

NEW TECHNOLOGY RESERVE GRANT PROGRAM ADVANCED TRANSIT AND TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Grant Application

Project/Program Name/Description:

Lead Agency (Applicant) Legal Name:

Physical Address (No P.O. Box):

City:

County:

Zip:

Contact Person (Grant Manager):

Phone:

Email:

Name of Authorizing Representative certifying that the information contained in this application is true and accurate:

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____

Email Address: _____

Signature: _____



**Fresno Council
of Governments**

**2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 233-4148**

APPLICANT CHECKLIST/TABLE OF CONTENTS

Applicants should use this checklist to ensure that all applicable parts of the application and attachments are completed and submitted.

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BACKGROUND

The Fresno Council of Governments (Fresno COG) is seeking proposals from eligible public agencies for advanced transit projects that have the potential for broad benefits to Fresno County residents and will assist the region in meeting its air quality goals. Fresno COG is proposing to fund projects of regional significance in the areas of research, development, demonstration, and deployment that will advance public transit and transportation.

Fresno COG is a consensus builder, developing acceptable programs and solutions to issues that do not respect political boundaries. Fresno COG is a voluntary association of local governments, one of California's 38 regional planning agencies, and one of 500+ nationwide. In 1967 elected officials of Fresno County and its incorporated cities informally created the agency, formalizing Fresno COG in 1969 through a Joint Powers Agreement. Fresno COG undertakes comprehensive regional planning with an emphasis on transportation, provides citizens an opportunity to be involved in the planning process, and supplies technical services to its members.

Fresno County voters approved [Measure C](#), a ½ cent transportation sales tax, in 1986 and again in 2006. Fresno COG prepared the Measure C Expenditure Plan, a guide to how \$1.2 billion in Measure C transportation dollars will be spent through the year 2027. It was prepared with our partners, the cities, the County, Caltrans and the [Fresno County Transportation Authority](#) (administrators of the tax) and other community stakeholder groups. In its first 20 years, Measure C delivered more than \$1 billion of improvements to state highways and county roadways, and has helped the building of additional lanes and freeway improvements throughout the County. As a result of the successful original measure, Fresno County voters chose to extend Measure C for an additional 20 years. The Measure C Extension (2007-2027) not only funds improvements of local roadways by repairing potholes and paving streets and sidewalks, but also funds ride-share incentive programs and environmental enhancement programs.

The Fresno County Transportation Authority (FCTA) is the entity created by legislation to administer the Measure C Program(s) and ensure the revenue is received and distributed appropriately. Fresno COG is responsible for the implementation of several Measure C programs including the Measure C New Technology Reserve Grant Program (New Technology Grant Program). For information on the Measure C sales tax visit www.measurec.com.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is being issued to eligible public agencies within Fresno County including the Fresno COG, Fresno County, and the cities in Fresno County who propose projects meeting the eligibility requirements of the Measure C New Technology Reserve Grant Program and demonstrate the need for advanced transit and transportation. Entities deemed ineligible to apply for New Technology Grant funds may apply as a partnering agency but **must** partner with an **eligible** applicant that will be responsible for implementing the project. The applicant and/or implementing agency assumes responsibility and accountability for the use and expenditure of program funds. The eligible public agency will need to sign a Cooperative Agreement with FCTA.

FUNDING DISTRIBUTION/TIMELINE

The Measure C New Technology Program makes **\$10,000,000** available for the Fiscal Year 15/16 award cycle. An additional \$20,000,000 can be made available over time through the next 12 years. Fresno COG will release an Application for New Technology Projects/Proposals on a biennial basis with the option to release annually if deemed necessary.

Fresno COG is committed to ensuring that grant funding from the RFP is equally distributed throughout the Fresno County Region to the extent feasible. From the most qualified proposals with the highest scores, Fresno COG will select projects for funding in a manner that is consistent with this commitment.

Fresno COG reserves the right to reject all proposals and make no awards under this announcement if the proposals submitted do not meet the goals of this RFP.

TIMELINE:

Activity	Date
Request for Proposals Released (Tentative)	December 1, 2015
Last day to submit requests for clarification (Tentative)	January 15, 2016
Deadline for Proposal Submittal (Tentative)	February 26, 2016
Scoring (Tentative)	March 1-12, 2016
Potential Interviews (Tentative)	March 22-26, 2016
Policy Board Approval (Tentative)	April 2016
FCTA Board Approval (Tentative)	May 2016
Notice to Proceed - Subject to Contract Signing (Tentative)	August 2016

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Measure C New Technology Program is to finance research, or implementation of, new transit technologies, such as Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) or similar transit or transportation systems. To receive funding, projects must achieve as many as possible of these local objectives:

- Reduced traffic congestion and vehicle miles traveled
- Reduced energy consumption and dependence on fossil fuels
- Reduced air emissions and greenhouse gas emissions
- Improved access to safer, more convenient travel for Fresno County residents.

To further its Measure C New Technology Program goals, Fresno COG is focusing on technological advances in public systems, safety features, fuel efficiencies and alternatives, intelligent transportation system (ITS) applications, and information dissemination. These areas help to promote passenger safety and satisfaction, attract customers, improve capital and operating efficiencies, reduce environmental pollution, and ease dependence on fossil fuels.

Projects funded through this RFP can secure long-term air quality benefits as well as introduce, improve and advance clean and innovative technology in the areas of transit and transportation that can be sustained in the region, and/or will further promote innovative infrastructure designs that reduce vehicle miles traveled. Furthermore, the real-world experience gained by participating in this project will promote and encourage public agencies and the entire Fresno County region to consider cleaner, reduced-emission options when making business and planning decisions.

The Fresno COG is requesting applications for projects that demonstrate public benefits with respect to advanced transit and transportation systems that ultimately improve the region's air quality by reducing transportation-related emissions while considering ancillary benefits including greenhouse gas reductions, congestion relief, safety, or other elements; though such benefits do not alone establish eligibility. Applications must focus on introducing or improving and advancing new technologies in the Fresno County region.

Expenditures on funded projects must be directed into the Fresno County economy, and must have a strong potential to attract future financial investment in that economy. To the extent possible, the Measure C New Technology Program funds should be used to leverage additional funding from other sources to create more viable projects.

Examples of eligible projects or project components include, but are not limited to:

1. The evaluation of viability and local benefits of new transit technologies.
2. Planning, design and construction of new transit technologies, including construction of track and ancillary improvements
3. Purchase of vehicles only if they are an integral part of a new-technology system, not replacement vehicles in an already existing system; hiring of staff to seek additional funding for new transit technologies after project is awarded
4. Environmental Review
5. Right-of-way acquisition
6. Other necessary projects, programs, systems, or services that enable new technology transit and transportation systems to provide the desired objectives.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Public Agency

This application is open to selected eligible public agencies within Fresno County. These agencies include:

- Fresno COG
- Fresno County
- Incorporated cities within Fresno County

Entities deemed ineligible to apply for New Technology Grant funds may apply as a partnering agency but **must** partner with an **eligible** public agency that will be responsible for implementing the project. Eligible public agencies wishing to partner will need a resolution from their governing body. This resolution must be submitted as an attachment to this application. In addition, public agencies must attach an authorizing resolution, designating a person authorized to sign on behalf of the agency, as an Appendix to the application.

Furthermore, if a school district is one of the partnering agencies, a resolution from the school district's board must be submitted as an attachment to this application.

Eligible Public Agencies must provide a representative's contact information.

Legal Name of Applicant:		
Address:		
City, State, and Zip:	Phone:	Email:

Eligible Public Agency's Representative

Name (print):	Title (print):	
Signature:		Date:
Email:		

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Civil Rights

Describe any lawsuits or complaints that have been received or acted on in the last year based on Title VI of the Civil Rights Act or other relevant civil rights requirements by the partnering agency and/or the eligible applicant.

Furthermore, provide a status of lawsuits or an explanation of how complaints were resolved including corrective actions taken.

If **NO** lawsuits or complaints were received or acted on – subrecipient must provide the following statement:

THERE WERE NO LAWSUITS OR COMPLAINTS RECEIVED OR ACTED ON IN THE LAST YEAR RELATING TO TITLE VI OR OTHER RELEVANT CIVIL RIGHTS REQUIREMENTS.

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Requirements

All successful applicants must submit a completed *Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Race-Neutral Implementation Agreement* with their signed Standard Agreement contract.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Project Selection Process

All project applications will be evaluated in accordance with the scoring criteria on pages 8-23 to determine the extent to which the proposed project meets the overall program goals and objectives of the programs. **Fresno COG will use volunteers from various multidisciplinary groups to recommend projects for funding through a competitive process and recommend funding levels.**

Seven (7) hard-copies (tabbed and bound) and one electronic copy (on CD or flash drive) of the **application must be submitted to Fresno COG before noon on February 26, 2016.** All copies shall be securely bound, e.g. spiral or comb bound (no clips, clamps, ringed binders, or rubber bands). **All printing (including appendixes, but excluding maps) shall be limited to no more than 50 double-sided pages.** The original application must be marked "ORIGINAL COPY". All documents contained in the original application package must have original signatures. The copies of the application may contain photocopies of the original package (so long as the maps, photographs and other detailed exhibits are in color and/or high resolution that clearly depict of all relevant information.) Faxed applications will not be accepted.

Applications must be submitted to the following address:

**Fresno Council of Governments
2035 Tulare Street, Suite 201
Fresno, CA 93721**

To the attention of: Peggy Arnest

Inquiries and Updates: Requests for clarification regarding this application must be submitted in writing via email to Peggy Arnest at parnest@fresnocog.org, and received by Fresno COG no later than 4:00 pm, Thursday, January 15, 2016. Such information as is reasonably available and will facilitate preparation of responses hereto; requests for clarification and associated responses; and any Addenda to this RFP will be posted at: <http://www.fresnocog.org/Doing-Business-With-Fresno-COG> and will not otherwise be distributed.

The information in this application is public record. Therefore, applicants should not include information regarded as confidential.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Transmittal Letter

A. Applicant Information:	
Legal Name:	
Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
Contact Person:	
E-mail:	
Phone:	Fax:
B. Project Type (check one):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Capital Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Capital and Operating
<input type="checkbox"/> Operating Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify _____
C. Project Information:	
Project Title:	
Project Description: <i>(Location/Boundaries, Nature of Project, Scope)</i>	
D. Funding Request:	FFY 2015/2016
New Technology Funds Request:	\$
Total Matching Funds: <i>(DOT federal, state, local, private, etc.)</i>	\$
Total Cost of Project:	\$
E. Authorized Signature:	
Name (print):	
Title (print)	
Signature:	Date

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Subjective Evaluation (continued)

3. Briefly describe your agency. This information should include, but not be limited to your agency's:

- History
- General experience with the development and implementation of transportation projects/programs
- Experience with projects similar to the proposed
- Ability to deliver projects/programs in a timely manner. Provide examples.

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Subjective Evaluation (continued)

4. Briefly describe the following aspects of your project/program, if applicable:

- Consistency with the most current adopted Regional Transportation Plan & Sustainable Community Strategy. Provide supporting documentation.
- Increased safety for all users
- Provide information on the proposed project/plan, as prepared by the eligible entity which may be integrated into the circulation element of its general plan or a separate plan which is compliant or will be brought into compliance with the Complete Streets Act, Assembly Bill 1358 (Chapter 657, Statutes of 2008).
- Consistency with the Blueprint implementation principles
- Promotes system management such as supporting and preserving other modes of transportation

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Subjective Evaluation (continued)

- Provide a description of how the five Es (Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering, and Evaluation) will be used to promote alternative modes of transportation
- Describe how the project links or connects, or encourages use of transit systems (for non-infrastructure applications) to transportation-related and community identified destinations, including but not limited to: schools, school facilities, transit facilities, community, social service or medical centers, employment centers, high density or affordable housing, regional, State or national trail system, recreational and visitor destinations or other community identified destinations via:
 - creation of new routes
 - removal of barrier to mobility
 - closure of gaps
 - other improvements to routes
 - educates or encourages use of existing routes
- How will the implementation of the new technologies improve economic development activities, improve economic health, broaden regional business competitiveness, improve the standard of living, and promote economic growth for the Fresno County region.
- Improves the quality of life of Fresno County residents

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Readiness (0 – 10 points)

1. Provide a detailed description of the project/program.
2. Describe the project/program work plan. This section of the application documents the current delivery phase of a project/program and the applicant's proposed schedule for implementation. For each of the standard project "Milestones", the applicant needs to enter either the date the milestone was completed (for all milestones already complete prior to submitting the application) or the date the applicant anticipates completing the milestone. Applicants should enter "N/A" if areas do not apply to the proposed project/program. The applicant must demonstrate the ability (staff and resources) of the agency to complete the project/program on time and within budget. Attach a project/program schedule in the appendix. If an infrastructure project, the schedule must indicate implementation eminent by 2017 and construction forthcoming by 2022.

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Air Quality (0 – 5 points)

1. Describe how the project/program will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Provide emission reduction calculations to backup emission reduction claims. Greenhouse gas calculations should be included if the project/program has any potential greenhouse gas emission reductions. Emission reduction calculations should focus on Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x), Reactive Organic Gases (ROG), and Particulate Matter (PM) with the PM fraction (i.e., PM₁₀ or PM_{2.5}) clearly identified. Show all math used in the calculations, identify the calculation methodology, and explain all assumptions used for calculating emission reductions.
Fresno COG staff may be able to provide assistance, guidance or direction regarding calculation tools.
3. Calculate the cost-effectiveness of the project/program in terms of dollar per ton of emissions reduced. Project cost-effectiveness is determined by the California Air Resource Board's (ARB) Air Quality Cost- Effectiveness Calculations Methodology:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/tsaq/eval/eval.htm>.

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Energy Efficiency and Generation (0 – 5 points)

1. Discuss how the project/program includes innovative energy-efficiency technologies, approaches, or design tools.
2. Describe how the project/program will reduce consumption of fossil fuels.
3. Explain how the project/program will enable the development and demonstration of integrated, accessible, and cost-effective technologies that incorporate energy storage and work seamlessly to meet both consumer needs and the needs of the electricity grid.

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Public Benefit (0 – 15 points)

1. Describe how the implementation of the project/program provides a direct public benefit to Fresno County residents.
2. Explain the public need for the project/program.
If applicable, attach a feasibility study for the project/program as an appendix. If one is not available, provide justification to how the public need was determined.
3. Describe the potential impact of the project/program on Fresno County residents and/or the public agency in terms of expected cost-savings, increased safety, improved public services, health benefits, etc.
4. Explain how the implementation of the project/program will enhance customer service & satisfaction in transit to Fresno County residents.
5. If applicable, describe the security elements of the project/program.

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Public Benefit (continued)

6. Explain how the project/program will improve the speed & reliability of the transit system.

7. How will the project/program improve accessibility for disabled Fresno County residents?

8. If applicable, describe any interoperability elements of the project/program such as how it may work, complement or enhance other transportation systems in the present and/or the future.

9. Describe how the project/program will improve connectivity for Fresno County residents.

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Innovation (0 – 25 points)

1. Explain how the project/program utilizes advanced technology(ies) beyond the level of existing technology(ies) currently used in transit and transportation systems in widespread applications.
2. If applicable, identify and clearly describe the advanced technology(ies) utilized in the project/program. Explain how the technology(ies) is considered advanced and innovative. Description of the technology(ies) should be explained in a manner that would be understandable to reviewers who are not experts in the field.

PROJECT/PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY - Replication & Regional Applicability (0 – 10 points)

1. Explain how the project/program has the potential for replication and/or growth in other areas of the Fresno County region.

PROJECT/PROGRAM MATCH FUNDING COMMITMENTS (0 – 10 points)

- Discuss the project/program funding strategy, clearly indicating total cost, authorization amounts and dates for all funding sources committed or anticipated to fully fund the project. Include a contingency plan if anticipated funding does not materialize.
Attach a copy of your agency's current audited financial statement as an appendix.

PROPOSED FUNDING									
Fund No. 1:									Program Code
Proposed Funding									
Component	Prior	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21+	Total	Funding Agency
E&P (PA&ED)									
PS&E									
R/W SUP									
CON SUP									
R/W									
CON									
TOTAL									

Fund No. 2:									Program Code
Proposed Funding									
Component	Prior	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21+	Total	Funding Agency
E&P (PA&ED)									
PS&E									
R/W SUP									
CON SUP									
R/W									
CON									
TOTAL									

Fund No. 3:									Program Code
Proposed Funding									
Component	Prior	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21+	Total	Funding Agency
E&P (PA&ED)									
PS&E									
R/W SUP									
CON SUP									
R/W									
CON									
TOTAL									

I certify that the information contained in the Proposed Funding table above is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that I am authorized to submit the project/program proposal for scoring and possible programming. The agency is required to identify matching funds, if any, and deliver the project as proposed within the scope and schedule specified in the application should the project be awarded funding.

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

Proposed Budget for Operational Projects/Programs

1. *Project Annual Budget:*

Estimated Income:	
a. Passenger Revenue	\$
b. Other Revenues	\$
c. Total grants*, donations, subsidy from other agency funds	\$
TOTAL INCOME	\$
*Not including this grant request.	
Estimated Expenses:	
a. Wages, Salaries and Benefits (non-maintenance personnel)	\$
b. Maintenance & Repair (include maintenance salaries)	\$
c. Fuels	\$
d. Casualty & Liability Insurance	\$
e. Administrative & General Expense	\$
f. Other Expenses (e.g., materials & supplies, taxes)	\$
g. Contract Services (specify)_____	\$
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

1. List performance measures your agency will use to track the effectiveness of this project.

2. Describe how your agency will monitor, evaluate, and report on the service your agency proposes to provide.