

**San Mateo County Local Shuttle Program Shuttle Workshop
October 23, 2013**

NOTE: Q&A in black are actual ones provided at the workshop.

Questions & Answers

Q. The San Mateo County program provides critical funding to cities for alternative modes of transportation. Will C/CAG continue to have an employer contribution for congestion management?

A. The C/CAG Congestion Management Program will continue to require a development project generating over 100 trips to contribute to the program. C/CAG learns of such projects through cities. Thus, close coordination with cities is important for the success of the program.

Q. How are the requirements of SB 1339 related to the shuttle program?

A. SB 1339 will require any employer with more than 50 employees to provide alternative transportation options, such as providing commuter checks or shuttle service to and from nearby transit stations. It is anticipated that demand for shuttle service may increase because of this requirement. Details of SB1399 are available at the following sites:

http://rideshare.511.org/employers/sb_1339.aspx

<http://www.mtc.ca.gov/legislation/SB1339.htm>

Q. How can a community address the need for local transportation services resulting from SamTrans relocating bus stops?

A. Often shuttles are looked upon to fill in these service gaps. Through the Technical Assistance program we are starting this year, SamTrans will work with cities to find the appropriate solution for the issue, by considering adjusting SamTrans fixed route service or introducing a shuttle. Please contact Michael Eshleman at eshlemanm@samtrans.com.

Q. What should a city or employer prepare in order to receive technical assistance?

A. An applicant should provide a general identification of the problem to be solved (i.e. congestion relief, last mile connection to jobs, specific market sector or population that requires service) and general idea for service needs (i.e., route, hours of service, service frequency).

Q. If the existing shuttle service has overlapping service with SamTrans, how can this issue be best addressed?

A. An applicant can work with SamTrans through the Technical Assistance program to explore options for minimizing overlap. Please contact Michael Eshleman at eshlemanm@samtrans.com for community shuttles or Brian Jackson at brian@commute.org for commuter shuttles by November 15th. The program will be available from mid-November until the Call for Projects is issued.

Q. What data can SamTrans share for developing an inter-jurisdictional community-based shuttle?

A. SamTrans has a large amount of data, including transit ridership and rider profiles. SamTrans will share the available information with potential shuttle applicants as requested.

Q. Can a shuttle be proposed to serve more than one jurisdiction?

A. Yes. We encourage multi-jurisdictional routes wherever it makes sense to do so. Please note that there are existing shuttle services that provide service to more than one city.

Q. Estimating ridership for a new route is challenging, especially for community-based shuttles. When evaluating applications will a proposed route be compared to other existing routes?

A. There will be a slightly different application process for existing and new shuttle applications.

Q. What is the timeline for releasing the Call for Projects and awarding funding?

A. The Call for Projects will be released in winter 2014, and applicants will have one month to respond. The award is likely to be announced in spring 2014.