

Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310)

Call for Projects for FY 2015, 2016 & 2017 Apportionments

The Caltrans Division of Mass Transportation is currently soliciting projects for the Federal Transportation Administration's (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310).

Application Deadline: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 5:00 PM

The goal of the Section 5310 program is to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities throughout the country by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the transportation mobility options available. A mixture of capital and operating grants are awarded to private nonprofit corporations and public agencies to provide safe, efficient, and coordinated transportation services for seniors and individuals with disabilities for whom public transportation is otherwise unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate. The program requires coordination with other programs and services in order to make the most efficient use of resources.

Eligible Section 5310 Activities

There are two project categories in the Section 5310 Program:

- 1) Traditional Capital - The Section 5310 Program requires that at least 55 percent of available funding must be set aside for "traditional" 5310 capital projects. Eligible traditional 5310 capital projects include mobility management, vehicles, and other equipment (communications equipment, computer hardware, and wheelchair restraints).

- 2) Expanded - In addition to the required capital projects, up to 45 percent of funds may be utilized for projects that were formerly eligible under the FTA's New Freedom Program. Expanded projects provide public transportation services that exceed the ADA minimum requirements, improve access to fixed-route service and decrease reliance by individuals with disabilities on ADA-complementary paratransit service, or provide alternatives to public transportation that assist seniors and individuals with disabilities with transportation, including mobility management.

Click [here](#) for more information on eligible projects.

Coordinated Planning Requirement

Projects selected for funding under this program must be included in the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan. The Coordinated Plan identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes, and provides solutions and strategies for meeting those local needs. Agencies and organizations interested in applying for Section 5310 funds must consider the transportation needs, proposed solutions, and enhanced coordination strategies presented in the Coordinated Plan in developing their project proposals. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate their proposed project's consistency with the Coordinated Plan. Following is a list of the solutions and strategies that are identified in Chapters 7 and 8, respectively, of the plan. The Bay Area's Coordinated Plan was updated in March 2013 and is available at http://mtc.ca.gov/sites/default/files/Coord_Plan_Update.pdf.

Funding Availability and Project Selection Process

Under this solicitation, there are two separate calls for projects in the San Francisco Bay Area:

Small Urbanized/Rural Areas

Applicants in the Bay Area's Small Urbanized/Rural Areas will compete in the statewide competitive process, overseen by Caltrans. There is approximately \$20 million available for the statewide call.

Following an initial eligibility screening, MTC staff will score vehicle and other equipment projects, and forward those scores to Caltrans. Caltrans will score mobility management and operations projects. When all projects have been scored, Caltrans staff will merge all scores into a statewide funding priority list. The California Transportation Commission will hold a public hearing to review and adopt the final list of Small Urbanized/Rural Area projects.

Applications will be evaluated on a range of qualitative and quantitative criteria, including project readiness, extent of coordination and outreach, useful life of existing vehicles, utilization information for service expansion or other equipment, and other needs and benefits including the extent to which the project eliminates barriers and improves access for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Large Urbanized Areas

Applicants in the Bay Area’s five Large Urbanized Areas will compete in a competitive process, overseen by MTC, within the urbanized area where the project is located. MTC has estimated the three-year programming target for Large Urbanized Areas in the table below.

| Bay Area Large UZAs | Traditional Estimated Programming Targets | Expanded Estimated Programming Targets |
|--|--|---|
| Antioch UZA | \$350,177 | \$222,840 |
| Concord UZA | \$799,338 | \$508,670 |
| San Francisco--Oakland UZA | \$4,229,418 | \$2,691,448 |
| San Jose UZA | \$1,825,918 | \$1,161,948 |
| Santa Rosa UZA | \$415,121 | \$264,168 |
| Subtotals | \$7,619,972 | \$4,849,073 |
| Total Estimated Three Year Programming Target | | \$12,469,046 |

Notes:

UZA = Urbanized Area

Consistent with the Bay Area’s Coordinated Plan, the FY15, FY16 and FY17 Large Urbanized Area Section 5310 Program will prioritize projects and activities consistent with the mobility management strategies detailed in Chapter 8 of the plan, available at http://mtc.ca.gov/sites/default/files/Coord_Plan_Update.pdf. Mobility management is a strategic, cost-effective approach to connect people to transportation resources within a community including services provided by human services agencies and other community sponsors. The strategy is intended to build coordination among existing public transportation providers and other transportation service providers with the result of expanding the availability of service. Through partnerships with many transportation service providers, mobility management enables individuals to use a travel method that meets their specific needs, is appropriate for their situation and trip, and is cost-effective.

Following an initial eligibility screening by MTC and PCC staff, eligible projects will be evaluated by a regional panel. The final program of projects will be presented for adoption at the Commission meeting on April 26, 2017. MTC will forward the approved program of projects to Caltrans for funding.

Applications will be evaluated on a range of qualitative and quantitative criteria, including project readiness, extent of coordination and outreach, useful life of existing vehicles, utilization information for service expansion or other equipment, and other needs and benefits including the extent to which the project eliminates barriers and improves access for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

If you are unsure if your project is in a Large Urbanized Area or Small Urbanized/Rural Area, please see [SF Bay Urbanized Area map](#).

Local Match Requirement

Upon project approval, local match will be funded with federal Transportation Development Credits (Toll Credits). No local match is required.

Eligible Recipients

There are three categories of eligible Section 5310 subrecipients: a) private non-profit organizations; b) state or local governmental authorities; and c) operators of public transportation services.

Application Process, Technical Assistance and Schedule

The application form is available online through the Caltrans Electronic Grants Management (EGM) system. Caltrans, MTC and County Paratransit Coordinating Council (PCCs) staff will provide technical assistance to applicants during the call for projects. All applications must be submitted through the Caltrans Electronic Grants Management (EGM) System by **March 1, 2017 at 5:00 PM**.

Click [here](#) for Caltrans, MTC and PCC staff contacts.

Caltrans-Hosted Applicant Workshop – January 10, 2017

Caltrans will conduct an application workshop at the Caltrans District 4 Office Oakland (111 Grand Avenue, Oakland) on January 10, 2017. This workshop will provide an overview of the application and provide applicants with important information on the Caltrans Electronic Grants Management (EGM) System. EGM System access codes will be distributed at the workshop. **All potential applicants should plan to attend this workshop to receive an access code.**

| | |
|----------------|---|
| March 1, 2017 | Applications are due by 5:00 PM |
| April 12, 2017 | MTC Programming and Allocations Committee approval of Large Urbanized Area Projects and Small Urbanized/Rural Area prioritized list |
| April 26, 2017 | MTC Commission adoption of Large Urbanized Area Projects and Small Urbanized/Rural Area prioritized list |
| April 27, 2017 | Large Urbanized Area Projects and Small Urbanized/Rural Area prioritized list submitted to Caltrans |
| June 2017 | Projects adopted by California Transportation Commission |
| August 2017 | Caltrans submits grant to FTA |
| Fall 2017 | Caltrans will initiate Standard Agreement process with successful applicants |

For more information, please consult the [Caltrans Section 5310 website](#) and the [Caltrans Section 5310 Fact Sheet](#).

If you have any questions regarding this call for projects, please contact Drennen Shelton at (415) 778-5309 or dshelton@mtc.ca.gov.