



COUNCIL OF SAN BENITO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR
MEETING AGENDA

DATE: Thursday, March 6, 2025
2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: San Benito County Resource Management Agency (RMA)
Upstairs Conference Room
2301 Technology Parkway
Hollister, CA 95023

MEMBERS: Binu Abraham, Council of Governments
Heather Adamson, Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments
Noel Coady, California Highway Patrol
Jill Leal, Caltrans District 5
Rod Powell, City of Hollister Development Services
William Via, City of Hollister Public Works Community Services
Ashley Collick, City of San Juan Bautista
Steve Loupe, San Benito Co. RMA Public Works, Engineering
Abraham Prado, San Benito Co. RMA Planning and Building Services

*Persons who wish to address the Technical Advisory Committee must address the Chairperson when public comment is called. Following recognition, persons desiring to speak are requested to state their name for the record. After hearing audience comments, the Public Comment portion of the agenda item will be closed. The opportunity to address the Technical Advisory Committee on items of interest not appearing on the agenda will be provided during Item 4. **Public Comment.***

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Verification of Certificate of Posting
4. **Public Comment:** *(Opportunity to address the committee on items of interest not appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken unless provided by Govt. Code Sec. 56954.2. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes.)*
5. **Member Announcements**
 - a. City of San Juan Bautista
 - b. City of Hollister
 - c. County of San Benito
 - d. Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments
 - e. California Highway Patrol

- f. Caltrans District 5
- g. Council of Governments

CONSENT AGENDA:

(These matters shall be considered as a whole and without discussion unless a particular item is removed from the Consent Agenda. Members of the public who wish to speak on a Consent Agenda item must submit a Speaker Card to the Clerk and wait for recognition from the Chairperson. Approval of a consent item means approval as recommended on the Staff Report.)

- 6. APPROVE TAC Meeting Minutes dated December 5, 2024 – Gomez

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- 7. RECEIVE Information on the Council of San Benito County Governments Recent Applications to the Caltrans Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants Program – Diaz
- 8. REECEIVE an Update on the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan – Borick
- 9. RECEIVE an Update and Provide Feedback on the Development of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy – Valentine/AMBAG
- 10. RECEIVE Memorandum and Presentation from AMBAG on the Upcoming 2025 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan Development Process – Valentine/AMBAG

ADJOURN TO REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 3, 2025, AT 2:00 P.M.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if requested, the Agenda can be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. If an individual wishes to request an alternative agenda format, please contact the Clerk of the Council four (4) days prior to the meeting at (831) 637-7665. The Council of Governments Technical Advisory Committee meeting facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Council's office at (831) 637-7665 at least 48 hours before the meeting to enable the Council of Governments to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

Pursuant to Government Code Section #54954.2(a) the Regular Meeting Agenda for the Council of San Benito County Governments Technical Advisory Committee on March 6, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. was posted at the following locations freely accessible to the public:

The front entrance of the San Benito County Administration Building, 481 Fourth Street, Hollister, CA 95023, at the following date and time:

On the 28th day of March 2025, on or before 5:00 p.m.

The meeting agenda was also posted on the Council of San Benito County Governments website, www.sanbenitocog.org, under Meetings, TAC, 2025 Meeting Schedule.

I, Monica Gomez, swear under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

BY: Monica Gomez
Monica Gomez, Secretary II
Council of San Benito County Governments

COUNCIL OF SAN BENITO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

Council of Governments Office, 330 Tres Pinos Rd., Suite C7, Hollister, CA 95023 and
Teleconference Location: Caltrans Dist. 5 Office, 50 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

December 5, 2024 2:00 PM

ACTION MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

SBCOG Executive Director Binu Abraham called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Binu Abraham; Council of San Benito County Governments, Alt. Regina Valentine; Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, Noel Coady; California Highway Patrol, Steve Loupe; San Benito Co. RMA Public Works Engineering, Kelly McClendon; Caltrans District 5 (via-teleconference), Don Reynolds; City of San Juan Bautista (joined at 2:08 pm), Abraham Prado; San Benito Co. RMA Planning & Building Services (joined at 2:14 pm).

MEMBERS ABSENT:

William Via; City of Hollister Public Works Comm. Services, Rod Powell; City of Hollister Development Services

STAFF PRESENT:

Samuel Borick; Transportation Planner, Victor Diaz; Transportation Planner, Monica Gomez; Secretary II. Matthew Carpenter, Planning Consultant (via-teleconference).

3. CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

Motion made to acknowledge Certificate of Posting:

Motion: Regina Valentine Second: Noel Coady

Motion carried: 5/0

Yes: Abraham, Valentine, Coady, Loupe, McClendon

No: None

Recused: None

Abstention: None

Absent: Prado, Powell, Via, Reynolds

4. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

5. MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Regina Valentine announced that AMBAG is currently working on the RTP MTP project list and thanked the TAC for their efforts in trying to complete it by the end of the year.

Steve Loupe provided an update on the Union Road Bridge project, noting that it is anticipated to open after the holidays, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony planned for some time in February.

Noel Coady stated that CHP is assisting Caltrans District 4 and District 5 in compiling crash data for State Route 25 between the Hollister city limits and Highway 101. He understands that a traffic safety study is being conducted due to the recent number of fatalities in the area.

Kelly McClendon announced that the Mitchell Road closure on Highway 156 was lifted on Monday. The tree removal on Highway 101 is ongoing, with cutting expected to finish next week, followed by some cleanup. Native vegetation will be planted to replace the eucalyptus trees over the next year. Lastly, he announced that this may be his last TAC meeting as the Caltrans District 5 liaison for San Benito County, Jill Leal, is expected back in January 2025.

Don Reynolds announced that this would be his last TAC meeting as he will be taking on a new job at Kimley-Horn Engineering Planning and Design Consultants in Monterey. He stated that San Juan Bautista will have a new pavement management plan coming out hopefully, after the first of the year.

Binu Abraham announced that SBCOG will hold its Measure G Oversight Committee meeting next Wednesday, during which staff will present the year-end expenditures for any Measure G related projects completed over the past year for all three jurisdictions.

Binu Abraham introduced Planning Consultant, Matthew Carpenter, who provided additional information on the Measure G expenditure report.

Matthew Carpenter mentioned that staff will be sending an update on Measure G projects to TAC and asked everyone to review past project development spending. He stated that the goal is to show that Measure G not only helps complete projects but also leverages other funds to move projects forward. The Measure G Committee and SBCOG Board are seeking more details on projects from the past four years. He expressed appreciation for the input and asked TAC members to confirm if Measure G funds were used for project development to help strengthen the annual report.

CONSENT AGENDA:

6. Approve TAC Meeting Minutes dated November 7, 2024 – Gomez

There was no public comment on the Consent Agenda.

Motion made to approve the Consent Agenda:

Motion: Don Reynolds Second: Steve Loupe

Motion carried: 6/0

Yes: Abraham, Valentine, Coady, Loupe, Reynolds, McClendon

No: None

Recused: None

Abstention: None

Absent: Prado, Powell, Via

INFORMATION ITEMS:

7. Receive an Update on the Transportation Project List for Inclusion in the 2050 San Benito Regional Transportation Plan (2050 RTP) – Borick

Samuel Borick and Matthew Carpenter provided an update on the Transportation Project List and answered questions from the TAC. They requested that the TAC review the list and provide comments by Tuesday, December 10, 2024, to allow staff time to prepare a draft final version of the 2050 RTP project list and an associated budget for the SBCOG Board to receive at their December meeting.

Steve Loupe mentioned that some county projects, including bridge projects, are nearing completion and will be marked in red for removal from the list.

TAC members asked for the project list to be sent again via email for final comments. Mr. Borick confirmed he would resend the list to them for review.

Mr. Borick mentioned that once the SBCOG Board approves the 2050 RTP project list it will be submitted to AMBAG for inclusion in their 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

There was no public comment.

There being no further business to discuss, Steve Loupe motioned to adjourn the Technical Advisory Committee meeting at 2:36 p.m. Motion seconded by Don Reynolds.

Motion carried: 7/0

Yes: Abraham, Valentine, Coady, Reynolds, McClendon, Loupe, Prado

No: None

Recused: None

Abstention: None

Absent: Powell, Via

ADJOURN TO THE REGULAR TAC MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2025, AT 2:00 P.M.



STAFF REPORT

Information

Prepared By: Victor Diaz
Transportation Planner

Subject: Caltrans Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26
Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants

Agenda Item: 7

Approved By: Binu Abraham, Executive Director

Meeting Date: March 6, 2025

Recommendation:

RECEIVE information on the Council of San Benito County Governments' recent applications to the Caltrans Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grants Program.

Summary:

To advance regional planning objectives, SBCOG has applied for the Sustainable Communities Grant and the Strategic Partnerships Grant, both of which are part of the Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant (STPG) Program for the 2025–26 fiscal year.

Background/ Discussion:

In October of 2024 Caltrans updated the final guidelines for the FY 2025-26 cycle of the STPG Program. The program features three different grant opportunities which include the Sustainable Communities Grant, Climate Adaptation Planning Grant and Strategic Partnerships Grant. The program is expected to award approximately \$37 million in funding statewide. In November 2024, SBCOG staff presented an informational item to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to introduce the program and explore opportunities for collaboration on grant applications.

On January 22, 2025, SBCOG submitted two grant applications: one for the Sustainable Communities Grant and another for the Strategic Partnerships Grant. SBCOG is the prime applicant for both grants, with the City of Hollister listed as a Co-Sponsor. The Sustainable Communities Grant aims to fund local and regional efforts to identify transportation-related climate vulnerabilities by developing climate adaptation plans and project-level strategies for transportation infrastructure. The Strategic Partnerships Grant supports transportation planning studies conducted in partnership with Caltrans to address the regional, interregional, and statewide needs of the State Highway System. Successful grant applications will not only provide essential funding for the agency to implement the projects outlined below, but the resulting projects will also increase the eligibility of other regional transportation projects for funding by fulfilling the requirements of additional grants and funding sources.

Sustainable Communities Grant

A Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Clean Fuel Path Strategy was proposed by the Local Transportation Authority for an application submitted for the Sustainable Communities Grant category. The goal of this project is to explore various clean fuel options for the LTA's state-mandated transition to a zero-emission bus fleet, with the aim of developing a cost-effective strategy. The project will

consider key operational factors, including refueling possibilities, fleet size, and the infrastructure requirements (e.g., power grid capacity, hydrogen production) for each clean fuel path. The project will also account for recent changes in transit demand, vehicle costs, facility needs, and financial constraints. Through a collaborative and thorough planning process, the Zero Emission Bus Clean Fuel Strategy aims to meet the future transit needs of San Benito County residents while supporting the State's broader goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions with a successful zero-emission fleet implementation.

Strategic Partnerships Grant

SBCOG submitted an application under the Strategic Partnerships Grant category to develop a State Route 25 (SR 25) Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan (CMCP). The goal of the SR 25 CMCP is to create a comprehensive mobility and development vision for the 10.8-mile corridor that connects San Benito County and Santa Clara County. This stretch of SR 25 serves as a vital commuter and trucking route for the San Benito region, yet it is frequently plagued by limited mobility options, unplanned development, rapidly increasing traffic volumes, and unsafe bottlenecks due to insufficient access control. In partnership with Caltrans and other regional agencies, the project will develop a comprehensive, long-term vision and implementation strategy for the corridor, supporting future improvement projects along SR 25.

Financial Impact:

None

Attachments:

None



STAFF REPORT

Information

Prepared By: Samuel Borick
Transportation Planner

Subject: 2050 Regional Transportation Plan
Update

Agenda Item: 8

Approved By: Binu Abraham, Executive
Director

Meeting Date: March 6, 2025

Recommendation:

RECEIVE an update on the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan.

Summary:

The Council of San Benito County Governments (SBCOG) will provide the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) with an update on the development of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (2050 RTP). SBCOG plans to present the draft 2050 RTP to its Board of Directors in May 2025. To ensure the RTP accurately reflects the initiatives and policies of the San Benito region, SBCOG seeks to collaborate closely with the TAC throughout the update process. The final 2050 RTP is scheduled for adoption in June 2026.

Background/ Discussion:

The RTP is a 25-year planning document that guides the development and maintenance of the region's transportation system. Updated every four years as required by law, the RTP addresses current and future transportation needs with the goal of ensuring safe and efficient travel options for work, education, healthcare.

Local, state, and federal planning requirements and initiatives establish the transportation policies and performance metrics that guide the RTP. The 2050 RTP is shaped by six local transportation goals, which reflect community needs and priorities while aligning with the objectives set by the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments' 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2050 MTP/SCS). Each of the six local transportation goals is supported by specific strategies; the development and selection of strategies is directly influenced by the planning documents and goals of local agencies who maintain, operate, and influence transportation facilities in the San Benito Region. The six local transportation goals include:

- *Accessibility and Mobility:* provide convenient, accessible, and reliable travel options for regional travelers.
- *System Preservation and Safety:* preserve the existing system with ongoing maintenance and rehabilitation.

- *Economic Vitality*: support transportation investments that have a direct impact on retail spending and job growth.
- *Social Equity*: provide an equitable level of transportation to all segments of the population
- *Healthy Communities*: Encourage active transportation projects and programs.
- *Environment*: Promote environmental sustainability and protect the natural environment of the region.

In addition to the strategies that support the goals of the 2050 RTP, it is important that the document highlights critical transportation investments that are reflective of the transportation goals featured in the 2050 RTP. This creates a direct connection between what the region seeks to achieve and how it is tangibly being achieved. Attached to this staff report is a list of illustrative projects that highlight some of the region's key transportation investments (Attachment 1). These projects are included in the draft 2050 RTP project list.

Financial Impact:

None

Attachments:

1. 2050 RTP Key Transportation Investments List

2050 RTP Key Transportation Investments

Local Street and Road Projects

Union Road Widening (east and west)	County of San Benito
Fairview Road Widening	County of San Benito
North Gateway Beautification Project	City of Hollister
4 th Street / San Juan Bridge (Bridge Project)	City of Hollister
Local Street and Roadway Maintenance 2025-2050 - the objective is to increase the overall Pavement Condition Index (PCI) for each jurisdiction in the county.	All Jurisdictions

Highway Investments

State Route 25 Corridor Improvement Project	Caltrans
SR 156 Improvement Project	Caltrans
US 101 Rocks Road Wildlife Connectivity Project	Caltrans
State Highway Operation & Protection Program (SHOPP) - the objective is to maintain a good PCI and to improve safety along the state highways in the county.	Caltrans

Active Transportation Investments

Pedestrian Crosswalk at Intersection of The Alameda & Hwy 156	City of San Juan Bautista
Multi Modal Transportation Hub	City of San Juan Bautista
San Benito River Recreational Trail (Phase I & II)	County of San Benito
Highway 156 Bike Lane	County of San Benito
Complete Streets Project for Nash/Tres Pinos/Sunnyslope Roads and McCray Street	City of Hollister

Transit Projects

Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Transit Vehicles that provide environmental benefits and fulfill state requirements	LTA
Transit Facility Yard Improvements - the objective is to support ZEB vehicles and service expansions	LTA
Transit Fare Modernization - the objective is to create a more seamless and convenient payment system that also offers insightful data to improve operations.	LTA



STAFF REPORT

Information

Prepared By: Samuel Borick
Transportation Planner

Subject: 2050 Metropolitan Transportation
Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy
Update

Agenda Item: 9

Approved By: Binu Abraham, Executive
Director

Meeting Date: March 6, 2025

Recommendation:

RECEIVE an update and provide feedback on the development of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy.

Summary:

The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) will update the technical advisory committee (TAC) on the ongoing activities for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (2050 MTP/SCS). These efforts follow the 2050 MTP/SCS work program and schedule, adopted by the AMBAG Board of Directors in April 2023. In compliance with state and federal law, AMBAG is required to prepare a long-range transportation plan every four years. Accordingly, the 2050 MTP/SCS is set for adoption by the board of directors in June 2026.

Background/ Discussion:

AMBAG is providing updates on the development of the 2050 MTP/SCS in collaboration with regional transportation agencies, including the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (SCCRTC), and the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), and the Council of San Benito County Governments (SBCOG).

AMBAG will update the TAC on several key components of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS). These include the approved vision, goals, and performance measures that form the policy framework for the plan, updates to the transportation project list with input from regional and local partners, and finalization of land use inputs and mapping, including PlaceTypes and Opportunity Area maps.

AMBAG will provide an update on regional revenue projections and the progress of the programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR), with the draft slated for public release in late 2025. Public engagement efforts will be discussed, including surveys and workshops planned for March–April 2025, along with next steps for continued collaboration with stakeholders.

Financial Impact:

None

Attachments:

1. AMBAG MTP Staff Memo

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: SBtCOG Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Heather Adamson, Director of Planning

SUBJECT: 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy Update

MEETING DATE: March 6, 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

AMBAG staff will provide an update on the development of the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy. TAC members are asked to provide feedback on the development of the 2050 MTP/SCS.

BACKGROUND/ DISCUSSION:

AMBAG adopted the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (MTP/SCS) in June 2022. Federal and state law requires that AMBAG prepare a long-range transportation plan every four years. In accordance with state and federal guidelines, the 2050 MTP/SCS is scheduled for adoption by the Board of Directors in June 2026. Staff developed the 2050 MTP/SCS work program and schedule, which was approved by the AMBAG Board of Directors in April 2023. Completed 2050 MTP/SCS activities and those currently underway are highlighted below.

2050 MTP/SCS, Vision, Goals, and Performance Measures

With each MTP/SCS update, AMBAG starts the planning process by establishing a framework of a vision and goals to guide the development of the Plan. This is a key first step, as it is the policy foundation for the MTP/SCS and identifies the “big picture” of what we aim to achieve. The 2050 MTP/SCS vision and goals were approved by the AMBAG Board of Directors in November 2023. The 2050 MTP/SCS performance measures are used to evaluate each of the policy goals and were approved by the AMBAG Board of Directors in April 2024. Performance measures allow us to quantify regional goals, estimate the impacts of proposed investments, and evaluate progress over time.

Transportation Project List

AMBAG is working with the RTPAs, transit operators, Caltrans, and local jurisdictions to the transportation project list for the 2050 MTP/SCS. Project list updates include revising existing 2045 MTP/SCS projects, such as changes to cost estimates and project phasing, adding new projects or identifying projects that have been completed since the last MTP/SCS cycle. RTPA staff is working with the local jurisdictions and other project sponsors to obtain updates to local and regional projects to be entered into the MTP/SCS project database. AMBAG is finalizing the draft project list for inclusion in the 2050 MTP/SCS.

Land Use Inputs and Mapping Updates

AMBAG staff is finalizing the land use inputs for the updated PlaceTypes and Opportunity Area maps for the SCS. The PlaceTypes maps will be updated for 2022, 2035, and 2050 which are key modeling years for the 2050 MTP/SCS. To better analyze land use patterns, AMBAG, in conjunction with the local jurisdictions, created a set of place types which identified land use designations and characteristics common in the General Plans of all 21 jurisdictions in the AMBAG region. These categories are meant to act as a common “language” so that the diverse general and specific plans across the Monterey Bay area can be compared in a consistent and standard manner.

AMBAG staff is also in the final stages of working with local jurisdiction planning staff to update the Opportunity Area (OA) maps for the SCS. Opportunity Areas are places in the region with the highest chance for successful sustainable growth. They are generally located where transit supportive areas and economic development overlap within the AMBAG region.

These land use inputs will feed into AMBAG land use and transportation models for development of the 2050 MTP/SCS. The PlaceTypes and Opportunity Areas maps from the currently adopted 2045 MTP/SCS can be found at: [https://ambag.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/Appendix%20I %20SCSMaps Updated.pdf](https://ambag.org/sites/default/files/2022-07/Appendix%20I%20SCSMaps_Updated.pdf).

Revenue Assumptions

AMBAG worked with our transportation partners to develop future financial assumptions for the MTP/SCS through 2050. The financial assumptions guide how much local, state and federal funding will be reasonably available for the transportation investments included in the 2050 MTP/SCS. Draft revenues have been refined and are shown below. The breakdown of draft revenues accounts for 17% federal funds, 37% state funds and 46% local funds.

Draft 2050 MTP/SCS Transportation Revenues (2025 \$, in billions)

County	Draft Revenues
Monterey	\$7.3
San Benito	\$1.9
Santa Cruz	\$6.3
Total AMBAG Region	\$15.5

Revenue Constrained Scenario

The draft revenue constrained scenario is a requirement of the MTP/SCS and is the basis of the MTP/SCS. The future land use inputs provided to AMBAG from the local jurisdictions and the constrained transportation project lists make up the revenue constrained scenario. Over the next few months, the revenue constrained scenario will be evaluated using the AMBAG Board approved performance measures.

Programmatic Environmental Impact Report

Work on the programmatic EIR is underway and will serve as the EIR for the 2050 MTP/SCS as well as the EIR for each of the RTPA's county-level Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). AMBAG and the RTPAs coordinate on the EIR to reduce duplication of efforts for environmental documentation, for budgetary efficiency and to assure consistency in environmental review between plans. AMBAG is the lead for developing the programmatic EIR, working with the RTPAs, an environmental consultant and an environmental legal firm to develop the joint EIR. The Draft EIR is scheduled to be released for public comment in late 2025.

2050 MTP/SCS Public Involvement Program

AMBAG staff will continue to implement the outreach strategies included in the AMBAG Board adopted Public Involvement Plan with an online survey and public workshops scheduled for March – April 2025.

Next Steps

Staff will continue to develop the various components of the 2050 MTP/SCS working with the Planning Directors Forum, Technical Advisory Committees, partner agencies, and key stakeholders.



STAFF REPORT

Informational

Prepared By: Victor Diaz, Transportation Planner

Subject: 2025 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan Development Process

Agenda Item No. 10

Approved By: Binu Abraham, Executive Director

Meeting Date: March 6, 2025

Recommendation:

RECEIVE memorandum and presentation from AMBAG on the upcoming 2025 Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan Development Process.

Summary:

The purpose of the Coordinated Plan, which AMBAG is required to develop, is to improve public transportation for seniors, people with disabilities, and individuals with limited means. This is accomplished by cataloging existing public transportation services for these populations, identifying deficiencies in the current system, and proposing projects to address them.

The projects and changes identified in this plan are made eligible for federal funding through the FTA Section 5310 grant program.

Financial Impact:

None.

Attachment:

1. AMBAG 2025 Coordinated Plan memorandum.

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: SBTcOG Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Regina Valentine, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: 2025 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan Development Process

MEETING DATE: March 6, 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff will provide an overview of the 2025 Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan) development process. TAC members are asked to provide feedback on the development of the 2025 Coordinated Plan.

BACKGROUND:

AMBAG is required to develop a Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan) for the tri-county region. Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) / Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021, this plan must be completed and used in developing applications for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) grant program. The plan identifies local transportation needs for seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons of limited means to facilitate applications for the FTA Section 5310 program.

The FTA Section 5310 program provides funding to assist private non-profit groups and public transportation providers in meeting the transportation needs of seniors and persons with disabilities when the transportation services provided are unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting these needs. The funds are apportioned based on each State's share of the population of these demographics and awarded to projects through a statewide competitive process. Funds may be used for capital or operating expenses. The Coordinated Plan, as required by the 2021 BIL/IIJA, must include the following elements:

- An assessment of currently available transportation services (public, private, and non-profit);

Planning Excellence!

- An assessment of transportation needs for seniors and persons with disabilities. This assessment can be based on the experiences and perceptions of the planning partners or on more sophisticated data collection efforts;
- Strategies, activities, and/or projects to address the identified gaps between current services and needs, as well as opportunities to achieve efficiencies in service delivery; and
- Priorities for implementation based on resources (from multiple program sources), time, and feasibility for implementing specific strategies and/or activities.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of the Coordinated Plan is to improve public transportation for seniors, persons with disabilities, and persons of limited means. This is accomplished through identifying where the public transportation system can better meet these needs and describing projects or changes which would help alleviate the shortcomings. The plan also includes a list of public transportation services that serves these populations.

The projects and changes identified in this plan are made eligible for federal funding through the FTA Section 5310 grant program. In the past, this funding source has been used by public transportation agencies to replace or purchase new paratransit vehicles, as well as for operating expenses.

Below are key dates for developing the 2025 Coordinated Plan:

- **January – March 2025:** Present an overview of the 2025 Coordinated Plan development process to regional advisory committees, the Planning Directors Forum, and the AMBAG Board of Directors
- **March – July 2025:** Develop the Draft 2025 Coordinated Plan
- **August – September 2025:** Present the Draft 2025 Coordinated Plan to regional advisory committees, the Planning Directors Forum, and to the AMBAG Board of Directors
- **August 4 – September 26, 2025:** Public comment period
- **October 2025:** Prepare the Final 2025 Coordinated Plan
- **November 11, 2025:** AMBAG Board of Directors will be asked to adopt the Final 2025 Coordinated Plan

Next Steps

AMBAG staff will incorporate committee feedback and prepare the Draft 2025 Coordinated Plan in coordination with our partner agencies and local jurisdictions.