



Transportation Committee

May 8, 2014

Programming Recommendations for Federal Transit Administration Sections 5307 and 5339 FY 2014 Apportionments to the Sacramento Urbanized Area- Funding of Transit Projects with Discretionary Share Apportionments

Issue: How should the Board program the Discretionary Share of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Sections 5307 and 5339 funds available for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014?

Recommendation: That the Transportation Committee recommend that the Board program the Discretionary Share of Section 5307 and 5339 funds as shown in Attachment A.

Discussion: On March 4, 2014, the FTA released federal apportionment funding amounts for FY 2014 Section 5307 and 5339 funds, thereby allowing staff to move forward with programming recommendations.

These funds apply to transit operators in the Sacramento Larger Urbanized Area (SAC UZA) as well as any public transit agency that had previously received FTA Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) funds. SAC UZA operators include El Dorado Transit, Placer County Transit, City of Roseville Transit, Sacramento Regional Transit District, Yolo County Transportation District, e-tran and Yuba-Sutter Transit.

In November 2013, during TCC meetings to recommend how SACOG should approach the allocation of 5307 and 5339 funds in the region, members of the TCC's SAC UZA working group negotiated an agreement under which Yolo County Transportation District (YCTD) would not apply for the 2014 Discretionary share of FTA formula funds due to Woodland's becoming an urbanized area with associated transit funding for YCTD. On November 20, 2013, Terry Bassett, Executive Director of YCTD, submitted compromise language (Attachment B) confirming that YCTD would not be eligible for the 2014 discretionary fund cycle unless total funding increased by 10 percent or more above SACOG's estimate. The proposal was approved unanimously by the members of working group. FY 2014 funds did not increase.

On March 20, 2014, the Board approved programming of the service based Earned Share portion, which comprises 88 percent (\$23,531,385) of the total available funding. At this meeting, the Board also approved a Discretionary Share funding round, in which projects would be selected for the remaining 12 percent of funds (\$3,208,825) through a competitive application process, informed by policies in short-range transit plans, and the Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS). The Board approved the release of the Call for Projects as well as evaluation and selection criteria for the competitive Discretionary program.

On March 20, 2014, SACOG issued the Discretionary program Call for Projects, with transit operators asked to submit project applications by April 11, 2014. SACOG received nine eligible applications from four transit agencies, and one incomplete application from the nonprofit Volunteers of America that did not meet FTA's strict requirements.

SACOG staff was responsible for the technical evaluation and scoring of the project applications. Attachment A provides a summary of the recommended project list, containing \$6,417,650 million in new programming covering a two-year cycle. On April 24, 2014, staff presented its recommendations to the SAC UZA working group. By a majority vote, the operators endorsed the recommended funding awards. Attachment C provides brief project descriptions and funding requests for each project. Attachment D includes the project evaluation criteria and scoring methodology.

Once the Board approves funding recommendations, staff will continue to work closely with transit operators to program the Discretionary Share funds in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) by amendment. Approval of the MTIP amendment will allow transit agencies to apply to the FTA to receive the funding. Before the funding is ultimately awarded by the FTA, SACOG is also responsible for providing a letter of concurrence to the FTA that certain conditions have been satisfied, such as consistency between the project(s) in the grant application and the transit operator's short-range transit plan.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

MM:AZ:gg
Attachments

Key Staff: Sharon Sprowls, Senior Program Specialist (916) 340-6235
Azadeh Doherty, Senior Planner, (916) 340-6221

1400402

FTA 5307 and 5339 Discretionary Funding Awards - FFYs 2014 & 2015*

TABLE 1: FTA 5307 Programming (Includes 1% set aside for Transit Improvements)

Agency	Project	Avg. Score	FFY 2014 Award	FFY 2014 Request	FFY 2015 Award	FFY 2015 Request	Total Award
Paratransit, Inc.	Job Access Reverse Commute Wheels to Work	87	\$0	\$0	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
Roseville Transit	Louis and Orlando (Regional) Transit Transfer Point	85	\$246,520	\$246,520	\$246,520	\$246,520	\$493,040
Sacramento Regional Transit District	Job Access Reverse Commute Fixed Route Operations	83	\$674,196	\$700,000	\$599,196	\$700,000	\$1,273,392
Paratransit, Inc.	Travel Training (Mobility Management)	79	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$350,000
Sacramento Regional Transit District	Smartphone Ticketing	73	\$0	\$220,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
El Dorado Transit	Preventive Vehicle Maintenance	62	\$0	\$258,434	\$0	\$258,434	\$0
Sacramento Regional Transit District	Building & Light Rail Station Infrastructure and Maintenance	61	\$0	\$500,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$0
Subtotal			\$1,120,716	\$2,124,954	\$1,120,716	\$1,729,954	\$2,241,432

TABLE 2: FTA 5339 Programming

Agency	Project	Avg. Score	FFY 2014 Award	FFY 2014 Request	FFY 2015 Award	FFY 2015 Request	Total Award
Roseville Transit	Louis and Orlando (Regional) Transit Transfer Point	85	\$993,480	\$1,240,000	\$993,480	\$1,240,000	\$1,986,960
Paratransit, Inc.	Replace/Upgrade Vehicle Data Terminals	83	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$300,000
Sacramento Regional Transit District	Bus Replacements	72	\$794,629	\$1,464,000	\$1,094,629	\$1,952,000	\$1,889,258
Subtotal			\$2,088,109	\$3,004,000	\$2,088,109	\$3,192,000	\$4,176,218

TOTAL FTA 5307 & 5339 (Tables 1 & 2)			\$3,208,825	\$5,128,954	\$3,208,825	\$4,921,954	\$6,417,650
---	--	--	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------

*The same level of funding is assumed for federal fiscal years 2014 and 2015.

Ineligible Projects

Agency	Project	Avg. Score	FFY 2014 Request	FFY 2015 Request	Total Request
Volunteers of America	Job Access Reverse Commute Supplemental Mather Community Campus transitional program shuttle	N/A	\$132,938	\$132,938	\$265,876

SACRAMENTO URBANIZED AREA 5307/5339 COMPROMISE (APPROVED 11/20/2013)

Scenario 12 (Earned Share allocation), subject to the following:

1. The Sacramento Urbanized Area operators are locked into those relative shares (4-yr phase in methodology approved previously, Years 1 and 2), assuming they come from the 88% 5307/5339 Sacramento urbanized area split, for Federal Fiscal years 2014 and 2015.
2. An acceptable competitive evaluation process is developed for the remaining 12%. This 12% selection process would also be biennial, unless there is a significant change in the funding program.
3. YCTD will not be eligible for any of the 12% discretionary funding amount for Federal FY 2014 AND 2015, unless that total increases by 10% or more above the current SACOG estimate.
4. Every transit operator may choose to update its UZA service distributions every two years (the next update year would be the FY 13/14 reporting year), consistent with written FTA suggested NTD methodologies, which are available at "www.fta.dot.gov"
5. Around March, 2015, the TCC Sacramento Urbanized Area Working Group will meet again to assess the revised NTD data and its impact on FTA Sacramento Urbanized Area Section 5307 funds coming to the region. Both the 88% and 12% distribution methodologies will be reassessed at that time for Federal Fiscal years subsequent to 2014 and 2015.
6. Once number 5 above is completed, SACOG will start using an agreed upon set of percentages for every two years' worth of Sacramento urbanized area programming. If NTD numbers are used, FY 2013/14 validated numbers would be used for FFY 2016 and 2017, FY 2015/16 validated numbers would be used for FFY 2018 and 2019, and so on.
7. YCTD and SACOG agree to meet in good faith to seek and obtain transit operating subsidies from Sacramento International Airport towards Yolobus Route 42.

FTA 5307/5339 Discretionary Project Descriptions

El Dorado County Transit	\$646,086	Total Cost
1. Preventive Vehicle Maintenance (5307)	\$516,868	Request
<i>This project would fund the preventive maintenance for the El Dorado Transit commuter fleet.</i>	\$0	Recommended 5307
<hr/>		
Paratransit, Inc.	\$250,000	Total Cost
2. Job Access Reverse Commute – Wheels to Work (5307)	\$125,000	Request
<i>The project would serve homeless individuals and families located throughout Paratransit, Inc.'s service area. Wheels to Work provides transit service to medical facilities, job training and resources, the Department of Human Assistance, the Department of Rehabilitation, one stop career centers, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and Social Security Administration. These destinations are critical to the success of this transportation program to meet the needs of the homeless population it serves. Paratransit would also provide travel training for those who are interested in learning to use fixed route and light rail transit services, enabling those who are able to secure employment or job training to navigate their way to those locations.</i>	\$125,000	Recommended 5307
<hr/>		
Paratransit, Inc.	\$592,500	Total Cost
3. Replace/Upgrade Vehicle Data Terminals (5339)	\$300,000	Request
<i>This project would replace/upgrade personal data terminals on all of Paratransit, Inc.'s Demand Response vehicle fleet (the CTSA fleet was upgraded in 2013). This replacement/upgrade would enhance data collection, vehicle tracking and location and increase coordination. The project seeks to move Paratransit's Demand Response fleet to the same Ranger 4 platform as the CTSA fleet. By operating on the same platform, Paratransit, Inc. will be able to provide enhanced technical support, increased data connectivity and combined scheduling with their CTSA partners who assist with ADA service. By working with the same hardware and software platform, Paratransit, Inc. will be able to further enhance the resources available to their partner agencies through enhanced IT support and user experience.</i>	\$300,000	Recommended 5339

FTA 5307/5339 Discretionary Project Descriptions

<p>Paratransit, Inc.</p> <p>4. Travel Training (Mobility Management) (5307)</p> <p><i>The project would fund the travel training/mobility management program that allows for a portion of ADA paratransit/demand response riders to receive specialized training to enable them to utilize fixed route services to complete their trips. This training aids in the quality of life of passengers by providing them the tools necessary to increase their mobility and access key destinations across the region, whether shopping, medical or educational. The skills learned provide a priceless investment in opportunity. The proposed project benefits passengers and provides an economic benefit to all of the region's transit operators, as demand response/ADA paratransit services are some of the most costly services to provide.</i></p>	<p>\$437,500 Total Cost</p> <p>\$350,000 Request</p> <p>\$350,000 Recommended</p> <p>5307</p>
<p>City of Roseville Transit</p> <p>5. Louis and Orlando (regional) Transit Transfer Point (5339/5307)</p> <p><i>This project would significantly improve the Louis and Orlando (regional) Transit Transfer Point that is currently served by Roseville Transit, Placer County Transit and Sacramento Regional Transit, and is the transfer point used by Paratransit, Inc. and Roseville Dial-A-Ride. Project features include new platform areas with covered passenger shelters and benches, digital information boards indicating bus arrival times, two Connect Card fare machines, bicycle racks and lockers, a park-and-ride lot with video security, compacting trash receptacles, a restroom for transit employees, and pedestrian improvements such as crosswalks, curb ramps and directional signs. All improvements will comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act.</i></p>	<p>\$3,100,000 Total Cost</p> <p>\$2,480,000 Request</p> <p>\$1,986,960 Recommended</p> <p>\$493,040 5339</p> <p>\$2,480,000 5307 TI</p> <p>\$2,480,000 Total</p>
<p>Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT)</p> <p>6. Smartphone QR Code Ticketing (5307)</p> <p><i>This project would allow RT to implement smart phone ticketing. RT will need to acquire QR code readers and software to interface with the new Connect Card (INIT) system for back office functions- payment processing, rider accounts, refunds, customer service, rider data, and boarding information. In the initial phase, QR code readers would be used on buses only.</i></p>	<p>\$275,000 Total Cost</p> <p>\$220,000 Request</p> <p>\$0 Recommended</p> <p>5307</p>

FTA 5307/5339 Discretionary Project Descriptions

<p>Sacramento Regional Transit District</p> <p>7. Building and Light Rail Infrastructure and Maintenance (5307)</p> <p><i>This project would replace roofs on three RT buildings, replace carpet in three RT buildings, provide structural analysis and concrete repair at the metro light rail maintenance building, fund emergency/critical repairs, fund replacement of CNG fueling shop equipment, and fund installation of automatic water saving irrigation systems at landscaped light rail stations.</i></p>	<p>\$937,500</p> <p>\$750,000</p> <p>\$0</p>	<p>Total Cost</p> <p>Request</p> <p>Recommended</p> <p>5307</p>
<p>Sacramento Regional Transit District</p> <p>8. Job Access Reverse Commute fixed route transit services (5307)</p> <p><i>This project would fund maintenance of fixed-route transit services on several RT bus routes that were previously funded under FTA Section 5316 (JARC) connecting low-income environmental justice communities to job training, educational, and employment opportunities. The project would also fund development of JARC services on two fixed-route bus lines (Routes 24 and 55) that were introduced subsequent to MAP-21 (in January 2013 and January 2014, respectively).</i></p> <p><i>Funded services:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>#19 - Rio Linda - Maintain 2 late evening trips</i> <i>#24 - Greenback/Madison - Add 3 morning and 3 evening trips</i> <i>#26 - Fulton - Maintain Sat/Sun/Holiday service</i> <i>#51 - Broadway/Stockton - Maintain weekday evening service & Maintain Sat/Sun/Holiday service</i> <i>#54 - Center Parkway - Maintain Sat/Sun/Holiday service</i> <i>#55 – Scottsdale - Add 3 evening trips & Maintain Sat/Sun/Hol service</i> <i>#56 - Pocket/CRC - Maintain weekday evening service & Maintain Sat/Sun/Holiday service</i> <i>#75 – Mather - Maintain weekday evening service & Maintain Sat/Sun/Holiday service</i> <i>#80 - Watt/Elkhorn - Maintain weekday evening service & Maintain Sat/Sun/Holiday service</i> 	<p>\$2,800,000</p> <p>\$1,400,000</p> <p>\$1,273,392</p>	<p>Total Cost</p> <p>Request</p> <p>Recommended</p> <p>5307</p>
<p>Sacramento Regional Transit District</p> <p>9. Fixed Route Bus Replacements (5339)</p> <p>This project proposes to replace up to seven (7) of RT’s 40-foot CNG fixed route buses. The buses being replaced have CNG tanks that expire in FY 15/16 and 16/17.</p> <p>Note: The recommended funding would allow RT to replace three (3) of the 40-foot CNG buses.</p>	<p>\$4,270,000</p> <p>\$3,416,000</p> <p>\$1,889,258</p>	<p>Total Cost</p> <p>Request</p> <p>Recommended</p> <p>5339</p>

FTA 5307/5339 Discretionary Project Descriptions

Ineligible – Volunteers of America

10. Mather Community Campus Shuttle (5307)

The project would fund the Mather Community Campus (MCC) shuttle that serves the Mather Community Campus, a job training and employment-focused transitional housing program for homeless individuals and homeless families with children. The shuttle supplements RT services to the Mather Light Rail station by making numerous trips throughout the day, starting as early as 5 AM and going as late as 10:30 PM. The shuttle also provides direct services to multiple job training sites, Alcoholics Anonymous meetings (which are required for residents recovering from substance abuse), necessary services like grocers/food programs, and medical facilities/services.

\$265,876 Total Cost

\$265,876 Request

**\$0 Recommended
5307**

Note: This application was incomplete and determined not to be eligible.

FTA Section 5307/5339 Discretionary Share Programming Criteria

A. MTP/SCS Implementation (50 points)

- a) Describe how this project(s) assists the region in supporting the SACOG MTP/SCS transit related policies & strategies, specifically the maintenance or restoration of productive transit services and the provision of new transit services that support the growth projected in the MTP/SCS land use allocation.
- b) Describe how this project(s) meets “state of good repair”, “fix it first” policies, and long-term asset (including transit vehicles, transit stations and facilities) management benefits under MAP-21.
- c) Describe how this project(s) is consistent with your agency/organization short range transit plan (if applicable), fleet/facilities plan, asset management plan or other agency/organization planning documents.

B. Access/Continuity (30 points)

- a) Describe the specific operational/implementation or capital plan details for this project(s).
- b) Describe how this project(s) coordinates transit services improving access to destinations as well as to transit stations and mobility in the region.
- c) Specify how the project(s) addresses the gap(s) and/or barriers identified through your agency’s/organization’s internal analysis, the most recent Unmet Transit Needs process in the project area, and the Lifeline Transportation Study
- d) Describe how this project(s) ensures access to “lifeline” and/or regional destinations (job centers, medical facilities, job training, educational facilities, regional shopping centers, regional transportation hubs etc.).
- e) Describe how this project(s) ensures access to transportation for transit dependent populations, particularly those groups identified in the President’s Order for Environmental Justice and/or areas experiencing high levels of unemployment or chronic underemployment.

C. Project Readiness/Financial Plan (15 points)

- a) Describe how this project(s) has long-term financial sustainability.
- b) Describe how this project(s) provides transportation services cost efficiently.
- c) When does the sponsor plan to obligate the requested regional funding?
- d) What are the amounts and sources of secured funding for the project?
- e) What are the amounts and sources of reasonably expected and unsecured funding for the project?
- f) Will the funds complete the project or a phase of the project?

Please supply a full financial budget and detailed project schedule/timeline with your application.