

# Measure J West County Additional Transportation for Seniors and People with Disabilities Program – Program 20

## El Cerrito

Operators must submit this worksheet to their respective RTPC for approval of the proposed use and get authorization from their respective RTPCs approving the use of these funds for the designated purpose stated above.

FY 2016-17 Funding \$ 40,072

**Please indicate the proposed use of Program 20 funds:**

El Cerrito Easy Ride Paratransit Service proposes to use the entire allocation through Measure J Program 20 to continue existing services - Monday thru Friday Paratransit Service, transportation to Nutrition Lunch Program, Weekly Excursions, Hiking and Birding trips. The funds would also enable us to purchase / lease a new vehicle. Easy Ride Paratransit Service will also continue to expand service beyond El Cerrito through our monthly transportation to Costco, Grocery Outlet, East & West Mall and Target. As the buses continue to age, repair expenses are expected to increase and more frequently. It would be difficult for us to offer our current level of service and our desire to expand without Program 20.

# Measure J West County Additional Transportation for Seniors and People with Disabilities Program – Program 20 San Pablo

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FY 2016-17 Funding \$ 71,528

## Please indicate the proposed use of Program 20 funds:

For FY 6-17, the City of San Pablo plans to spend Program 20 funds in the following ways:

1. Recruiting, hiring and training 1-2 PT Paratransit drivers to meet the needs of increased ridership in the last few years. If our current provisional driver obtains his Class B license successfully through our training and efforts, we plan on incorporating a Class B certification training program to aid with our driver recruitment challenges. With 2 additional PT Paratransit drivers, we would be able to provide a weekly service for El Sobrante residents and increase our ridership to 7,400 per year. Logistically and financially, we would not be able to serve all of El Sobrante area. Instead, we have identified the most populated areas of El Sobrante that would be incorporated into our area of service. We project service to be available on certain days rather than daily, starting with one day a week. We also estimate that 100 new participants will register for the service by end of FY 16-17, if implementation is possible.

2. Implementation of travel training program in collaboration with Center for Independent Living. The objective of this project is to 'train the trainer' so that the City can sustain the program on a regular basis after grant funding from 5310 has ceased. This project includes volunteer recruitment, staff admin and training time, and program costs. CIL Mobility Coordinator will train City staff and volunteers through hands on workshops and educations. City staff will recruit 3-5 travel training ambassadors, outreach to new and existing participants, organize with assistance from Mobility Coordinator at least 2 group and 4 individual travel trainings which will provide new transportation tools and skills to approximately 35 participants. CIL staff will complete project with creation of a travel training manual for the City to be used by newly trained City staff and travel training ambassador volunteers in the following fiscal year.

3. Purchasing new scheduling software and implementing the new system through a smooth transition. Although this expense has been identified as a capital need, we hope to find a software that can be purchased through our already allotted service and supplies budget. Currently, the City utilizes paper forms and excel programs to do all the scheduling and reporting. Since our ridership has increased and more than doubled since 2012 when only 150 riders were registered and served (currently at 521 riders, a 247% increase), it is more challenging to create schedules and driver rosters through simple Microsoft programs. The City is looking to go paperless through the use of smart technology. The purchase of new software will allow for cross training of staff. Currently only 2 employees are able to create schedules. We plan to train four staff and two volunteers in the software to ensure customer service. Smart technology in the form of tablets could also cut down on program costs allowing the drivers to have all they need in one device. For example, drivers could use tablet for pre-trip/post trip inspection and driver rosters. We estimate that smart technology would be an investment that would ultimately decrease our program costs.

4. Free ride program for San Pablo Senior Center volunteers. The City has started to offer free rides for senior center volunteers in 2014, but data was not collected until 2015. This past year, we have given 188 free rides to volunteers who are residents of San Pablo and project to end with 251 rides. We project a slight increase for next year, by 5%, totaling 264 rides.

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## East Bay Paratransit

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FY 2016-17 Funding \$ 108,366

Please indicate the proposed use of Program 20 funds:

**AC Transit Share of FY16/17 Program 20 funds is \$74,742. BART's share is \$33,584.**

About 12.5% of East Bay Paratransit's service is to residents of Western Contra Costa County. The FY 16/17 budget for EBPC is \$38.5M and the estimate for total passengers in FY16/17 is 738,807 passengers; 12.5% of that amount would be 92,351 passengers from Western Contra Costa County at a cost of \$4.8M. Measure J's Program 20 program contribution of \$111K will fund about 2.3% of this \$4.8M. With the additional \$163K from Program 15, the total Measure J contribution is \$271K in FY 16/17.

### **Major activities in FY 16/17 that will benefit all riders:**

East Bay Paratransit will continue in FY16/17 to provide ADA mandated service in compliance with Federal law. During the upcoming fiscal year, the following changes to the ADA program will be undertaken:

The use of credit cards to purchase EBPC fare tickets will be available to riders who want the convenience of buying tickets on-line.

Improved MDC/AVL (Mobile Data Computer/Automatic Vehicle Locator) units will be installed on EBPC vehicles. The software operating these new units is more compatible with EBPC's Scheduling software and will make IVR (Integrated Voice Response) features, such as calling when the vehicle is close to the pick-up location, more functional for riders.

An Emergency Action Guide, containing information about EBPC's action plan for emergencies, key phone numbers, and suggestions on personal preparedness will be distributed to inform rider's about EBPC's Emergency Plan and to encourage rider's to prepare themselves.

AC Transit and BART appreciate the opportunity to apply for Measure J Program 20 Funds.

# Measure J West County Additional Transportation for Seniors and People with Disabilities Program – Program 20

## Richmond

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FY 2016-17 Funding \$ 234,834

Please indicate the proposed use of Program 20 funds:

R-Transit is set up as a special revenue fund and not a part of the City of Richmond's general fund because the program receives grants and charges for services.

As part of a special revenue fund, our expenses are not 100% covered by the City's general fund. Each year the program seeks and applies for grant funds from various funding sources to support the program. The City of Richmond provides a match for funding opportunities.

The R-Transit program is expected to seek grant funds each year, however a general fund subsidy is provided at the end of each year to close the gap in grants and expenses. The program has a negative fund balance due to grants which were allocated in the past but never materialized, the creation and increase of the Cost Pool/ISF (Internal Service Fund), and personnel costs.

For the next several years, Measure 20b funds will help fund R-Transit's existing service and allow for leveraging funds for new grants and expanding service.

# Measure J West County Additional Transportation for Seniors and People with Disabilities Program – Program 20

## WestCAT

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FY 2016-17 Funding \$ 81,869

Please indicate the proposed use of Program 20 funds:

WCCTA intends to utilize this Program 20 funding to continue direct paratransit service outside our service area boundaries into Richmond and San Pablo (primarily for passengers traveling to dialysis, adult day programs, and other medical facilities).