



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
TEL 510.817.5700
TTY/TDD 510.817.5769
FAX 510.817.5848
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

February 14, 2011

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Alameda County

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Deputy Executive Director, Operations

RE: Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy – Call for Projects

To: Caltrans, Congestion Management Agencies, and Multi-County Transit Operators

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is issuing an open “call for projects” for consideration in the Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). MTC requests the assistance of each of the nine Congestion Management Agencies (CMAs) to coordinate project submittals for their county. Caltrans and multi-county transit operators may submit directly to MTC, but coordination with the CMAs are encouraged. Attached is the Call for Projects Guidance that lays out required elements to be carried out in the local call for projects.

Project submittals are due to MTC on April 29, 2011. Projects/programs will undergo a project-level performance evaluation, which MTC will initiate starting in May 2011. MTC requests all partner agencies to adhere to this deadline. The results of the project performance assessment will inform the upcoming detailed alternatives analysis and investment trade-off discussions, ultimately leading to a preferred RTP/SCS early next year with adoption occurring a year later. As such, there will be ongoing opportunities for these discussions to occur.

The SCS legislation requires closer integration between land use and transportation planning. With this in mind, MTC and ABAG have adopted goals that direct local agencies to consider how their projects support SCS principals as promulgated by SB 375.

MTC is developing a web-based application form for sponsors to fill out and submit their projects. Sponsors will be able to (a) remove projects in the current plan (Transportation 2035) that are either now complete and open for service or no longer being pursued, (b) update projects in the current plan that should be carried forward in the RTP/SCS, and (c) add new projects. The web-based project application will be available

on March 1, 2011. At that time, MTC will provide instructions to CMAs on how to access and use the web-based form. Upon request, MTC staff will also provide a brief tutorial to the CMAs and its technical advisory committee.

MTC looks forward to receiving your project submittals. If you have any questions about the submittal process, please contact Grace Cho of my staff at (510) 817-5826 or gcho@mtc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Ann Flemer.

Ann Flemer
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

AF: GC

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Attachments:

- Attachment A: Call for Projects Guidance
- Attachment A.1: Goals and Performance Targets
- Attachment A.2: Programmatic Categories
- Attachment A.3: MTC's Draft Transportation Project Performance Assessment Methodology
- Attachment A.4: MTC Policy Advisory Council Members