# MTC's Community Action Resource and Empowerment (CARE) Program

Information Session #1 – Call for Interest/Project Ideas Phase July 12, 2023



#### **Session Logistics**

- The meeting will take up to one (1) hour.
- Please take care to mute your audio/phones.
- If you have a question, please type it into the chat box. Think of something later? Email Judis Santos at <u>jsantos@bayareametro.gov</u>
- All slides will be emailed following the session.

#### **Today's Flow**

- Overview
  - Goals and Objectives
  - Focus Areas and Funding Objectives
  - Applicant and Project Eligibility
  - Partnership Opportunities
- Proposed Scoring Criteria
- CTA Role
  - Project Selection
  - CBO identification
- Timeline
- Discussion



## **Meeting Outcomes**

Understand updates to the Guidelines

Understand project eligibility and partnership structure

Understand opportunities to provide feedback on the Guidelines

Feel prepared to start identifying project types and co-applicants





## MTC's CARE Program Overview

- Competitive grant program funded by OBAG 3 and one-time REAP 2.0 funds
- Evolution of MTC's Lifeline Transportation Program
- Responsive to Executive Order N-16-22, MTC's Equity Platform through multi-pronged, agency approach in advancing equity
- "Call for Interest" for initiatives and projects June 23-July 21, 2023
- MTC will release its first Cycle "Call for Projects" prioritizing CBTP project implementation, Participatory Budgeting project implementation, and community power-building/engagement anticipated August/September 2023.

#### **Foundational Requirements**



Support the development of projects to close the **race and equity gap**. (Equity Priority Community and low-income)



Support a diverse range of eligible land use and transportation activities.



Advance initiatives in CBTPs spent/completed by June 30, 2026 (REAP funded projects)

#### Goals



Improve mobility for low-income and prioritize efforts that benefit Equity Priority Communities and Priority Populations



Increase the number of projects competitive for additional funding through a range of eligible land use and transportation activities.



Build community power and engagement



Encourage partnerships between CBO's and local gov't; among jurisdictions, transit agencies and counties.



#### **Objectives**



Provide technical assistance for project development to advance CBTP implementation



Provide technical assistance from CBOs (type TBD)



Provide technical assistance for CBOs and local gov't. to build institutional capacity (type TBD)



Reinforce project implementation as an outcome/direct result of diverse and inclusive, evidence-based community engagement

# Focus Areas and Funding Objectives

This competitive program is anticipated to include up to a total of \$21M through OBAG 3 (\$13M) and REAP 2.0 (\$8M – pending approval).

Projects must support implementation of Community Based Transportation Plans AND

Must address at least one of the following objectives:



Support
Implementation of
Community Based
Transportation
Plans



Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing



Accelerate Infill Housing



Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled



Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions



# Project Eligibility – Definition of Infill

"Infill", for the purposes of the REAP 2.0 Program, means areas where all the following apply:

- 1) the area consists of unused or underutilized lands, AND
- 2) within existing development patterns, AND
- 3) that is or will be accessible to destinations and daily services by transit, walking, or bicycling AND is located in either (a) or (b):

a. An urban center, urban corridor, or area with transit-supportive densities,

b. An established community that meets all the following criteria:

- The area consists or previously consisted of qualified urban uses
- ii. The area is predominantly surrounded (approximately 75 percent of the perimeter) by parcels that are developed or previously developed with qualified urban uses. In counting this, perimeters bordering navigable bodies of water and improved parks shall not be included, and
- iii. No parcel within is classified as agricultural or natural and working lands.





#### **Project Eligibility**

Applicants are encouraged to apply to one or more of the following categories:



CBTP Project Development



High-Priority
Neighborhood
Project
Implementation



Community Power-Building and Engagement

Technical Assistance for Project Development

"Participatory Budgeting" Project Implementation

Technical
Assistance from
CBOs

Technical
Assistance/Capacity
building for CBOs
and local gov't

**GRANT PROGRAMS** 

#### PROJECT EXAMPLES

Advancing a CBTP concept to a fundable, viable project. (prelim. eng., design). Improve intersection b/c of flooding.

Bus stop enhancements, quick build pedestrian/bicycle/transit improvements, sidewalks, etc.

Customized
outreach and
engagement;
culturally rooted
data gathering
and research.

Community
engagement/collab
oration, tribal
engagement,
equity-centered
evaluation,
designing data



# **Project Eligibility**

More examples of CBTP or PB project implementation:





High-Priority
Neighborhood
Project
Implementation

- Bulb outs, sidewalk widening, crosswalk enhancements, audible signal modification, mid-block crossing and signals
- Pedestrian street lighting, medians, pedestrian refuges, wayfinding signage
- Street trees, raised planters, planters, cost associated with onsite storm water management, permeable paving
- Pedestrian-scaled street furniture including bus shelters, benches, garbage and recycling bins
- Variety of transit capital improvements

#### **Priority Populations**

Focuses geographic and region-wide benefits for:

Priority Development
Area (PDA) or
Transportation Priority
Area (TPA)\*

MTC Equity Priority

Community

Community Air Risk
Evaluation (CARE)
Program Area or similar
local designation

\*PDAs and TPAs may be existing or recently designated as part of the PBA 2050 growth framework.



# **Applicant Eligibility**

#### **Primary Applicant**

- Cities and Counties
- County Transportation Agencies\*
- Transit Agencies
- Tribal Entities
- Natural Resources or Public Land Agencies
- Public Academic Institutions
- School Districts
- Special Districts
- Regional Housing Trust Funds
- Housing Authorities

#### **Co-Applicant**

- Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)
- Non-Profits
- All primary applicants are also eligible as coapplicants

- Eligible as primary applicant for all funding.
- Eligible as a public agency partner
- Must be a registered 501c3 or have a Fiscal Sponsor

## **Co-Applicant Partnership Structure**

- Primary Applicants are encouraged to apply in partnership with up to two Co-Applicant(s).
- Co-Applicants would be compensated to lead key elements of the project via an MOU with CTA.
- A Consultant team (preferably for "Power-Building", a non-profit or CBO) will be procured to support the work.





#### **Proposed Evaluation Criteria**



Support the development of initiatives/projects to close the race and equity gap.



Support a diverse range of eligible land use and transportation activities



Be within and benefit MTC's Equity Priority Communities and/or Priority Populations



Inclusive and equitable engagement



Demonstrate partnerships between CBO's and local gov't; among jurisdictions, transit agencies and counties.





#### **Evaluation Criteria**

 To ensure consistency with the implementation of county and regional plans and priorities, as well as discussion and coordination in developing investment proposals, projects conominated by MTC and a CTA will be given extra consideration if meeting regional goals and priorities.

#### **Project Nomination**

- A "Call for Interest" was initiated:
  - To learn the extent of community-based needs (who participates, project type, how much)
  - To inform community-based investment priority categories, percentage allocation for each category, and overall grant design, implementation, and evaluation.
- MTC may consider projects that would be implemented regionwide or in more than one county. Where applicable, MTC staff will work with CTAs to coordinate on co-nominations for regional projects.
- Proposed minimum county nomination target of \$1M.





#### **Proposed Project Selection Process**

June 23 - July 21

July - August

**August - October** 

October – December 2023

Call for Interest

Preliminary Review

Call Ifor Projects/Project **Application** 

**Evaluation** and Program **Approval** 

CTARole:

- Invited to submit project ideas
- Spread the word
- Review submittals
- Co-evaluate
- Work w/ proposers to submit application (if applicable)
- Work with project sponsors to submit application (s) - detailed scope, delivery schedule, funding plan
- Resolution of local support (for OBAG/TIP)
- Spread the word submittals

- Co-evaluate
- MTC Commission consideration and approval of projects and fund programming.



#### **Questions and Answers and Discussion**

- Do you have a partnership in mind? Do you need further information? How can MTC support?
- What are anticipated challenges? What are the opportunities?
- Do you have additional questions?

#### Thank You and Resources

- Resources:
  - On MTC's CARE Program:
     https://mtc.ca.gov/planning/transportation/access-equity-mobility/community-action-resource-empowerment-care-program
  - One Bay Area Grant 3: <a href="https://mtc.ca.gov/funding/federal-funding/federal-highway-administration-grants/one-bay-area-grant-obag-3">https://mtc.ca.gov/funding/federal-fun
  - Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 2.0):
     <a href="https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/programs-active/regional-early-action-planning-grants-of-2021">https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/programs-active/regional-early-action-planning-grants-of-2021</a>