



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

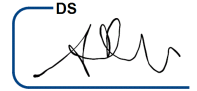
Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: August 22, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director, Transportation, 568-3064



SUBJECT: **Transportation Development Act-Local Transportation Fund Claim for FY 2023-2024; All Supervisorial Districts**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the Public Works Director to file a \$606,617 claim of a total allocation of \$3,599,039 in Transportation Development Act-Local Transportation Fund (TDA-LTF) funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 with the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG); and
- b) Find that the proposed action does not constitute a “Project” within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to 14 CCR 15378(b)(2) (continuing administrative or maintenance activities, such as purchases for supplies, personnel-related actions, general policy and procedure making), and will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

Summary Text:

TDA-LTF (herein referred to as “LTF”) is derived from a ¼ cent of sales tax in each county. Each year, SBCAG is responsible for apportioning LTF funds within Santa Barbara County based on population. In south county, LTF funds go directly to the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (SBMTD). In north county, local jurisdictions are responsible to “claim” their LTF apportionment with SBCAG. In order to claim LTF, the County must complete required forms including a Claim Form (Attachment B) and Resolution (Attachment A), pursuant to SBCAG’s TDA-LTF manual. The Resolution (Attachment

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A) designates the Public Works Director as the County's authorized position to claim LTF for FY 2023-2024.

The TDA statute (Public Utilities Code Sections 99200 et seq.) establishes a priority order by which LTF funds are distributed. Allowed priorities includes some of the following:

- Mandated distribution to SBCAG for regional transportation purposes;
- Mandated distribution to the County for bicycle and pedestrian projects;
- Discretionary funding SBCAG allocates to the County as a pass-through to transit operators in the region;
- Funding that goes to the County to administer transit programs; and
- Funding for roadway projects provided there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet.

In FY 2023-2024, SBCAG will retain \$106,122 "off the top" for regional transportation purposes, and the County will retain \$153,776 for bicycle and pedestrian projects. The County will pass-through \$2,886,300 of the remaining \$3,339,141 in LTF funds to transit operators as described in the Transit Programs subsection. The County will claim \$452,841 for transit administration and planning costs and facility upgrades in unincorporated areas.

Background:

The Transportation Development Act provides funding for public transit operators, local cities and counties for transit operations and capital projects, local street and roadway projects, and bicycle and pedestrian projects. In order for an agency to use TDA-LTF funds for local streets and roadway projects or bicycle and pedestrian improvements, SBCAG must undertake an annual unmet transit needs process and determine that there are no unmet transit needs or no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet. This year, SBCAG voted to forego the unmet needs process, ensuring that all funding could only be used for transit. Therefore, the County will direct all funding towards north county transit obligations and no funding will be allocated for local streets and roads in FY 2023-2024.

While the County does not directly operate any transit service in the north county, the County plays an important role as funding partner for each transit operator. In FY 23-24, the County will allocate \$2,886,300 through the LTF claims process to the cities of Santa Maria, Lompoc, Solvang, Guadalupe, the Santa Maria Organization of Transportation Helpers (SMOOTH), and SBCAG to administer the Clean Air Express. These funds are combined with additional city funding to support activities of Santa Maria Regional Transit (SMRT) including Cuyama Transit, and the Guadalupe Flyer and Shuttle in the Santa Maria Valley, City of Lompoc Transit (COLT) in the Lompoc Valley, Santa Ynez Valley Transit (SYVT) in the Santa Ynez Valley, and senior and disabled transportation services in the north county.

In FY 23-24, the County will partner with the City of Santa Maria to support SMRT Regional Route 30 (formerly the Breeze 100), which provides transit service connecting Santa Maria, Vandenberg Air Force Base and Lompoc. The County also partners with the cities of Santa Maria, Buellton and Solvang to operate SMRT Route 20 (formerly the Breeze Route 200), which provides regional bus service connecting Santa Maria, Los Alamos and the Santa Ynez Valley. Additionally, the County partners with the cities of Lompoc, Buellton and Solvang to operate the Wine Country Express connecting Lompoc and the Santa Ynez Valley with regional bus service. Since FY 20-21, the County has also been the only LTF recipient to support Clean Air Express through the claims process. The County will allocate an additional \$250,000 to SBCAG to support this regional service in FY 23-24.

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Narrative:

The County can claim up to \$3,339,141 in LTF for local and regional transit. As shown on the attached Claim Form, the County will release \$2,886,300 of its total LTF apportionment to these jurisdictions:

- Santa Maria (\$1,168,700),
- Lompoc (\$777,600),
- Solvang (\$215,000),
- Guadalupe (\$75,000),
- SMOOTH (\$400,000); and
- SBCAG (\$250,000).

As mandated in the Public Utilities Code Section 99200 et seq., SBCAG will retain \$106,122 for regional transportation purposes, and the County will retain \$153,776 for bicycle and pedestrian projects. The total amount the County will directly receive is \$606,617 (\$153,776 for bike and pedestrian, \$202,841 for County Transit Fund, and \$250,000 to be held in reserve).

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes, the allocation of \$606,617 retained by the County is budgeted in the Alternative Transportation Fund (0019). However, the County does not budget LTF released to other jurisdictions for reporting purposes. Fund 0019 includes separate programs for Pedestrian & Bikeway Facilities (Program 8825) and Transit (Program 8835).

Fiscal Analysis:

(See Attachment B)

Special Instructions:

Please forward the following to the Public Works Department, Transportation Division, Engineering Section office, 123 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, Attn: Yanette Luna, ext. 83094:

- A certified, stamped Minute Order approving these recommendations.
- One duplicate original executed Agreement (one original Agreement to remain on file with the Clerk of the Board).

Attachments:

Attachment A: TDA Resolution (2 duplicate originals)

Attachment B: TDA Claim (2 duplicate originals)

Authored by:

Mark Friedlander, Active Transportation Manager, 568-3576

cc:

Marika Ruh, PW Accounting

Dave Troutner, SBCAG