

TDA
TRAINING
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SACOG'S TDA TEAM



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What is the Transportation Development Act?



The Mills-Alquist-Deddeh Act (SB 325) was enacted by the California Legislature – known as the Transportation Development Act of 1971

The Act provides funds to be allocated to transit and non-transit related purposes that comply with regional transportation plans that:

- improve existing public transportation services and
- encourage regional transportation coordination.

What is the TDA?



The TDA is administered by Caltrans within the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), & provides two major sources for the funding of public transportation in California through regional planning and programming agencies such as the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG).

For the specifics of the Act, refer to the TDA Statutes and California Code of Regulations. Section numbers refer to the Public Utilities Code (Division 10, Part 11, Chapter 4, Articles 1-8) and the California Code of Regulations (Title 21, Chapter 3, Articles 1-7) which are found in the TDA Book: April 2013.

What is the TDA?



The TDA funds a wide variety of transportation programs, including:

- public transportation (bus & rail) services/projects
- community transit services
- pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- planning and program activities, and
- providing certain conditions are met, TDA funds in less populated counties may also be used for local streets and roads, construction and maintenance

What is the TDA?



- Public participation is a key component of the TDA. Public hearings are held in eligible counties to discuss transportation needs, and hear concerns.
- Unmet transit needs are identified through an annual public hearing and evaluation process conducted in the fall that is overseen by SACOG.
- The TDA statutes provide that SACOG area jurisdictions located outside of the SRTD may use their LTF apportionments for streets and roads purposes, if it is found by SACOG that they have no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet (Sections 99232, 99232.5).

What is the TDA?



Regional planning agencies in eligible counties are required to establish Social Service Transportation Advisory Councils (SSTAC), comprised of potentially transit dependent persons, including persons with disabilities, seniors (60+) and low-income representatives.

SSTAC members work with local agencies in analyzing unmet transit needs, and make recommendations which are used in making project approval decisions.

What is the TDA?

TDA Program Compliance

- Fiscal audits are conducted annually, and include transit operator's expense to revenue ratio known as farebox recovery.
- Performance audits are conducted every three years and include performance measures that verify the efficiency and effectiveness of planning agencies and transit operators.
- Audits for local planning agencies are conducted by independent contractors. The next Triennial Audits will begin in FY 2018-19.



Local Transportation Fund & State Transit Assistance



The TDA provides two funding sources:

- 1) Local Transportation Fund (LTF) derived from a $\frac{1}{4}$ cent of the general sales tax collected statewide.
- 2) State Transit Assistance fund (STA) derived from a statewide excise tax on diesel fuel.

LTF & STA



- The general sales tax revenues are returned to each county's LTF by the State Board of Equalization based on sales tax collected in that county.
- The STA funds are appropriated by the legislature to the State Controllers office.

LTF & STA cont.



- STA - The Controllers office then allocates the tax revenue, by formula, to planning agencies, such as SACOG, and other selected agencies.
- Statute requires that 50% of STA funds be allocated according to population and 50% be allocated according to operator revenues from the prior fiscal year.
- LTF - Payments from the LTF are made by the county auditor, but only in accordance with written allocation instructions issued in compliance with the Act by the county's Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA). SACOG is the RTPA for the four counties (Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo & Yuba) and the jurisdictions within those counties.

Priorities on how TDA funds are spent



Local Transportation Funds (LTF)

Transit First

- If there are 'unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet' in a jurisdiction or transit district LTF funds not already allocated to provide existing transit services must be spent to fulfill transit needs first before any other needs are considered.
- Rail passenger service operations and capital improvements
- Pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Community Transportation Services (CTSAs, specialized transportation services)

Priorities on how TDA funds are spent



State Transit Assistance (STA) funds

Transit Only

- Operating cost of the public transportation system (the amount based on the required STA Efficiency Calculation)

Capital requirements of the public transportation system

- Subsidy of passenger rail
- Transportation planning
- Community Transit Services (CTSAs, specialized transportation services)

How does a claimant get the LTF & STA funds



Four Steps

- Apportionment (February)
- <https://www.sacog.org/transportation-development-act>
- Claims (April-December)
- Authorization Letters (after claims are approved by the SACOG Board of Directors)
- Payment – LTF payments are made by the county auditor, but only in accordance with written allocation instructions issued in compliance with the TDA from SACOG, the RTPA.
 - STA payments are made directly by SACOG to the eligible recipient agencies.

TDA Claims Guidelines for the SACOG RTPA Region



What we need to process your claim:

- A list of items needed on file in order to process a transit claim can be found on pages 17-18 of the SACOG TDA Guidelines, Appendix E of the Guidelines and <https://www.sacog.org/transportation-development-act>
- Examples of information required:
 - Ten Year Capital and Operations Plan
 - Automatic submittal of Agency Budget, State Controller and National Transit Database reports

Filing a Claim for LTF & STA Funds



How to file a claim for LTF &/or STA funds with SACOG

- First, find out if your jurisdiction qualifies under the TDA law to claim LTF &/or STA funds.
- Next receive (LTF & STA) apportionment information.
- Find out if there are 'unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet'. If there are, those transit needs come first.

Filing a Claim for LTF & STA Funds



How to file a claim for LTF &/or STA funds with SACOG

- Fill out SACOG's TDA Claim packet & be sure to submit all requested information for transit, bicycle/pedestrian and/or streets & roads claims.
- Get a resolution from the agency's governing body approving the claim.
- Submit claim to SACOG no later than the first of the month prior to the month you would like to see approval.
After the SACOG Board approves the claim SACOG sends an allocation instruction letter to the County Auditor to pay the LTF funds to the claimant. SACOG pays STA claims directly.

Yearly TDA Fiscal Audits



Our Fiscal Auditor Richardson & Company:

Represented by: Brian Nash

Triennial Performance Audits



Performance Audits (Sections 99246-99249, 6662.5, 6663, 6664.5)

- SACOG hires qualified independent consultants to make a performance audit of its activities and the activities of each operator to whom it allocates funds. In the case of operator performance audits, SACOG works with the operators to define a scope of work and to choose the consultant who performs the audit.
- The performance audit evaluates the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of the operation of the entity being audited. Performance audits are conducted triennially pursuant to a schedule established by SACOG (see TDA Guidelines - Appendix F).
- **No operator is eligible to receive an allocation for any fiscal year until it has completed a performance audit for the three-year period ending one year prior to the beginning of the fiscal year of the proposed allocation.**

Note: Under Sections 6662.5 and 6663(b) performance audits of transportation planning and programming entities and transit operators require by the TDA statutes must be made available to the public.



- SACOG may hold a session in 2018 after updated California State STA guidelines related to the passage of Senate Bill 1 are released.

Other Questions?

Contact the SACOG TDA Staff at:

TDAclaims@sacog.org or by calling (916) 321-9000

- Resource: SACOG TDA webpage - www.sacog.org/transportation-development-act