as part of Phase 1 for the Elevator Renovation Program. The project addresses the growing needs of aging equipment to provide safe, reliable, and operational elevators in an area servicing a community that is roughly 30% low-income.	\$ 1,440,000	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 720,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 720,000	3	2
Union City Transit	Operations Support for Route 2	The Route 2 is the main east-west route in the area that connects the Union City Intermodal Station with job centers along the Whipple Road corridor, which includes a lot of manufacturing and distribution facilities. The route provides vital lifeline public transportation access for the Decoto neighborhood, an established community of concern in Union City.	\$ 1,252,411	\$ 1,565,514	\$ 182,512	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 182,512	4	
BART	MacArthur BART Wayfinding Improvement Project	The project will update current wayfinding signage with new real-time displays with departure information for transit operations at the MacArthur BART station in Oakland. The updated signage would allow patrons to better plan commutes and train transfers. Approximately 30% of the weekday MacArthur station patrons are low-income.	\$ 1,900,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	4	
Total Requested:			\$ 8,562,411	Total Recommended:	\$ 3,273,938	\$ 83,749	\$ 1,514,825	\$ 4,872,512		

Notes:

1. CMAAs are to program up to 95% of the STA fund estimate and identify a single project to receive the remaining 5% which is to be held in reserve by MTC until the actual STA revenue is received. The 5% STA balance is estimated to be \$83,749. If available in the future, it is recommended for AC Transit's project, Preservation of Existing Service in Communities of Concern.
2. In light of a recommendation for partial funding, BART staff confirmed that other funding will be committed to the project to deliver the full project scope of two elevators.