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March 15, 2019

TO: San Mateo County Transportation Project Sponsors
(Distribution List as shown in Attachment 5)

RE: REQUEST FOR REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS FOR THE
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN/SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
STRATEGY (RTP/ SCS), ALSO KNOWN AS PLAN BAY AREA 2050

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) has initiated the update of its long-range Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/ SCS), to be adopted in the summer of 2021. The RTP/ SCS, also known as Plan Bay Area 2050, will detail how the San Francisco Bay Area's transportation system will be maintained, improved and expanded to the horizon year of 2050. The Plan Bay Area is updated every four (4) years and typically with no mid- term amendment.

Plan Bay Area 2050 is a state-mandated, integrated long-range transportation, land-use and housing plan that will support a growing economy, provide housing and transportation choices, and reduce transportation-related pollution in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The purpose of the Plan Bay Area 2050 Request for Regionally Significant Projects process is to assemble an array of capacity-expanding, **regionally-significant projects** and **programmatic investments** of smaller projects for prioritization in the region's long-range plan. The Plan Bay Area 2050 Request for Regionally Significant Projects will build upon Plan Bay Area 2040 (adopted in 2017), the Bay Area's adopted 2019 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and MTC Horizon's Request for Transformative Projects. See Attachment 1 for the full guidance issued by MTC.

Project sponsors are encouraged to submit regionally-significant projects derived from an adopted plan, corridor study, or project study report (e.g., RTP/SCS, countywide transportation plan, community-based transportation plans, regional bicycle plan, climate action plans) and which meet one or more of the general criteria listed below:

- Will open for operation after 2021 and by year 2050;
- Will seek federal, state, or regional funding;
- Will require federal or state action (e.g., project-level conformity, NEPA, CEQA);
- Supports MTC Horizon's Guiding Principles (See Attachment 1);
- Supports the region's sustainable communities strategy (SCS).

C/CAG Request for Regionally-Significant Projects

Project sponsors are requested to submit regionally significant projects which are defined as follows:

- **Regionally-significant project** means a transportation project (other than an exempt project) that is adding capacity to a facility which serves regional transportation needs including at a minimum the principal arterial system and all fixed guideway transit facilities.
 - In the context of Plan Bay Area 2050, a project proposal will be deemed regionally-significant if it meets any of the following:
 - Expands or extends the principal arterial system (length must be greater than ¼ mile)
 - Expands or extends a roadway to become part of the principal arterial system (length must be greater than ¼ mile)
 - Reduces the number of lanes (e.g., road diet) of the principal arterial system (length must be greater than ¼ mile)
 - Adds new or expands access to the principal arterial system (e.g., new interchanges or interchange modifications that add capacity)
 - Extends or expands the fixed guideway transit infrastructure
 - Adds new or expands transit stations or terminals, including parking facilities
 - Expands transit fleets or service levels (e.g., increased frequency, hours of operation)
 - Alters the cost for users of the transportation system (e.g., cordon pricing, tolling, transit fares).
 - Total estimated cost (capital + operating and maintenance) is greater than \$250 million

Programmatic Investments

Programmatic Investments are a collection of like transportation projects (other than regionally significant projects) identified by a single listing in the Plan, often grouped by purpose and geography (e.g. pavement preservation, bicycle/pedestrian facilities, intersection improvements). **Projects that are considered Programmatic Investments do not have to be submitted for individual listing.** Projects that increase capacity of the transportation system but fail to meet the regionally-significant criteria listed above will be considered programmatic investments (e.g., minor highway improvements, widening of local streets). See Attachment 2 for programmatic category project types. Project sponsors should consult Attachment 2 to determine if their project should be submitted. C/CAG Staff should be consulted if there are questions about a project's fit within the programmatic categories.

Projects that are not covered under a programmatic category and that will seek federal, state, or regional funding or require federal or state action (e.g., project level conformity, NEPA, CEQA) must be included in the plan to progress to implementation. In addition, projects that are 100% locally funded and have regional significance must still be included in the plan.

Project Sponsors

Project sponsors should be a public agency such as a city/town, the county, transit operator, a transportation agency in San Mateo County, or Caltrans. Other entities must secure a public agency sponsor to submit projects. C/CAG staff may need to direct/refer any other entities with project ideas to partner with a public agency who would be responsible to conduct the environmental review, approve final design, and approve right-of-way requirements.

Project Submittals to C/CAG

Known Regionally Significant Projects in San Mateo County

MTC issued a list of regionally significant project data from the current RTP/SCS (Plan Bay Area 2040), State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and TIP. Project sponsors should review and update project information. This includes any changes to the scope of work, schedule, or revenue sources. Regionally Significant Projects in San Mateo County can be found in Attachment 3.

Project sponsors must review and update information for projects in the adopted Plan Bay Area 2040 and submit new projects as applicable. **Projects included in the previous Plan Bay Area 2040 will be removed if not re-submitted during this process.**

New Regionally Significant Project Proposals

New projects should be entered in a new row within the spreadsheet. For new project proposals, please provide the following:


- Project Sponsor
- Project Title
- Project Description
- Project Capital Estimated Cost in 2019 Dollars
- Opening Date of Project
- Project Estimated O&M Cost in 2019 Dollars (usually applicable for ITS & transit projects)

In order to meet the MTC deadlines, project sponsors must submit new projects proposals or project updates to Jeff Lacap, for submission, at jlacap@smcgov.org, by or before **April 10, 2019**. Please see Attachment 4 for the full Request of Regionally Significant Projects Schedule.

C/CAG staff will hold an applicant workshop to provide an overview to the Request for Regionally Significant Projects and Plan Bay Area 2050. The workshop will be open to all project sponsors. The workshop is tentatively scheduled for the week of March 25th, 2019. A separate announcement with further details of the workshop will be sent out later.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Jeff Lacap at (650) 599-1455, jlacap@smcgov.org.

Sincerely,


Sandy Wong
Executive Director of C/CAG

Attachments:

1. MTC Guidance for Request for Regionally-Significant Projects
2. MTC Plan Bay Area 2050: Draft Programmatic Categories
3. Regionally Significant Projects in San Mateo County
4. C/CAG Request of Regionally Significant Projects Schedule
5. Distribution List