



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

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May 23, 2018

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## Potential Section 5311 Applicants San Francisco Bay Area

RE: FY2019 and FY2020 Section 5311 Rural Area Call for Projects

Dear Prospective Applicant:

MTC is currently soliciting projects for FY2019 and FY2020 for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Rural Area Formula (Section 5311) program for the San Francisco Bay Area region. These funds are available for capital and operating expenses for general public transportation services in rural areas, that is, any area outside designated urbanized areas. A map of the Bay Area's designated urbanized areas is enclosed as Attachment D. **All project justification sheets must be submitted no later than June 1, 2018 to Rob Jaques at [rjaques@bayareametro.gov](mailto:rjaques@bayareametro.gov).**

MTC develops a regional Program of Projects (POP) for submittal to Caltrans. Caltrans then submits a statewide POP to FTA for approval. As stated in MTC's 5311 Objectives and Criteria, MTC will issue a Call for Projects every two years, and will adopt a two-year program.

Caltrans recently released the FY2019 Call for Projects and has provided MTC with estimated apportionments for the same. Staff has developed estimates for FY2020 based on the FY2019 estimates, and will adopt a preliminary FY2019 and FY2020 program using these estimates. The estimated amount of Rural Area funds available for the MTC region is approximately \$1.63 million in FY2019 and \$1.66 million in FY2020.

The actual FY2019 apportionments have not yet been released by FTA, but estimates are based on the recently released FY2018 apportionments. Should the actual regional apportionments be lower or higher than the amount estimated to be available, project sponsors will be notified and adjustments may be made in order to financially constrain the program.

Consistent with the revised Section 5311 Objectives and Criteria that were adopted by the Commission on October 23, 2013 (see Attachment B), funds will be distributed to transit operators according to each operator's rural area population and rural area route miles. Table 1 shows each operator's estimated FY2019 and FY2020 amounts, and Attachment E contains the detailed formula calculations.

**Table 1. Estimated FY2019 and FY2020 Section 5311 Amounts by Operator**

Transit Operator	Estimated FY19 5311 Amounts	Estimated FY20 5311 Amounts
AC Transit	\$47,848	\$48,957
CCCTA	\$47,507	\$48,608
Marin Transit <sup>1</sup>	\$204,274	\$209,008
NCTPA	\$200,390	\$205,034
SamTrans	\$147,386	\$150,801
Santa Clara VTA	\$77,172	\$78,961
Solano Transportation Authority <sup>2</sup>	\$378,477	\$387,247
Sonoma County Transit	\$457,825	\$468,434
TriDelta Transit	\$65,356	\$66,870
<b>Regional Total</b>	<b>\$1,626,236</b>	<b>\$1,663,920</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Marin Transit amount is the sum of the Marin Transit (Local Service) and West Marin Stagecoach amounts. Marin Transit will determine which service will use the 5311 funds.

<sup>2</sup> The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) amount is the sum of the Dixon, Fairfield and Suisun Transit, Rio Vista Delta Breeze, SolTrans, and Vacaville amounts. STA will work with these operators to determine individual shares.

**MTC will program FY2019 and FY2020 funds only to those operators who submit Section 5311 project justification sheets during this Call for Projects.** Applicants should base their requests on the amounts in Table 1. One set of project justification sheets should be completed for each project. The project justification sheets are enclosed as Attachment A.

MTC staff will review all project justification sheets to confirm that proposed projects meet program standards, based on the screening criteria in the Funding Objectives and Criteria (see Attachment B).

MTC staff will then develop a preliminary program of projects. If there are remaining Section 5311 funds (i.e., if some eligible operators did not submit Project Justification Sheets), MTC will use the funding formula to distribute the remaining balance to the operators that proposed projects. MTC will confer with applicants to finalize the program of projects. Operators who are eligible to apply for 5311 funds but who do not intend to do so should let Rob Jaques know so that this can be anticipated and accounted for when developing the program.

MTC will transmit the draft FY2019 and FY2020 programs to applicants for review by June 2, 2018. The preliminary FY2019 and FY2020 programs will be reviewed by the TFWG in June and presented to the Programming and Allocations Committee and Commission for approval in July, and will be amended into the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) following the Commission action. A detailed timeline is enclosed as Attachment C.

Agencies will be responsible for submitting the FY2019 and FY2020 Project Applications to Caltrans by the appropriate deadline. Please note that the information in the Caltrans application forms (5311 amount, local match amount, project description, etc.) must match the MTC POP exactly. **The deadline for the FY2019 Project Applications submission to Caltrans is July 31, 2018.** The deadline for the FY2020 Project Applications will be announced by Caltrans in 2019.

Application forms and more information, including Caltrans' Call for Projects can be found on the BlackCat Electronic Grants Management Website here:  
<https://secure.blackcatgrants.com/Default.aspx?site=cadot>

The Caltrans District 4 contact person for Section 5311 funds is Michelle Ruan, who can be reached at (510) 286-5551, or via email: [michelle.ruan@dot.ca.gov](mailto:michelle.ruan@dot.ca.gov).

If you have any questions or comments regarding the FTA Section 5311 Rural Area Formula Program or the funding objectives and criteria, please contact Rob Jaques at (415) 778-5378 or [rjaques@bayareametro.gov](mailto:rjaques@bayareametro.gov).

Sincerely,



Anne Richman  
Director, Programming and Allocations

AR: rj

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- Attachment A1 & A2 – Project Justification Sheets
- Attachment B – Section 5311 Funding Objectives and Criteria
- Attachment C – Timeline
- Attachment D – Map of Urbanized Areas
- Attachment E – FY2019 and FY2020 Section 5311 Formula Calculations