

2016 Measure B Transit Operations Program Guidelines

[Revised and approved by VTA Board of Directors: August 4, 2022]

The revenue from this program category will provide additional funds specifically for bus operations to serve vulnerable, underserved, and transit dependent populations throughout the county. The goals of the program category are to increase ridership, improve efficiency, enhance mobility services for seniors and disabled, and improve affordability for the underserved and vulnerable constituencies in the county. As VTA considers modifications to bus operations and routes to improve ridership and efficiencies, these funds may also be utilized to maintain and expand service to the most underserved and vulnerable populations. The funds may be used to increase core bus route service frequencies, extending hours of operations to early morning, evenings and weekends to improve mobility, safe access and affordability to residents that rely on bus service for critical transportation mobility needs. Attachment D describes the list of Candidate Projects and Programs.

Total Funding

7.94% of Program Tax Revenues

Program Type

Formula-based program

Distribution of Funds

- Funds will be allocated on a two-year cycle, in conjunction with the VTA Biennial Budget process.
- Funds are allocated on an annual basis, based on the application of the ballot-established ratio to the estimated Program Tax Revenue. The allocations are calculated in two steps:
 - Multiplying the ballot-established ratio by the projected Program Tax Revenues for that fiscal year.
 - Reconciling prior allocations, which were based on estimated Program Tax Revenues, with actual Program Tax Revenues (referred to as a “true-up process”). This true-up process will occur in the first fiscal year of each biennial budget cycle.
- The Transit Operations Program Category funding will be allocated for the following four sub-categories identified in 2016 Measure B Attachment D:
 - **Enhance Frequent Core Bus Network** by increasing core bus route service frequencies, and expanding or adding additional evening, late night and weekend service.
 - **Expand mobility services and affordable fare programs** for seniors, disabled, students and low-income riders.
 - Support **new/innovative transit service models** to address first/last mile connections and transit services for the transit dependent, vulnerable populations and paratransit users that is safe and accountable.
 - **Improve amenities at bus stops** to increase safety, security and access with

lighting and access improvements.

The allocations for the four sub-categories are as follows:

2016 Measure B Transit Operations Program	
Sub-category	Funding Allocation
Frequent Core Bus Network	73%
Innovative Transit Service Models	8%
Affordable Fare Programs	15%
Bus Stop Amenities	4%

Implementation

- Only projects and programs currently listed on 2016 Measure B Attachment D are eligible.
- **Enhanced Frequent Core Bus Network** will directly fund VTA's core bus network of services, maintain or increasing core bus route service frequencies, and expanding or adding evening, late night and weekend service.
- **Fare Programs** will directly fund VTA's Transit Assistance Program (TAP) and reduced fares for youth.
- **Innovative Transit Service Models** (Competitive Grant) will support goals to address first/last mile connections.
 - Only a public agency can serve as a project sponsor. Other entities must partner with a public agency to apply for a grant.
 - The minimum grant award is \$250,000.
 - The maximum grant award per sponsoring agency can be no more than 50% of the total available funds per call for projects per cycle, unless the cycle is undersubscribed.
 - The 2016 Measure B Program Office developed project criteria in conjunction with the VTA Technical Advisory Committee Capital Improvement Program Working Group and incorporated input from VTA committees.
- **Bus Stop Amenities** will directly fund improvements at VTA's bus stops. The bus stop improvements will be prioritized based on VTA's Transit Passenger Environment Plan or subsequent plans and ongoing maintenance needs.

Requirements

- Innovative Transit Service Models Competitive Grant Program
 - Reporting requirements will be detailed in agreements executed with VTA for project funding.
 - Funds will be distributed on a reimbursement basis.
- All capital projects must comply with VTA Complete Streets reporting requirements.
- All projects must comply with 2016 Measure B program oversight requirements.
- All collateral material must comply with 2016 Measure B branding requirements.