

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Revised Resolution in Support of Participation in the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Clipper START! Pilot Program

FROM: Tony McCaulay, Director of Planning and Marketing

DATE: July 12, 2021

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**Action Requested**

The Projects and Services Committee recommends the Board of Directors authorize the Executive Director to provide the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) with a revised resolution indicating LAVTA's desire to continue to participate in MTC's Clipper START! pilot program.

**Background**

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has established a pilot program to offer discounted transit fares to low income individuals. Known as Clipper START!, the program allows adults who live in the Bay Area and whose annual earnings are up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level to qualify. The pilot was originally approved for an 18-month period scheduled to end in mid-January 2022.

**Discussion**

In November 2020, the LAVTA Board adopted a resolution authorizing the Executive Director to notify MTC of our desire to participate in this pilot program. However, because of the pandemic, the funding allocated to the pilot has not been expended. MTC is now proposing to extend the end date for the pilot program to June 30, 2023. This change requires that LAVTA submit a new resolution indicating our commitment to continue participating in the program through the new end date. The highlighted parts of the attached resolution are the only changes from the resolution adopted by the Board in November 2020.

**Budget**

Riders using the Clipper START! card will receive a 20 percent discount on fares. MTC will be using Cares Act funding to reimburse LAVTA for half of that discount, up to \$98,992. The remainder of the discount will be recovered using our Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) funds. We view the program as an opportunity to assist Tri-Valley residents who may be economically challenged.

**Recommendation**

Authorize the Executive Director to provide the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) with a revised resolution indicating LAVTA's desire to continue to participate in MTC's Clipper START! pilot program.

Attachments:

1. Resolution 24-2021

*Approved:* \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION 24-2021**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LIVERMORE  
AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING  
PARTICIPATION IN THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION'S CLIPPER START! PILOT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area pursuant to Government Code Section 66500 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, transit affordability has been highlighted as a regional issue in MTC's Coordinated Plan, Plan Bay Area and other plans; and

WHEREAS, MTC has established the regional framework for the Regional Means-Based Transit Fare Pilot Program to improve transit affordability and access to opportunity for eligible low-income residents; and

WHEREAS, MTC has adopted a regional framework for the program, with participating operators, funding guidelines, and program conditions, pursuant to MTC Resolution No. 4320, Revised, to guide implementation of the Clipper START Pilot Program for the 36-month period spanning Fiscal Year 2020-21, Fiscal Year 2021-22, and Fiscal Year 2022-23; and

WHEREAS, MTC used the process and criteria set forth in Attachment A of Resolution No. 4439 to program funds appropriated in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for the expansion of Clipper START Pilot to operators (Cohort 2) beyond the four (Cohort 1) operators as established in Resolution No. 4420; and

WHEREAS, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority (LAVTA) has followed its Board-adopted fare policies and processes to be in compliance with Title VI analysis prior to implementing the Means-Based Fare Program; and

WHEREAS, LAVTA recommends that its Board of Directors authorize a resolution of support for LAVTA to participate in the Regional Means-Based Fare Program (Clipper START), to be funded in part under the Regional Means-Based Fare 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 Regional Means-Based Fare Program (Clipper START), and satisfy all other conditions set forth in MTC Resolution No. 4320, Revised, and MTC Resolution No. 4439, 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(s) for which funds are being requested; and

WHEREAS, MTC will reimburse participating operators based on Clipper START ridership actual trips taken and MTC will take programming action to establish the maximum amount for each participating operator; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that LAVTA requests that MTC program funds available under its Clipper START Pilot Program, in the amounts requested for which LAVTA is eligible, which is up to \$98,992; and

RESOLVED, that staff of LAVTA shall forward a copy of this Resolution, and such other information as may be required, to MTC, the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC), and such other agencies as may be appropriate.

APPROVED AND PASSED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2021.

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Karla Brown, Chair

ATTEST:

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Michael Tree, Executive Director