



SACOG Board of Directors

Item #17-3-4
Consent

March 9, 2017

Authorize Regional Transit Asset Management Plan Development Request for Qualifications

Issue: SACOG is proposing to develop a combined Transit Asset Management Plan for small transit operators in the region with assistance from a consultant.

Recommendation: The Transportation Committee unanimously recommends that the Board authorize SACOG to release a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for consulting assistance for developing the group Transit Asset Management plan.

Committee Action/Discussion: In order to comply with provisions of federal MAP-21 legislation, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) published a final rule in July 2016 requiring transit agencies to develop a Transit Asset Management (TAM) plan. FTA defines transit asset management as “the strategic and systematic practice of procuring, operating, inspecting, maintaining, rehabilitating, and replacing transit capital assets to manage their performance, risks, and costs over their life cycles, for the purpose of providing safe, cost-effective, and reliable public transportation.”

Per the federal rule, TAM plans must include an inventory of agency assets, including vehicles, facilities and other capital assets; an assessment of the condition of those inventoried assets; and a prioritized list of investments to improve a “state of good repair.” Transit operators are also required to set performance targets for their capital assets, and report these targets and information on the condition of their capital assets to the National Transit Database. A follow-up FTA TAM rule issued in October 2016 further defined state of good repair for transit agencies; established a set of performance measures to determine a state of good repair; and set October 2018 as the deadline for public transit operators to develop a TAM plan.

The new rules require Tier I operators – defined as large transit operators that operate rail or over 100 vehicles across fixed route services or in non-fixed route service – to create an individual TAM plan. Smaller transit operators may participate in a group TAM plan that is sponsored by the State or a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) such as SACOG.

In preparation for the federal mandate, the Transit Coordinating Committee (TCC) and SACOG staff agreed that development of a group TAM plan for smaller transit operators in our region would be the most cost-effective approach, with SACOG managing a contract for consultant assistance. The nine transit operators to participate in the group TAM plan are El Dorado Transit, Elk Grove Transit, Folsom Transit, Davis Community Transit, Unitrans, Yolo County Transportation District, Placer County Transit, Roseville Transit, and Yuba-Sutter Transit. Of the other small operators, Auburn Transit expects to participate in Caltrans’ rural group TAM plan,

and SCT/Link will prepare its own plan.

As Tier I operators, the Sacramento Regional Transit District and Paratransit Inc. are required to prepare individual TAM plans. However, SACOG is looking at ways to coordinate with Regional Transit and Paratransit, Inc. where possible, including on development of standards for assessing the condition of capital assets to create a common approach across the region.

With Board authorization, SACOG staff will work with the participating transit agencies to develop and then release the RFQ seeking consultant expertise to help prepare the group TAM plan. The duration of the work is estimated to be approximately one year. The plan will include an inventory and condition assessment of all of the participating agencies' transit capital assets, and provide an investment prioritization plan. As agreed with the TCC, the consultant contract will be funded through Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5307 formula funds.

Approved by:

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Interim Chief Executive Officer

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