

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Proposition 1B Transit Security Grant Funding

MEETING DATE: April 17, 2008 **AGENDA ITEM:** 6G

STAFF CONTACT: Sarkes Khachek

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Projects for the Fiscal Year 2007/08 Proposition 1B Transit Security Grant Program for Submittal to California Office of Homeland Security (**Project list will be distributed by separate mailing or at Board meeting**).

SUMMARY:

The Santa Barbara County region will receive approximately \$430,000 in transit security funding for Fiscal Year 2007/08 from the Transit Security Grant Program included in Proposition 1B. The program is being administered by the California Office of Homeland Security. This is new funding made available by the passage of Proposition 1B by State voters in November 2006. Of this, \$340,000 is available for projects programmed by SBCAG and \$92,000 for projects selected directly by transit operators in Santa Barbara County. The funds can be expended on capital purchases that provide increased protection against a security or safety threat or increase the capacity of disaster response transportation systems that can move people, goods, emergency personnel and equipment in the aftermath of a disaster.

Staff is recommending that the board program the entire \$340,000 to capital projects nominated by local transit operators. Due to the very limited time allowed between the adoption of the program guidelines and State project submittal deadline, at the time of the preparation of this staff report, transit operators were still finalizing their project nominations to SBCAG. *The project nominations will be sent to the Board via separate mailing or distributed at the Board meeting.*

SBCAG and its local transit operators will only have one opportunity to program projects for the Prop 1B transit security funding for FY 2007/08. Unexpended funds will revert to the Office of Homeland Security for statewide reallocation in subsequent fiscal years. To ensure that no funds are lost to the region, the board will need to approve the projects submitted by local transit operators at the April 17 meeting.

DISCUSSION:

The Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006, approved by the voters as Proposition 1B on November 7, 2006, includes a \$1.0 billion program for eligible transit capital security projects nominated by an applicant transportation agency.

Member Agencies

Buellton ■ Carpinteria ■ Goleta ■ Guadalupe ■ Lompoc ■ Santa Barbara ■ Santa Maria ■ Solvang ■ Santa Barbara County

The California Office of Homeland Security has provided each Regional Transportation Planning Agency with an amount of funding for FY 07/08 that will be available for projects in their county. Two allocations will be made in FY 07/08 based on two funding formula, as required by Prop 1B. One formula uses farebox revenue to allocate funding; the other uses population. These are the same formulas used to distribute State Transit Assistance (STA) funds. SBCAG is responsible for programming the population formula funding and submitting the projects to the California Office of Homeland Security.

Sponsors of projects funded through the farebox revenue formula will submit applications directly to the California Office of Homeland Security. Both the farebox revenue and population based funds will be received by local agencies or transit operators directly from the Office of Homeland Security.

For FY 2007/08, Prop 1B Transit Security funds will be allocated during a single funding cycle. The application due date to the Office of Homeland Security was April 11, 2008. In order for the projects to be eligible for funding, SBCAG staff submitted draft project applications by the April 11 deadline. SBCAG staff will provide final copies of the project descriptions to the Board for the April 17th meeting. SBCAG must notify Homeland Security as soon as possible thereafter that the projects have been approved by the SBCAG Board.

Agencies that choose not to submit a project for funding cannot request their funding share to be reserved for future years. Unexpended funds will revert to the Department of Homeland Security for reallocation in subsequent fiscal years.

Sub-Allocation of Population Funds

The \$340,000 available to SBCAG for programming is allocated to the region through the same population based formula that the State uses for the State Transit Assistance program. The SBCAG board has adopted a sub-allocation formula for the STA program, so staff recommends that board-adopted STA sub-allocation formula be used to distribute Transit Security funds within the county. The sub-allocation formula apportions funds to the four transit service areas based on population. The transit service areas are the South Coast, Lompoc Valley, Santa Maria Valley and Santa Ynez and Cuyama Valleys. Funds are then apportioned to each eligible claimant within each transit service area.

SBCAG staff has estimated the sub-allocations to each operator/jurisdiction based on the board-approved STA sub-allocation formula. This information has been shared with each transit operator and was the "budget" for the project funding requests they have submitted to SBCAG. The sub-allocations are provided in Attachment A.

Eligible Projects

Eligible activities for Proposition 1B Transit Security funding include either of the following:

A. A capital project that provides increased protection against a security or safety threat, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Construction or renovation projects that are designed to enhance the security of public transit stations, tunnels, guideways, elevated structures or other transit facilities and equipment.
2. Explosive device mitigation and remediation equipment.

3. Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear explosives search, rescue or response equipment.
4. Interoperable communications equipment.
5. Physical security enhancement equipment.
6. The installation of fencing, barriers, gates or related security enhancements that are designed to improve the physical security of transit stations, tunnels, guideways, elevated structures or other transit facilities and equipment.
7. Other security related projects approved by OHS.

B. A capital project that increases the capacity of transit operators to prepare for disaster response transportation systems that can move people, goods, emergency personnel and equipment in the aftermath of a disaster.

Population Funded Applications As Selected By SBCAG

As part of the final guidelines, SBCAG must approve the projects nominated by local agencies for the population formula funds. Final project descriptions will be provided at the April 17th SBCAG Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Projects for the Fiscal Year 2007/08 Proposition 1B Transit Security Grant Program for Submittal to California Office of Homeland Security.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Proposition 1B Transit Apportionments for FY 2007/08

Proposition 1B Transit System Safety, Security, and Disaster Response Account Apportionments for FY 2007/08

Population Based - PUC 99313 (GC8879.58(a)(2))	FY 2007/08 Apportionments
State Total Population Based Revenue - PUC 99313	\$ 30,000,000
SBCAG Total Population Based Revenue	\$ 341,078
South Coast	\$ 165,803
- SBMTD (95% of the South Coast Total for FY 06/07)	\$ 157,512
- Easy Lift* (5% of the South Coast Total for FY 06/07)	\$ 8,290
Lompoc Valley	\$ 48,498
- Lompoc (100% of the Lompoc Valley Total for FY 06/07)	\$ 48,498
Santa Maria Valley	\$ 106,651
- Santa Maria (90.42% of the Santa Maria Valley Total for FY 06/07)	\$ 96,435
- Guadalupe (4.58% of the Santa Maria Valley Total for FY 06/07)	\$ 4,884
- SMOOTH* (5% of the Santa Maria Valley Total for FY 06/07)	\$ 5,332
Santa Ynez & Cuyama Valleys	\$ 20,216
- Buellton (18.61% of the Santa Ynez and Cuyama Valley Total for FY 06/07)	\$ 3,764
- Solvang (75.99% of the Santa Ynez and Cuyama Valley Total for FY 06/07)	\$ 15,363
- County (5.39% of the Santa Ynez and Cuyama Valley Total for FY 06/07)	\$ 1,089

* Consolidated Transportation Service Agencies receive 5% of the STA funding for the area they serve.