

**Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan Implementation: \$1,400,000 (On-going)**

The Accessible Transportation Strategic (ATS) Plan defines how Contra Costa will improve transportation options for older adults, persons with disabilities, and veterans. The ATS Plan was collaboratively developed over several years in consultation with elected officials, non-profit based advocates, users of the system, and planning/operations staff. This effort was jointly conducted by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) and Contra Costa County with oversight provided by a Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and Technical Advisory Committee. The Board of Supervisors approved the ATS Plan on March 9, 2021 as did CCTA shortly thereafter.

At the August 4, 2021 Measure X Community Advisory Board (MXCAB) County staff presented the recommendations of the ATS Plan and requested funding to begin implementation. The activities presented to the MXCAB for potential implementation were derived directly from the ATS Plan and include:

- **Establishment of a Coordinating Entity** that will be responsible for short- and long-term implementation of accessible transportation strategies including the identification of a new, on-going funding source to support continuing operations.
- **One Call/One Click Operations Center.** Countywide, centralized phone and internet resource for all modes of transportation serving target populations. Assisting callers in making travel plans based on their abilities.
- **User-side Subsidies** for low-income populations for whom existing fares represent a barrier to access.
- **Expansion and Enhancement of One Seat Ride Pilot Program** allowing paratransit riders to travel throughout the county (and possibly outside the county) without having to transfer between paratransit vehicles.

The funding request is for \$1.4 million for on-going ATS implementation activities. Staff made the MXCAB aware that on-going funding will be needed for 5 years (+/-) until stable funding is identified by the Task Force/Coordinating Entity. The level of subsequent year funding is not yet determined although is likely to be more as institutional capacity to perform implementation tasks is developed.

Consistent with the recommendations of ATS Plan, the details and timing of implementation activities will be governed by a newly formed Task Force (another recommendation of the ATS Plan) which had its first meeting on October 21, 2021. The Task Force has a similar composition to the PAC with elected officials, advocates, users of the system, etc. Given this adopted oversight/implementation system, the County should hold these funds in trust until an approved request from the ATS Plan Task Force is received.

**Recommendation:**

The County Administrator's recommendation is that the plan be fully funded with an on-going annual allocation of \$1,400,000.