



Office of the City Manager

INFORMATION CALENDAR

July 14, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager

Submitted by: Wahid Amiri, Interim Public Works Director

Subject: Grant Applications: Alameda County Transportation Commission Capital Investment Program 2028/Metropolitan Transportation Commission One Bay Area Grant Program Cycle 4

INTRODUCTION

Department of Public Works Transportation Division staff are preparing two transportation capital project grant applications to be submitted in July 2026 to Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) for the Capital Investment Program (CIP) 2028/Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) One Bay Area Grant Program Cycle 4 (OBAG 4). This report provides information about these upcoming grant applications which are currently in development. Staff anticipates bringing these applications to the Berkeley Transportation and Infrastructure Commission (TIC), and following that, returning for City Council authorization which will be requested at the September 2026 meeting.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Public Works is seeking to fund capital transportation safety projects that have been recommended in the Bicycle Plan, Pedestrian Plan, Transit-First Policy Implementation Plan, as well as in Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) School Safety Assessments (SSAs) developed by the Alameda CTC SR2S program in partnership with Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) SR2S Task Forces at each participating school. In addition to Alameda CTC SR2S staff and City staff, these Task Forces consist of school administration, teachers, parents, and students.

The proposed projects are part of two distinct grant applications:

1. Sacramento Street Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit Improvements Project (Alameda CTC CIP 2028/OBAG 4 grant application): This application includes physical improvements to support the safety of people walking and biking across Sacramento Street at both signalized and uncontrolled intersections between Channing Street in the north to Alcatraz Street in the south. Note that this project scope excludes the Ashby Avenue (State Route 13) intersection to avoid delaying project delivery with complex Caltrans coordination. The project includes bus boarding islands, intended to improve bus operations and travel

speeds, while also shortening pedestrian crossing distances. Additional improvements include signalization to support bike boulevard crossings, signal modifications to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility, and additional pedestrian safety measures such as bulbout curb extensions, raised medians, rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) signals, all of which to be determined through the design process. Proposed improvements have been identified in the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian plans and are consistent with the City's Transit-First Policy Implementation Plan.

2. Citywide SR2S SSA Implementation (Alameda CTC CIP 2028 SR2S Program Grant Application): This application draws on the SSAs developed by Alameda CTC SR2S program in partnership with BUSD school SR2S Task Forces. This grant will aim to implement improvements identified in the SSAs, beginning with the oldest and moving to the newest, with consideration of feasibility and cost in the selection of the final scope of work for the application. Likely measures include bulbouts, median refuges, and RRFBs to support safe street crossings to access school sites.

Implementing projects recommended by the City's Bicycle Plan, Pedestrian Plan, Transit-First Policy Implementation Plan, as well as from SR2S SSAs is a Strategic Plan Priority advancing our goals to provide state-of-the-art, well-maintained infrastructure, amenities, and facilities, and create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city.

BACKGROUND

Alameda CTC is responsible for the planning, programming and allocation of federal, state, regional, and local funding for transportation improvements throughout Alameda County, via the Alameda County Comprehensive Investment Plan (CIP). Alameda CTC releases a call for CIP projects approximately every two years. CIP 2028 will award approximately \$200 million in funding to jurisdictions in Alameda County. OBAG is a major funding initiative that distributes federal and regional transportation infrastructure dollars to local governments and county transportation agencies approximately once every four years. MTC's OBAG 4 is the fourth cycle of the One Bay Area Grant program and includes approximately \$820 million in federal funding to support transportation projects and programs for the entire nine-county region. MTC coordinates with county transportation authorities such as Alameda CTC which in turn work with local agencies to identify projects for consideration for OBAG funding. In Alameda County, the CIP and OBAG calls for projects are coordinated every four years to match OBAG cycles.

City of Berkeley has a strong history of success with OBAG funding for transformative transportation projects, including OBAG 1 funding for the goBerkeley Parking Pilot Project, the Hearst Complete Streets Project, and the Shattuck Reconfiguration Project; and OBAG 2 funding for the Southside Complete Streets and Transit Improvements Project.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Increasing walking, biking, and transit use in Berkeley would help achieve the City's Climate Action Plan greenhouse gas emission reduction targets of 80% below year 2000 levels by 2050. The Climate Action Plan states that, to meet these targets, "Transportation modes such as public transit, walking and bicycling must become the primary means of fulfilling our mobility needs." Environmental clearance to meet the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) will be conducted for each project as required by the type of funding that may ultimately be awarded.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Public Works Transportation Division staff are preparing grant applications to be submitted in July 2026 to Alameda CTC. Staff anticipates requesting Council authorization and approval of the MTC-required Resolution of Local Support for these grants at the September 2026 Berkeley City Council meeting. Staff anticipates seeking Transportation and Infrastructure Commission (TIC) approval of the MTC-required Complete Streets Checklist for the Sacramento Street project, prior to the September 2026 Berkeley City Council meeting.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

If successful, Berkeley's Alameda CTC CIP 2028/OBAG 4 grant applications could bring in a maximum of \$11M of new transportation funding - \$10M for Sacramento Street Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit Improvements Project and \$1M for Citywide SR2S SSA Implementation. This funding would require up to \$2.75M of local matching funds, currently proposed to come from Measure FF. Both the Sacramento St and SR2S applications are consistent with the goals of Measure FF, and applying for these grants allows the City to leverage FF funding to raise additional revenue for transportation improvements, expanding the potential scope and effectiveness of the original bond measure.

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