Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) Cycle 7

Formal Draft Guidelines Workshop

April 16, 2024

Northern CA Agencies

Agenda

- TIRCP 2024 (Cycle 7) Guidelines
  - Background
  - Funding
  - Key Considerations
- Timeline for Final Guidelines and Awards
- Questions and Feedback

TIRCP Background

- TIRCP receives funding primarily from Transportation Improvement Fee revenues (SB 1) & continuous 10% GGRF appropriation

- Since 2015, $10 billion in funding has been awarded to 132 projects throughout the state

- Program focus on Priority Populations:

  Project expected to contribute direct, meaningful and assured benefits to disadvantaged communities, low-income communities or low-income households

- Program focus on ensuring geographic equity

Recipients of Past Awards (Partial List)

▶ **Transit & Rail Infrastructure:**

- **Capitol Corridor Emerging Market Access Program** (CCJPA/City of Sacramento, City of Hercules, and Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District)
- **Eastridge to BART Regional Connector** (VTA)
- **Valley Link Rail** (Tri-Valley – San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority)

▶ **Zero-Emission and Other Bus Projects:**

- **Expanding Transit Service and Growing Zero-Emission Fleets on California's North Coast** (HTA/RCTA/Yurok Tribe)

▶ **Fleet to Support Service Expansion:**

- **Santa Cruz Zero Emission Intercity Transit Service Expansion Project** (Santa Cruz Metro)
- **Keep Truckee Moving: Expansion and Electrification** (Town of Truckee)

Statutory Requirements

▸ Competitive 5-year program to fund a small number of transformative projects that improve the statewide network and reduce greenhouse gas emissions

▸ Primary evaluation criteria: emission reduction, ridership growth, achievement of integrated service, and safety benefit

▸ Secondary evaluation criteria: co-benefits of broader sustainable community goals, disadvantaged community benefits, geographic balance, network integration, housing and jobs considerations

CalSTA

New to Cycle 7 Guidelines

- **SB 125 (2023) Transit Program**
  - Funding from SB125 may be used as a match for competitive TIRCP projects and will be considered a local match for the purposes of project evaluation

- **Cycle 7 Fund Estimate**
  - Applicants can assume a total fund estimate of at least $900 million available for award in Cycle 7

- **FRA's Corridor Identification and Development Program (CIDP)**
  - Draft guidelines provide additional information explaining the relationship between CIDP and intercity projects eligible for TIRCP
  - Applicant must identify if a project benefits intercity service and is included within one of the selected corridors in California participating in the FRA's CIDP process

For Discussion – Potential Additions to Final Guidelines

▸ **Anti-displacement considerations:**

  ▪ **Proposed language addition on page 19**

    • *In addition to considering these housing strategies, applicants are encouraged to include narrative demonstrating an understanding of displacement vulnerabilities proximate to the project area and demonstrate how direct and indirect displacement is considered and minimized by the proposed project, if applicable. Anti displacement efforts that are part of implementing a capital project are eligible costs under TIRCP.*

Considerations for Applicants

- Program Focus on Priority Populations
  - Projects are expected to contribute direct, meaningful and assured benefits to disadvantaged communities, low-income communities or low-income households
- Program Focus on Ensuring Geographic Equity
  - Geographic equity is considered within each funding cycle
  - Underrepresentation in past funding cycles may also be considered
  - Requirements for geographic equity statewide may limit the amount of funding within a region

Program Emphasis on Clean Technology

▸ Eligible clean fleet, facility and network improvement projects, when tied with qualifying efforts below, support agencies by:
- Replacing aging vehicle fleets with zero emission vehicles (ZEVs)
- Fueling or charging infrastructure of facility modifications

▸ Qualifying efforts may include, but are not limited to:
- Improve network efficiency with transit priority investments that allow savings in vehicle hours operates to be redeployed into increased service on same or other routes
- Implement improvements to payment system such as contactless payment through the California Integrated Travel Program
- Improve integration efforts with other corridors and/or operators through service restructuring to increase network ridership

Housing & Job Considerations

- Recognize that transit-supportive land use decisions are a key influencing factor of ridership:
  - Projects may model additional ridership expected from entitled housing projects within ½ mile of transit stations that are expected to be delivered within required project outcome reporting period
- For projects that link housing with key destinations and that improve accessibility to economic opportunities:
  - Projects must document the degree to which ridership growth expected over the life of the project is supported by housing policies that will support such growth
- Document community benefits for projects

Project Implementation & Reporting

- Agencies must report on job co-benefits, in addition to all other reporting requirements

- At time of application, applicants are required to submit a job co-benefit modeling tool, which is based upon a co-benefit assessment methodology developed by CARB

- For most projects, annual reporting on outcomes will continue for 36 months after becoming operational

TIRCP Cycle 7 Timeline

▸ TIRCP Guidelines Workshops:
- Apr. 16: Northern California Agencies
- Apr. 16: Southern California Agencies

▸ Guidelines Adoption/Call for Projects: April 23, 2024

▸ Optional Virtual Consultation Meetings:
- May 13–23, 2024 (email TIRCPComments@dot.ca.gov for scheduling)

▸ Applications Due: July 23, 2024
▸ Award Announcement: October 23, 2024

Questions and Feedback

TIRCP Guideline Comments by Email:
tircpcomments@dot.ca.gov
Comments Due by April 18, 2024

For TIRCP Questions/Join the TIRCP Mailing List:
tircpcomments@dot.ca.gov