

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TRANSIT STATION PUBLIC CHARGING PROGRAM 2023 Capital Grants: Call for Projects Grant Guide



The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) invites Bay Area transit agencies (or local governments in partnership with transit agencies) to submit project proposals for the Transit Station Public Charging Program. Funding is available to purchase and install publicly accessible charging stations for electric vehicles (EVs) and/or electric mobility devices (bikes, scooters, assistive mobility devices, etc.) at transit stations. The charging infrastructure must be publicly accessible though priority can be given to transit customers during core service hours.

This Transit Station Public Charging Program is a Climate Initiative funded through the One Bay Area Grant 3 (OBAG 3) to implement [Plan Bay Area 2050](#) Environment Strategy 8 (Expand Clean Vehicle Initiatives). **Total available: \$10 million** with funding from the federal Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). **The minimum funding amount per project is \$250,000 and the maximum is \$3 million.** MTC may program an award in excess of the maximum grant amount, based on an assessment of the needs described by the project sponsor and subject to MTC staff discretion.

Key Information

- Bay Area transit agencies, or local governments in partnership with a transit agency (if the proposal is within transit station facilities or transit station parking owned by local government), may apply by submitting a project proposal in the [Call for Projects Application Form](https://mtc.ca.gov/digital-library/5024640-transit-station-public-charging-program-2023-capital-grants-call-projects-application-form) (<https://mtc.ca.gov/digital-library/5024640-transit-station-public-charging-program-2023-capital-grants-call-projects-application-form>)
- **Applications are due Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 4:00pm**

See further information in the sections below. For questions or to discuss project ideas, email James Choe (jchoe@bayareametro.gov).

Call for Projects Grant Guide

Program Vision and Goals

As a MTC Climate Initiative, the Transit Station Public Charging Program supports [Plan Bay Area 2050](#)'s target of a 19% reduction in per capita greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the light-duty transportation sector by 2035. The Program helps to achieve this by investing in publicly available charging infrastructure for EVs and e-mobility devices at transit stations, thereby accomplishing four main objectives:

- **Climate** – Reduce greenhouse gas and other emissions by supporting the shift to electric vehicles and other low carbon electric mobility options
- **Regional Priorities** – Advance other associated regional policies and priorities, including improving transportation connectivity and access to all communities, focusing affordable housing and economic development around transit, and improving safety for all users of the transportation system

- **Equity** – Mitigate disproportionate impacts and advance equitable outcomes, such as by providing convenient charging opportunities for underserved communities and mobility options
- **Scalability** – Support innovative and effective charging infrastructure approaches that can be scaled or replicated in areas across the region

The Program envisions achieving these objectives by providing charging opportunities at Bay Area transit stations, both to transit users taking transit-based trips during core service hours and to community members who may lack at-home charging options for electric vehicles or electric mobility devices. The Program expands public charging availability and supports clean first/last-mile trips to and from transit stations.

Project Requirements

In addition to supporting the Program goals, project proposals should include consideration of the following:

- Public access (e.g., station or parking facility access, hours of operation, payment options, wayfinding)
- Equity (e.g., equitable access, location, cost)
- Safety (e.g., lighting, access, monitoring)
- Maintenance and operations (e.g., third-party agreements, cost sharing, vandalism)

Proposals should consider roles and responsibilities (e.g., installation, operations, and maintenance agreements) for all necessary project partners, including between agency departments, between the agency and local jurisdiction, and between the agency and private providers. If the project or any project element is proposed for locations not owned by the lead project sponsor, then the proposal should describe any agreements or proposed agreements with property owners of said locations. Proposals might also consider partnering with property managers of nearby multifamily housing to provide charger access to multifamily housing residents and encourage overnight charger utilization.

Expenses eligible for reimbursement must be part of a project in support of the Program and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) goals, including reducing GHG emissions. Eligible expenses can include:

- Acquisition, installation, or operation of publicly accessible electric vehicle or e-mobility charging infrastructure
- Installation labor, permit and site design fees
- Utility and hardware upgrades necessary to support charging infrastructure
- Physical wayfinding to orient the public to the charging stations, signage related to charging station use, pavement markings to indicate reserved charging spaces, consistent with [MTC wayfinding standards where applicable](#)
- Fixed objects to protect chargers or secure e-mobility devices
- Accessibility improvements to charging stations, in accordance with [Accessible Electric Vehicle Charging Stations](#)
- Safety and security upgrades to improve the charging experience (e.g., pedestrian-scale lighting for nighttime charging, security cameras, etc.)
- Occupancy sensors at charging station spaces
- More information can be found in the CRP Implementation [Guidance](#)

Please note that all proposed project elements will be reviewed and confirmed for eligibility during the project evaluation. MTC staff will work with project sponsors to address eligibility concerns, as appropriate.

Projects will be expected to adhere to the latest industry standards and best practices regarding charging station technical specifications, safety, operating software, interoperability, reliability, data sharing (including live availability), and other installation and operational practices to support interoperability with smart infrastructure and ease of public in-person and digital use.

If awarded funding, sponsors will be required to collect data (and provide it to MTC upon request) to evaluate project impacts, such as:

- Usage data automatically collected at charging stations (e.g., charge sessions, charging time, connected time, energy provided, fees collected, unique users served, uptime/downtime)
- Public safety reports regarding charging stations (e.g., crime and vandalism reports and registered complaints)
- User survey data (e.g., EV adoption rates, vehicle trip distances, mode choice, use by underserved communities)

Data collection and sharing requirements and responsibilities will be determined between MTC staff and project sponsors upon award.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are Bay Area transit agencies or local governments if the parking or other facility for the transit station project is owned by a local government. Applicants must also have a demonstrated ability to meet timely use of funds deadlines and requirements. Other public, private, and nonprofit partners essential to project implementation should also be identified in the application.

Programming Policies and Requirements

Funding for this Program is expected from the federal Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). Unless otherwise noted within these guidelines, CRP Project Selection and Programming Policies ([MTC Resolution No. 4540](#)) and Regional Project Funding Delivery Policy ([MTC Resolution No. 3606](#)) apply.

- **Total funding available: \$10 million**
 - Minimum grant size: \$250,000
 - Maximum grant size: \$3 million
 - Local match: required non-Federal match of no less than 11.47% of total project cost

MTC may program an award in excess of the maximum grant amount, based on an assessment of the needs described by the project sponsor and subject to MTC staff discretion.

Evaluation Process

Proposals will be screened for eligibility. Eligible projects will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Project Readiness (40%) – Proposal demonstrates project readiness, support, and risk mitigation
- Policy Alignment (35%) – Project contributes to regional and Program goals, including increased equitable access to clean mobility options, and addresses local needs

- Costs (15%) – Project demonstrates reasonable cost estimates and cost-effectiveness
- Quality of Proposal (10%) – Project description, need, scope, budget, and other information are clear, well-defined, and credible

How to Apply

MTC is collecting project proposals from transit agencies that align with the Transit Station Public Charging Program through a [Call for Projects Application Form](#). MTC staff will review the project information for eligibility and request additional information as needed.

Please submit your project proposal using this form: <https://mtc.ca.gov/digital-library/5024640-transit-station-public-charging-program-2023-capital-grants-call-projects-application-form>. Please only submit a single application per transit agency (or set of agencies), even when the project proposal involves multiple locations or charging types. For example, EV charging proposed at Station #1 and e-scooter charging proposed at Stations #1 and #2 should be submitted in one application.

Post-Award Process

If awarded funding, project sponsors will be required to:

- Complete a CRP Project Alignment Confirmation [form](#)
- Adopt a [Resolution of local support](#)
- Include the project in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Obligate construction (CON) phase of the project by January 31, 2027
- Attend a project kick-off meeting
- Provide biannual (every six months) progress reports and participate in biannual (every six months) progress check-in meetings
- Share data and any analysis conducted

Next Steps and Schedule

Applications are due by Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 4:00pm

Following submittal, MTC will review the applications and follow up with applicants as needed. As noted, MTC will assess project proposals for funding, or request additional information as needed.

Activity	Date
Call for Projects Announcement Release	September 6, 2023
Application Deadline	October 18, 2023, at 4:00pm
MTC Application review and follow-up with applicants	November 2023
Recommended Program of Projects and Commission Approval (tentative)	January 2023
Funding Obligation Deadline for Construction	January 31, 2027 Note: Project awards will be canceled, and funds will be reverted for use in future Climate Program grants if projects have not obligated construction by January 31, 2027

End of Grant Guide.