

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of Application for FY 2019 Pilot Trip Reduction Microtransit Grant Program Funding through the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD)

FROM: Jennifer Yeamans, Senior Grants & Management Specialist

DATE: March 26, 2019

Action Requested

Staff requests the Finance & Administration Committee refer Resolution 09-2019 to the Board of Directors for approval in support of an application to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) for Pilot Trip Reduction Microtransit funding for development and implementation of the GoTriValley On-Demand Shared-Ride Microtransit Project.

Background

In December 2018, BAAQMD released a competitive Call for Projects for the Pilot Trip Reduction Microtransit Grant Program funded by the regional Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA). Funds are derived from a \$4 registration surcharge on Bay Area motor vehicles to fund projects that reduce on-road vehicle emissions, including trip-reduction projects. For the FY 2019 grant cycle, up to \$7 million of TFCA funding administered by the Air District was made available to a pilot trip-reduction grant program targeting microtransit services.

The goal of the program is to test the potential of microtransit services to reduce commute-hour single-occupancy vehicle trips, including by helping transit providers test new emerging technology-enabled solutions as alternatives to traditional fixed-route shuttle service. To be eligible for funding, projects must:

- be located or primarily serve residents in one of the region's highly impacted or Priority Development Areas; and
- operate where no similar service exists or significantly expand existing service.

Most of LAVTA's service area is included in the Air District's definition of highly impacted communities in terms of air quality. There area also six Priority Development Areas in LAVTA's service area surrounding current or planned rail stations.

LAVTA's current fixed-route bus network targets the corridors and nodes where this type of service is most productive. However, there are many areas of lower-density residential and commercial development throughout LAVTA's service area not served by fixed-route service, where alternative service types could potentially be deployed to connect riders in

these areas to mainline transit stops and stations, especially the Tri-Valley’s two BART stations where demand for parking far exceeds supply.

Discussion

Based on the success to date of the agency’s innovative GoDublin! partnership with Transportation Network Companies operating in the city of Dublin, staff developed the GoTriValley On-Demand Shared-Ride Microtransit Project to expand this type of service to those portions of Pleasanton and Livermore not currently served by fixed-route service. Similar to the way the GoDublin! promotion operates, users would receive a fare discount that can be accessed through existing third-party apps such as Uber Pool and Lyft Line for trips requested with eligible origins and destinations. For the purposes of GoTriValley, these eligible origins and destinations would be defined by the use of a “geofence” to exclude pickups in locations with existing fixed-route service.

Program guidelines require project sponsors to submit a resolution from the sponsor’s governing body in support of the project application and committing all necessary funding to undertake the project, including the provision of matching funds. Sponsors must provide a minimum 10% local match and operate the project without grant funding for a minimum of three months in the project’s operational period. LAVTA’s proposal provides for matching funds in the form of in-kind staffing to help oversee operational aspects of the program plus three months’ worth of operational funding in Year 1 to meet these requirements.

Budget

The proposed project budget is as follows.

	Year 1	Year 2	Total
BAAQMD	\$114,000	\$143,000	\$257,000
Local Match-TDA	\$33,000	\$0	\$33,000
Local Match-In-kind	\$16,640	\$16,973	\$33,613
Total	\$163,640	\$159,973	\$323,613

Next Steps

BAAQMD will review applications received for the Pilot Trip Reduction Grant Program and anticipates making funding recommendations in June 2019. If the project is approved for funding, LAVTA staff would begin implementation activities in fall 2019.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Finance and Administration Committee refer Resolution 09-2019 to the Board of Directors for approval in support of an application to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for Pilot Trip Reduction Microtransit funding toward the development and implementation of the GoTriValley On-Demand Shared-Ride Microtransit Project. This resolution is required to complete the application for this funding.

Attachments:

1. Resolution 09-2019

RESOLUTION 09-2019

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY IN SUPPORT
OF AN APPLICATION TO THE BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 PILOT TRIP REDUCTION GRANT
PROGRAM FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority as an eligible project sponsor may receive funding from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) for eligible projects funded by the Pilot Trip Reduction Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, BAAQMD has developed guidelines for the purpose of administering and distributing Transportation Fund for Clean Air regional funds for Pilot Trip Reduction Microtransit Projects to eligible project sponsors; and

WHEREAS, BAAQMD requires project sponsors to provide a resolution from the project sponsor's governing body that authorizes the submittal of the application, identifies the individual authorized to submit and carry out the proposal, and commits the sponsoring agency to provide all necessary funds to undertake the project including matching funds; and

WHEREAS, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority recognizes the potential trip-reduction benefits of expanding access to on-demand shared ride microtransit services such as it already operates in Dublin through the GoDublin! program and has submitted a proposed project called GoTriValley to expand such service to areas of Pleasanton and Livermore not currently served by its fixed-route services; and

WHEREAS, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority wishes to delegate authorization to execute all required documents associated with the administration of any Pilot Trip Reduction grant funding received and any amendments thereto to the Executive Director or his/her designee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority that the agency authorize the development and implementation of the GoTriValley On-Demand Shared-Ride Microtransit Project and comply with all conditions and requirements as may be set forth by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District in conjunction with receiving Pilot Trip Reduction grant funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Michael Tree, Executive Director, or his designee, be authorized to execute all required documents of the Pilot Trip Reduction grant program and any Amendments thereto with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority hereby commits to providing all necessary matching funds required to undertake the project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY the governing board of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority on this 1st day of April 2019.

Scott Haggerty, Chair

Attest:

Michael Tree, Executive Director