

# ALAMEDA-CONTRA COSTA TRANSIT DISTRICT



## STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** 9/11/2019

**Staff Report No.** 19-295

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**TO:** AC Transit Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Michael A. Hursh, General Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Air District Vehicle Trip Reduction Grant Program

### ACTION ITEM

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Consider adoption of Resolution No. 19-031 authorizing the General Manager or his designee to file and execute applications and funding agreements with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) Vehicle Trip Reduction Grant program to support operation of the on-demand shuttle service, AC Transit Flex.

#### **BUDGETARY/FISCAL IMPACT:**

The District is applying for approximately \$1.5 million in Vehicle Trip Reduction grant funds to assist in the operation of Flex service. If awarded, grant funds would supplant District general operating funds for Flex service operations. In return, the District will be required to contribute a ten percent match of up to \$150,000.

#### **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

The Vehicle Trip Reduction Grant Program provides funding to support projects that improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing vehicle trips and miles traveled in the Bay Area. The reduction of single occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips is one of the key strategies promoted by the BAAQMD for improving the air quality in the Bay Area.

The Flex service is an on-demand bus service that enables riders to schedule their pick-up and desired drop-off locations. The on-demand scheduling feature results in the reduction of wait times, with customers arriving at their destination faster and improving the overall rider experience. After the end of the year-long pilot program in March 2018, the operation of the Flex service has continued as part of regular operations. The Flex service fits the goals and strategies of the Vehicle Trip Reduction Grant Program as it addresses first- and last-mile connections and connects riders to the rest of the regional transit network.

#### **ADVANTAGES/DISADVANTAGES:**

Staff cannot identify any disadvantages in applying for these funds.

There are not many grants that fund the operation of existing shuttle services. Not applying for this grant would result in the District forgoing the opportunity to obtain outside funds for operating the Flex service.

**ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS:**

The District may choose not to apply for the grant. Staff decided not to pursue this alternative since the funding would only add to the District's operating funds.

**PRIOR RELEVANT BOARD ACTION/POLICIES:**

None

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Resolution 19-031

**Approved by:**

Claudia L. Allen, Chief Financial Officer

**Reviewed by:**

Chris Andrichak, Director of Management and Budget

Denise C. Standridge, General Counsel

Robert del Rosario, Director of Services Development and Planning

Michael Eshleman, Service Planning Manager

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**Prepared by:**

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