



DATE: June 28, 2018

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Board of Commissioners

FROM: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director
David Chan, Programming Manager

SUBJECT: Program Measure A Interest Funds to Yellow School Bus Service in Marin County (Action),
Agenda Item 11b

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the TAM Board authorize the programming of the remaining unprogrammed Measure A Interest funds of approximately \$1.1 to the Marin Transit for “Yellow School Bus Service” on the conditions that:

1. the Reauthorization of the Marin’s Transportation Sales Tax is approved by voters in November 2018, and
2. the project scope of the Yellow School Bus Service Program is approved by the Marin Transit Board and the TAM Board after the November 2018 election.

If these any one of these conditions is not met, the programmed amount of approximately \$1.1 million to Marin Transit will be deprogrammed and remain with TAM for future use.

BACKGROUND

According to Measure A requirements, all interest income generated by these Measure A proceeds will be used for the transportation purposes described in the Measure A Expenditure Plan as authorized by the TAM Board.

Since inception, the TAM Board has programmed approximately \$4.1 million of these interest funds to various projects out of approximately \$6.69 million available. Several commitments have recurred year after year. These ongoing commitments include Golden Gate Transit’s Ferry Shuttle Service, and Bike Path Maintenance, and insurance covering the Central Marin Ferry Connection structure over Sir Francis Drake Boulevard. Other commitments have been one-time only, such as funds for both Caltrans and SMART covering costs incurred on the Highway 101 Gap Closure Project.

DISCUSSION

On June 28, 2018, under Item 11a on the agenda, the TAM Board will be considering:

- programming and allocating \$525,000 in unspent Measure A Interest funds from completed projects and \$238,000 in new Measure A Interest funds to San Rafael’s Multi-use Path,

- programming and allocating \$687,000 in Measure Interest funds to the Bellam Blvd Approach Project, and
- programming \$1,000,000 in Measure Interest funds to the North South Greenway Project.

If Item 11a is approved by the TAM Board, approximately \$1.1 million in Measure A Interest funds will remain available for programming to other project(s).

While passing a motion to program Measure A Interest funds, as highlighted above, to San Rafael's Multi-Use Path, Bellam Blvd Approach Project, and North South Greenway Project, the Finance and Policy Executive Committee referred to the TAM Board a consideration to program the remaining unprogrammed Measure A Interest funds of approximately \$1.1 million to Marin Transit for Yellow School Bus Service.

PROPOSAL ON PROGRAMMING THE REMAINING MESAURE A INTEREST FUNDS

After reviewing the Measure A Strategic Plan and considering other needs, staff is proposing to program the remaining unprogrammed Measure A Interest funds of approximately \$1.1 million to Marin Transit for Yellow School Bus Service. Staff does not recommend the Board take a final action until the sales tax renewal is approved by voters. The Measure A interest is a reserve which TAM may choose to apply to other needs if the sales tax measure fails.

In TAM staff's attending local councils to receive approval of the sales tax renewal expenditure plan, there were number of requests for TAM and Marin Transit to identify additional funds for yellow school bus service. There is evidence that attracting students and parents to utilize yellow school bus can relieve congestion in overcrowded school corridors. Marin Transit has been considering ways to expand the yellow school bus program. TAM can support that effort in identifying new revenues that can be dedicated to yellow school bus in the future.

While this recommendation is a one-time infusion of funds, the TAM Board should require the funds be matched either by one-for one or greater match. The match requirement will allow even higher investment in yellow school bus needs. The TAM Board should also consider an equitable way to distribute the funds across all school districts. Marin Transit is developing a way to distribute funds equitably. TAM will continue to work closely with Marin Transit in this regard.

FISCAL IMPACTS

The Measure A Strategic Plan Update would be amended to reflect the programming of Measure A Interest funds as authorized by the TAM Board. TAM's Budget would not be amended until Marin Transit submits an allocation for these funds.

NEXT STEP

If approved by the TAM Board, the Measure A Strategic Plan Update would be amended to show the remaining Measure A Interest funds reserved for Marin Transit's Yellow School Bus Service.