



Transportation Committee

Meeting Date: April 3, 2025

[[!Agenda Item No. 2!]]

Approve Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Transit Operators Projects for Low Carbon Transit Operations Funds

Consent

Author: Caroline Payne

Attachments: Yes

Referring Committee: Not Applicable

Issue:

The Local Carbon Transit Operations Fund (LCTOP) provides funding to transit operators for operating and capital assistance to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve mobility with a priority on serving disadvantaged communities.

Request:

Approve

Recommendation for Board:

That the board approve proposed transit projects and authorize the executive director to sign any required documents and submit LCTOP projects to Caltrans.

Recommendation for Committee:

That the Transportation Committee recommend that the board approve proposed transit projects and authorize the executive director to sign any required documents and submit LCTOP projects to Caltrans.

Background:

In 2014, the California Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 862 to establish the Transit, Affordable Housing, and Sustainable Communities Program. Within this program, the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) was established to provide operating and capital assistance for transit agencies to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve mobility, with a priority on serving disadvantaged communities. LCTOP is administered by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in coordination with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the State Controller's Office (SCO).

In compliance with LCTOP guidelines and Caltrans requirements, the board has authorized SACOG's executive director to act as the authorized agent and contributing sponsor responsible for distributing regional LCTOP funds to local transit agencies in the four counties of Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba. This allows SACOG to release funds to each project lead by signing off on the Project Description and Allocation Request form.

This year, the project proposals and allocation request forms are due to Caltrans on April 24, 2025. Staff has compiled a list of projects submitted by transit operators for the board to approve.

In the LCTOP guidelines, a transit agency may also submit any changes to prior approved projects for the board to approve. As such, Yolo Transportation District (YoloTD) submitted, and the board approved an FY 2020-2022 project. The Project, Route 42 A/B Expansion, has closed, and funds will be transferred to Fiscal Year 2024-2025 project.

Discussion/Analysis:

Caltrans' LCTOP program requires operators to submit proposed eligible projects to SACOG for approval after their respective governing boards have approved the projects. Staff, in coordination with operators, has compiled a list of eligible projects in the four-county region for the board to approve. Projects will be submitted for review by Caltrans and CARB to ensure compliance with SB 862 requirements and LCTOP guidelines. The approved projects will then be submitted to the State Controller's Office (SCO) in May and funds will be available for allocation in June 2025. Transit operators, as project leads, will be responsible for reporting to Caltrans on project milestones and final products.

The El Dorado County Transportation Commission and Placer County Transportation Planning Agency administer LCTOP funding and project approvals for their respective counties.

In March, the State Controller published funds available for allocation and the board adopted the allocations in March 2025. Funds are distributed based on Public Utilities Code (PUC 99313) which is based on the region's share of state population and Public Utilities Code 99314 (PUC 99314) which is based on each operator's revenue reported to the State Controller.

In FY 2024-2025, the State has appropriated \$5,129,210 in regional LCTOP funds (PUC Section 99313) and \$1,752,746 in operator funds (PUC Section 99314) in the four-county SACOG region. The year's LCTOP totals to \$6,881,956. Since the establishment of the program, it has been SACOG's standing policy and practice to distribute the funding by a population-based formula to eligible transit operators.

Sacramento County will contribute its share of funds to Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT). Stipulated in the LCTOP program guidelines, an agency may contribute its share of funds to another agency.

Staff propose distributing \$124,240 in available regional funds not allocated to any specific transit operator to YoloTD for the purchase of a Zero Emission Electric Battery bus. The unallocated portion has been assigned to operators on a yearly rotation basis.

YoloTD has closed FY 2021 project and is transferring funds to the FY 2024-2025 project to meet current transit need. This change is consistent with the LCTOP program guidelines, and it has been approved by YoloTD's board.

Attachment A shows FY 2024-2025 list of transit operators' projects, project descriptions and a change to Yolo County Transportation District (YoloTD) FY 2021 project change.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

There is no fiscal impact to SACOG's operating budget. The funds are allocated by formula to local transit operators. Staff time for administering the program is reflected in the agency's budget and Overall Work Program (OWP).

List of Attachments:

1. Transit Operator Projects and Descriptions
2. SACOG Resolution
3. Sacramento County Contribution Letter

Attachment A

Low Carbon Transit Operations Funds Allocation					
Fiscal Year 2024-2025					
Transit Operator Projects for PUC 99313 & 99314 funds					
Agency	Project	99313 Funding	99314 Funding	Total	Notes
Sacramento Regional Transit District	Expand Route 11 Service-Yr 6	\$0	\$865,152		
	Expand Route 13 Service-Yr 6	\$1,080,519			
	Expand Route 68 Service-Yr 6	\$1,230,172			
	Light Rail Station Conversions	\$1,646,185	\$727,967		Includes Sacramento County contribution of 21,111. (99314 funds)
Total Funds for SacRT		\$3,956,876	\$1,593,119		
Yolo Transportation District	Project 1 -Yolobus Zero Emission Battery Electric Bus Procurement (Year 3 of 4)	\$404,797	\$83,265	\$488,062	
Yolo Transportation District	Project 2 -Yolobus Zero Emission Battery Electric Paratransit Bus (Purchase of 1 battery Electric Paratransit Vehicle and charger.)	\$124,240	\$0	\$124,240	Regional funds unallocated to any operator
City of Davis-Unitrans	Phase Two Bus Electrification: Install 16 charging stations at the Unitrans Maintenance Facility to accommodate new battery- electric transit buses that are and will be placed into regular public transit service for the City	\$168,146	\$52,510	\$220,656	
Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority	Commuter Service to Lincoln/Roseville	\$257,151	\$23,852	\$281,003	
Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority	Targeted Fare Subsidies project	\$218,000	\$0	\$218,000	
Total LCTOP		\$5,129,210	\$1,752,746	\$6,881,956	\$6,881,956

Yolo Transportation District: Project Change

Agency	Project	99313 Funding	99314 Funding	Total	Notes
Yolo Transportation District	Route 42 A/B Expansion	\$0	\$260,189	\$260,189	99314- \$260,189 Funding from Project 2021-D03- 031(Project was closed out and funding transferred to FY24-25 project)
Yolo Transportation District	Project 2- Yolobus Zero Emission Battery Electric Paratransit Bus	\$0	\$260,189	\$260,189	99314- \$260,189 Funding from Project 2021-D03- 031(Project was closed out and funding transferred to this project)



SACRAMENTO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. XX – 2025

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE
THE LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP) PROJECTS:**

WHEREAS, SACOG is an eligible project sponsor and may receive state funding from the LCTOP now or sometime in the future for transit projects; and

WHEREAS, the statutes related to state-funded transit projects require a local or regional implementing agency to abide by various regulations; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 862 (2014) named the Department of Transportation (Department) as the administrative agency for the LCTOP; and

WHEREAS, the Department has developed guidelines for the purpose of administering and distributing LCTOP funds to eligible project sponsors (local agencies); and

WHEREAS, SACOG is a Contributing Sponsor to multiple lead agencies and an eligible recipient of the LCTOP funds; and

WHEREAS, SACOG would allocate \$124,240 unallocated regional funds to Yolo Transportation District to procure zero emission battery electric Paratransit bus and;

WHEREAS, Sacramento County would contribute \$21,111 to Light Rail Conversions led by Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT); and,

WHEREAS, Yolo Transportation District has closed Fiscal Year 2020-2021 project and will transfer \$260,189 to Fiscal Year 2024-2025 project and;

WHEREAS, SACOG wishes to delegate authorization to execute these documents and any amendments to the SACOG's Executive Director; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of SACOG that the fund recipient agrees to comply with all conditions and requirements set forth in the Certification and

Assurances and the Authorized Agent documents and applicable statutes, regulations, and guidelines for all LCTOP funded transit projects.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director be authorized to execute all required documents of the LCTOP program and any amendments thereto with the California Department of Transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of SACOG that it hereby authorizes the submittal of the following project nominations and allocation request by the following project leads to the Department in FY 2024-2025 LCTOP regional funds (Section 99313) as follows:

FY24-25 Lead Agency and Project list:

Yuba-Sutter Transit Authority:

1. *Commuter Service to Lincoln/Roseville Commuter-\$257,151*
2. *Targeted Fare Subsidies-\$218,000*

Yolo Transportation District:

3. *Yolo bus Zero Emission Battery Electric Bus (year 3 of 4) - \$404,797*
4. *Yolo bus Zero Emission Battery Paratransit bus-124,240 (regional fund unallocated to any operator)*

Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT):

5. *Expanded route 13-Year 6-\$1,080,519*
6. *Expanded Route 68-Year 6-\$1,230,172*
7. *Light Rail Station Conversions-\$1,646,285*

Unitrans:

8. *Phase 2 Bus Electrification: Install 16 charging stations -\$168,146*

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of April 2025, by the following vote of the Board of Directors:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Darren Suen
Chair

James Corless
Executive Director

Department of Transportation

Ron Vicari
Director



County of Sacramento

Divisions

Planning & Programs
Maintenance & Operations
Engineering & Design
Administrative Services

March 11, 2025

Erik Reitz
Office of Transit Grants and Contracts
Division of Rail and Mass Transportation
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Letter of Intent - Use of FY 24/25 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program Funds

Dear Mr. Reitz:


I understand that the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) is funded from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and was created to provide operating and capital assistance for transit operators to reduce greenhouse gas emission and improve mobility, with a priority on serving disadvantaged communities.

In order to utilize the available funds to their fullest potential, my Department requests that Sacramento County's allocation of \$21,111 from the FY 24/25 Section 99314 funds be released to Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT), so the funds may be applied to a project within our region that meets the requirements of the LCTOP Guidelines and the requirements of Public Resources Code Section 75230.

Thank you in advance for accepting this transfer request. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact:

Makinzie Clark, Senior Planner
(916) 875-2923
clarkma@saccounty.gov

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Ron E. Vicari, Director
Department of Transportation

3/11/2025

Cc: Mikki McDaniel, SacDOT
Caroline Payne, SACOG