

# County Connection

## INTER OFFICE MEMO

To: Administration & Finance Committee

Date: 02/21/2024

From: Melody Reeb, Director of Planning, Marketing, & Innovation

Reviewed by: *Ref*

**SUBJECT: Cap and Trade Grant (LCTOP) – FY 2023-24**

### Background:

The Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) provides cap-and-trade funding for transit in order to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and improve mobility, with a priority on serving disadvantaged communities (DACs). Over time, the guidelines for eligible projects have been revised, allowing for increased flexibility in the use of these funds. In the last few years, County Connection has utilized these funds to operate Route 99X, connecting the Martinez Amtrak Station to BART via Pacheco Blvd. and Morello Ave., and to increase weekend service on Route 316. Both of these routes serve DACs within County Connection's service area. Since FY 2018-19, with the passage of Senate Bill 1119 (SB 1119), County Connection was able to implement the fare subsidy project in the Monument Corridor on Routes 11, 14, 16, 311, 314 and 316, offering fare free service 7 days a week.

### Proposed Projects:

The State Controller's Office (SCO) has released estimated apportionments for the LCTOP program, and County Connection is expected to receive about \$1,644,000. Staff proposes using these funds to continue operating service between Amtrak and BART, serving DACs in Martinez and North Concord, and subsidizing fares for Routes 11, 14, 16, 311, 314 and 316, which serve AB 1550 low-income communities and communities of concern in Downtown Concord and the Monument Corridor, as defined by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).

	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
<b>Cap &amp; Trade Allocations</b>					
Revenue Based (99314)	\$ 165,597	\$ 91,133	\$ 214,031	\$ 214,179	\$ 238,000
Population-Based (99313)	\$ 963,733	\$ 542,538	\$ 1,269,952	\$ 1,265,112	\$ 1,406,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 1,129,330</b>	<b>\$ 633,671</b>	<b>\$ 1,483,983</b>	<b>\$ 1,479,291</b>	<b>\$ 1,644,000</b>
<b>Projects Funded</b>					
Martinez Amtrak to BART	\$ 215,710	\$ 215,710	\$ 600,619	\$ 611,179	\$ 506,072
Monument Free	\$ 913,620	\$ 417,961	\$ 883,364	\$ 868,112	\$ 1,137,928
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,129,330</b>	<b>\$ 633,671</b>	<b>\$ 1,483,983</b>	<b>\$ 1,479,291</b>	<b>\$ 1,644,000</b>

**Financial Implications:**

Based on current estimates for FY 2023-24, County Connection will receive a total of \$1,644,000 in LCTOP funds. Staff plans to use \$506,072 to operate service within the DAC, and \$1,137,928 to subsidize fares on routes serving the Monument Corridor. Final apportionment amounts are expected to be released by the State Controller's Office in the coming weeks.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends using LCTOP funds to operate service between Martinez Amtrak and North Concord BART and to subsidize fares on routes serving the Monument Corridor.

**Action Requested:**

Staff requests that the A&F Committee forward the proposed LCTOP project funding allocation to the Board for approval.

**Attachments:**

None