

Transportation Grants 101



What is the Transportation Authority

- The San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA) manages the voter approved Measure A & Measure W sales taxes that fund various types of transportation improvements.
- Often referred to as the "TA"

















Role of the TA

Where do we fit in in Transportation?

- Federal: US Department of Transportation
 - Federal Highway, Rail, and Transit Administrations most common partners
- State: California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA)
 - California Transportation Commission, Caltrans, DMV, High Speed Rail, and more.
- Regional: Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) is the federal metropolitan planning organization (MPO) over the nine county Bay Area
- County
 - County of San Mateo
 - City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) of San Mateo County (Designated County Transportation Agency for Federal Congestion Management)
 - San Mateo County Transit District
 - San Mateo County Transportation Authority (TA Funding Agency)
 - SamTrans (Bus Agency)
 - Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (Caltrain Rail Agency)
 - San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority (TA & C/CAG)
 - Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Agency (Commute.org)
- Local
 - 20 individual cities and towns















Role of the TA

 TA's primary role: Fund transit and transportation projects and programs in San Mateo County

The TA also:

- Develops planning studies to better inform the allocation of funds to local agencies
- Provides technical assistance to local jurisdictions for all phases of projects
 - Planning 101/92 Mobility Hub & Smart Corridor Plan
 - Project Delivery Moss Beach Highway 1 Complete Streets Project
- Sponsors projects of countywide significance (e.g., US 101 Express Lanes)
- Is one of two member agencies of the San Mateo County Express Lanes Joint Powers Authority







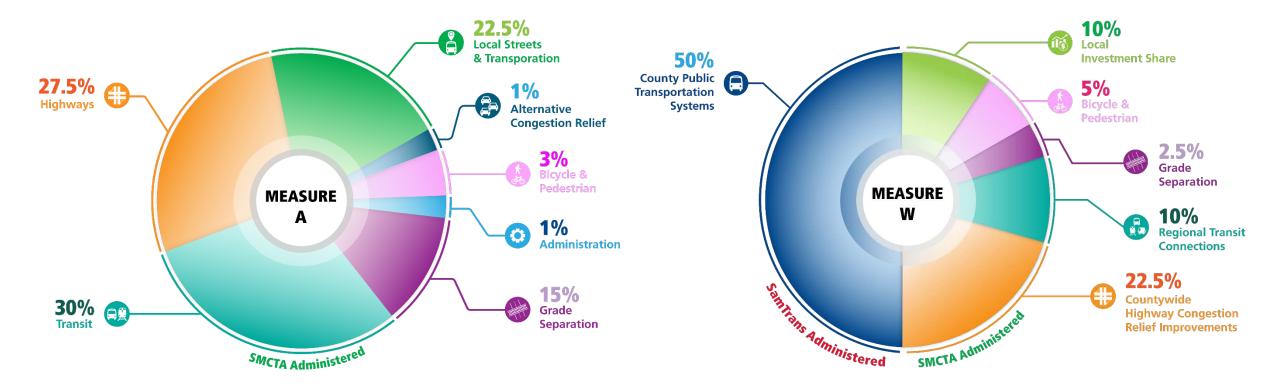








Funding Programs

















Funding Programs

	FY23 Actual A	FY24 Adopted Budget B	FY24 Revised Budget C	FY25 Proposed Budget D	\$ Change FY25 Proposed vs FY24 Revised E = D - C	% Change FY25 Proposed vs FY24 Revised F = E / C
Sources						
New Measure A Sales Tax	117,920,164	116,264,000	116,264,000	118,000,000	1,736,000	1.5%
New Measure A Interest Income	5,393,137	8,187,648	8,187,648	15,795,494	7,607,846	92.9%
Measure W Sales Tax*	117,412,918	116,264,000	116,264,000	118,000,000	1,736,000	1.5%
TA Managed Measure W Sales Tax (50%)	58,706,459	58,132,000	58,132,000	59,000,000	868,000	1.5%
SamTrans Managed Measure W Sales Tax (50%)*	58,706,459	58,132,000	58,132,000	59,000,000	868,000	1.5%
Measure W Interest Income	2,337,230	3,216,293	3,216,293	6,204,827	2,988,534	92.9%
Original Measure A Interest Income	4,690,450	1,203,474	1,203,474	2,321,724	1,118,250	92.9%
Rental Income	1,189,035	1,261,242	1,261,242	950,650	(310,592)	-24.6%
External Funding		-	-	-	-	
US 101 Express Lanes	400,000	1,920,000	1,920,000	4,744,000	2,824,000	147.1%
Due from SMCEL-JPA - Credit Enhancement Fee	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	-	0.0%
Due from SMCEL-JPA - Bond Interest		1,000,000	1,000,000	3,500,000	2,500,000	250.0%
Due from SMCEL-JPA - Bond Related Debt Fees		520,000	520,000	670,000	150,000	28.8%
Due from SMCEL-JPA - Operating Advances Interest		_	_	174,000	174,000	100.0%
Total Sources	\$190,636,475	\$190,184,657	\$190,184,657	\$207,016,695	\$16,832,038	8.9%









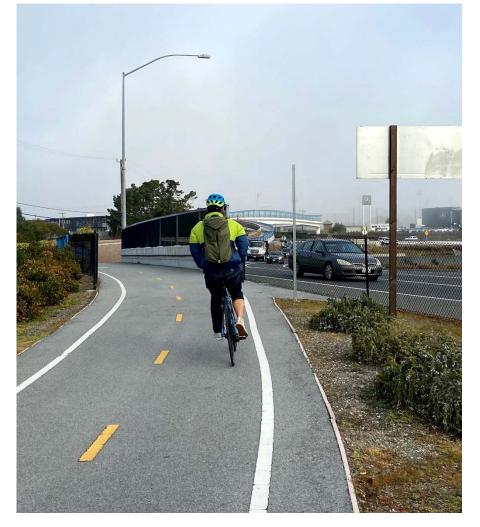






Competitive Grant Programs

- Biennial "calls for projects" or CFP's to solicit applications for projects, programs or plans
- Four main competitive programs
 - Bicycle/Pedestrian
 - Highways
 - Alternative Congestion Relief/Transportation Demand Management
 - Shuttles
- New future Program: Regional Transit Connections

















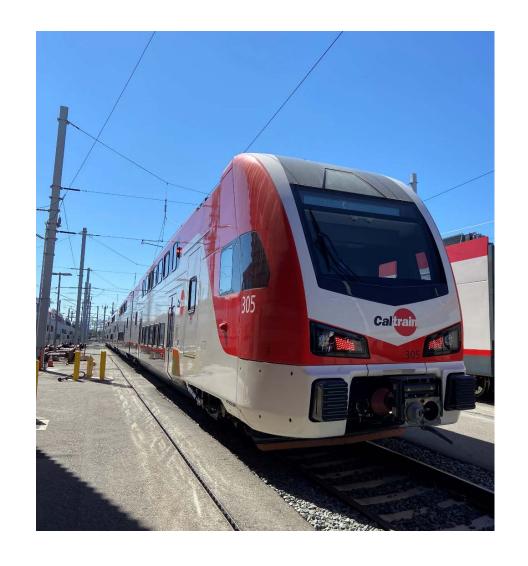
Transit

Measure A

- Paratransit
- Shuttles
- Caltrain
 - Systemwide operating and capital funding
 - San Mateo-specific projects (e.g. South San Francisco Station)
- BART Operations

Measure W

Regional transit Connections (future competitive program)

















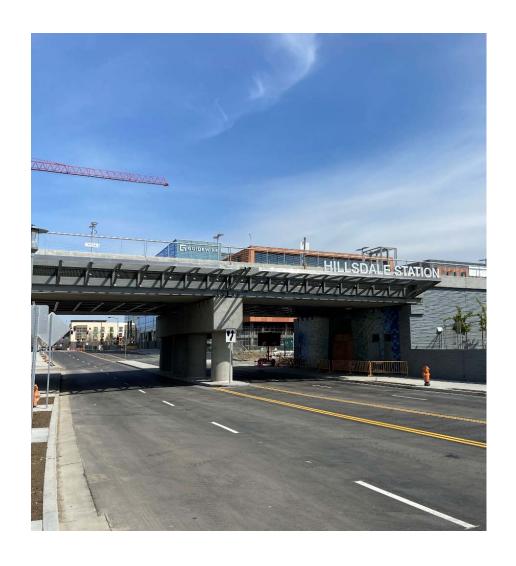
Grade Separations

Measure A

- Board established pipeline of projects
- \$5 million set-aside for planning of non-pipeline projects

Measure W

 Grade separation expenditures will be guided by the Caltrain Grade Separation Priority Study

















Local Streets and Transportation

- Return to source—sales tax funds provided directly to local jurisdictions
- Measure A and W provide approximately \$30 million annually:
 - Measure A \$21 million annually
 - Measure W \$9 million annually
- Funds to maintain local streets and roads and deliver transportation projects/programs
- Cities/County have discretion to invest funds based on their transportation priorities
- Caveat for Measure W funds: Agencies must keep roadways in a state of good repair
 - Average Pavement Condition Index Score of 70 or above required for local streets/roads
 - Funds must be invested only in pavement maintenance if score falls below 70 in any one year.















What are the other important funding programs and what is cost sharing?

- There are funding programs at all level of government:
 - Federal, State, Regional, County, Local
- Cost sharing is the required match or "other non-requested funds" for each grant program
 - The TA often requires a minimum match of 10% per request
 - The federal government is often 20% match required toward the whole project















- Federal: US Department of Transportation
 - Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA or Bi-partisan Infrastructure Law) created or extended multiple programs – FHWA Examples
 - Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN)
 - Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART)
 - Safe Streets for All
 - Multimodal Project Discretionary Grants (MPDG)
 - MEGA \$100-500M project request and \$500M+ project request buckets but can support many different project types that are difficult to fund
 - INFRA Focused on Freight and Highway projects
 - Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Up to \$25M project requests















- State
 - Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) guides most state grant funding decisions and evaluation criteria
 - California Transportation Commission
 - Senate Bill 1 (SB1) "Gas Tax"
 - Local Partnership Program (LPP) Competitive grants up to \$25M and Discretionary funding to self help "tax" agencies
 - Solutions for Congested Corridors (SCCP) Major grants along heavily congested routes, not just highways but all types of multimodal
 - Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) Freight corridor and port projects
 - Active Transportation Program















- Regional MTC Funding Programs
 - Regional Measures Bridge tolls that fund multiple types of transportation programs with either competitive programs (RM3 Safe Routes to Transit & Bay Trail), discretionary programs (RM3 Dumbarton Corridor) or prescriptive projects (RM3 US 101/SR 92 Interchange).
 - Regional Active Transportation Program A portion of the ATP program funds are designated to each MPO to run their own competitive programs alongside the statewide ATP grant program















- County
 - SMCTA
 - Measure A & Measure W Funding Programs
 - C/CAG
 - State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
 - One Bay Area Grants (OBAG) Combines federal funding programs for Congestion Management & Air Quality (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grants (STP) to give out up to \$5M per grant for multimodal projects
 - Measure M
 - Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA)
 - Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3















- Review Evaluation Criteria
- Identify projects that best fit the criteria with the greatest amount of points
 - Just because a project is highly desired in a community, does not automatically make it a good fit for the grant program
- Understand how equity and community engagement will be evaluated
 - Equity Placed-based only or other criteria allowed?
 - Community Engagement How specific was engagement to the project?















Review Evaluation Criteria

- Most funding programs provide the evaluation criteria upfront
- This is an example of SMCTA's Pedestrian & Bicycle Program evaluation criteria from the Strategic Plan 2020-2024

Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Evaluation Criteria (Measure A and Measure W)	Applicable Measure W Core Principles	Maximum Points by Criteria	Calibrated to 100 point scale (100		
Need 51					
Accommodates multiple transportation modes (pedestrian, bicycle & access to transit) and may include amenities at transit stations, such as bike lockers or micromobility stations	P6 P9 P10 P1 P8 P11 P2 P4	17	6		
Extent that project serves a transportation need (recreation ok if it also serves a commute purpose)	P9 P10 P1 P8 P11 P4	13	5		
Need for safety improvement/enhancement (e.g. project located in area with high rate of documented pedestrian or bicycle use collisions, or where significant barriers exist)	P6 P9 P10 P8 P4	12	5		
Project recognized in adopted statewide, regional, county or local planning and fund programming documents (e.g. San Mateo County Comprehensive Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, City Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Plan, Vision Zero Plan, General Plan, Specific Plan, Climate Action Plan)	P6 P9 P3 P5	9	3		
Effectiveness		112	42		
Enhances first/last mile connections to employment centers, TOD, transit stations, schools, and other high density/activity areas	P6 P9 P10 P1 P3 P8 P11 P2 P4	19	7		
Potential increase in person throughput, mode share	P6 P9 P10 P1 P3 P8 P11 P4	18	7		
Degree to which the project reduces stress level, increases safety and accommodates people of all abilities.	P6 P9 P10 P1 P3 P7 P8 P4	18	7		
Closes gap in or extends Countywide pedestrian and bicycle network	P6 P9 P10 P1 P3 P8 P2 P4	17	6		
Value: Benefit relative to the amount of funding requested (high impact, low cost projects -"bang for the buck")	P6 P10 P1 P3 P8 P5	13	5		
Degree to which project reduces GHG emissions and improves air quality	P6 P1 P3 P8 P11	11	4		
Potential VMT reduction per capita	P10 P1 P8 P11	9	3		
Potential travel time savings	P9 P1 P8	7	3		
Sustainability		36	14		
Serves high density/affordable housing (e.g. Planned Development Areas) in proximity to high quality transit service (high ridership & frequent service)	P10 P1 P8 P11 P2 P4	11	4		
Serves low income, transit dependent and or other vulnerable populations (e.g. Community of Concern, areas with high CalEnviroScreen scores and high concentrations of disabled, seniors and/or youth)	P6 P9 P10 P2	10	4		
Innovative low environmental impact/green infrastructure (includes resiliency elements to address climate change)	P6 P3 P8	7	3		
Project accounts for long term repair/maintenance/operations needs (e.g. uses materials with long life cycles, low maintenance costs & has a funding plan for maintenance)	P6 P7	5	2		
Integral transportation component that can support existing economic activity and help spur new economic development in the immediate vicinity	P11 P4	3	1		
Readiness			15		
Clear and complete proposal			3		
Project status and schedule			3		
Ease and speed of implementation			3		
Demonstrates stakeholder support/community engagement					
Project has a credible cost estimate and funding plan			3		
Funding Leverage			10		
B					
Percent of matching funds					
Percent of matching funds Private sector contribution, including public/private partnerships		Total	100		















 Identify projects that best fit the criteria with the greatest amount of points

Need		51	19
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Thank you!

SMCTA Contact Information

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