

Attachment 1
San Francisco County Transportation Authority
Fiscal Year 2025/26 Transportation Fund for Clean Air

DRAFT FISCAL YEAR 2025/26 TFCA LOCAL EXPENDITURE CRITERIA

The following are the Fiscal Year 2025/26 Local Expenditure Criteria for San Francisco's TFCA 40 Percent Fund program.

ELIGIBILITY SCREENING

In order for projects to be considered for funding, they must meet the eligibility requirements established by the Air District's TFCA 40 Percent Fund Expenditure Plan Guidance Commencing Fiscal Year Ending 2026. Consistent with the policies, a key factor in determining eligibility is a project's cost effectiveness (CE) ratio. The TFCA CE ratio is designed to measure the cost effectiveness of a project in reducing motor vehicle air pollutant emissions and to encourage projects that contribute funding from non-TFCA sources. TFCA funds budgeted for the project are divided by the project's estimated emissions reduction. The estimated reduction is the weighted sum of reactive organic gases (ROG), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), and particulate matter (PM) emissions that will be reduced over the effective life of the project, as defined by the Air District's guidelines.

TFCA CE is calculated by inputting information provided by the applicant into the Air District's CE worksheets. Transportation Authority staff will be available to assist project sponsors with these calculations and will work with Air District staff and the project sponsors as needed to verify reasonableness of input variables. The worksheets also calculate reductions in carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, which are not included in the Air District's official CE calculations, but which the Transportation Authority considers in its project prioritization process.

Consistent with the Air District's guidelines, in order to be eligible for Fiscal Year 2025/26 TFCA funds, a project must meet the CE ratio for emissions (i.e., ROG, NOx, and PM) reductions as specified in the guidelines for each project type. Projects that do not meet the appropriate CE threshold cannot be considered for funding.

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

Candidate projects that meet the cost effectiveness thresholds will be prioritized for funding based on the two-step process described below:

Step 1 – TFCA funds are programmed to eligible projects, as prioritized using the Transportation Authority Board-adopted Local Priorities (see below).

Step 2 – If there are TFCA funds left unprogrammed after Step 1, the Transportation Authority will work with project sponsors to develop additional TFCA candidate projects. This may include refinement of projects that were submitted for Step 1, but were not deemed eligible, as well as new projects. This approach is in response to an Air District policy that does not allow administering agencies to rollover any unprogrammed funds to the next year's funding cycle. If Fiscal Year 2025/26 funds are not programmed within 6 months of the Air District's approval of San Francisco's funding allocation, expected in May 2025, funds can be redirected (potentially to non-San Francisco projects) at the Air District's discretion. New candidate projects must meet all TFCA eligibility requirements and will be prioritized based on the Transportation Authority Board's adopted Local Priorities.

Local Priorities

The Transportation Authority's Local Priorities for prioritizing TFCA funds include the following factors:

1. Project Type – In order of priority:

- 1) Zero emissions non-vehicle projects including, but not limited to, bicycle and pedestrian facility improvements, transit priority projects, traffic calming projects, and transportation demand management projects;
- 2) Shuttle services that reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT);
- 3) Alternative fuel vehicles and alternative fuel infrastructure; and
- 4) Any other eligible project.

Attachment 1
San Francisco County Transportation Authority
Fiscal Year 2025/26 Transportation Fund for Clean Air

2. Cost Effectiveness of Emissions Reduced– Priority will be given to projects that achieve high CE (i.e., a low cost per ton of emissions reduced) compared to other applicant projects. The Air District’s CE worksheet predicts the amount of reductions each project will achieve in ROG, NOx, PM, and CO₂ emissions. However, the Air District’s calculation only includes the reductions in ROG, NOx, and PM per TFCA dollar spent on the project. The Transportation Authority will also give priority to projects that achieve high CE for CO₂ emission reductions based on data available from the Air District’s CE worksheets. The reduction of transportation-related CO₂ emissions is consistent with the City and County of San Francisco’s 2021 *Climate Action Plan*.

3. Project Readiness – Priority will be given to projects that are ready to proceed and have a realistic implementation schedule, budget, and funding package. Projects that cannot realistically commence in calendar year 2026 or earlier (e.g., to order or accept delivery of vehicles or equipment, begin delivery of service, award a construction contract, start the first TFCA-funded phase of the project) and be completed within a two-year period will have lower priority. Project sponsors may be advised to resubmit these projects for a future TFCA programming cycle.

4. Community Support – Priority will be given to projects with demonstrated community support (e.g., recommended in a community-based transportation plan, outreach conducted to identify locations and/or interested neighborhoods, or a letter of recommendation provided by the district Supervisor or a community-based organization).

5. Benefits Equity Priority Communities – Priority will be given to projects that directly benefit Equity Priority Communities, whether the project is directly located in an Equity Priority Community (see map in Attachment 3) or can demonstrate benefits to disadvantaged populations.

6. Investment from Non-Public Project Sponsors or Partners – Non-public entities may apply for and directly receive TFCA grants for alternative-fuel vehicle and infrastructure projects and may partner with public agency applicants for any other project type. For projects where a non-public entity is the applicant or partner, priority will be given to projects that include an investment from the non-public entity that is commensurate with the TFCA funds requested.

7. Project Delivery Track Record – Projects that are ranked high in accordance with the above local expenditure criteria may be lowered in priority or restricted from receiving TFCA funds if either of the following conditions applies or has applied during the previous two fiscal years:

- **Monitoring and Reporting** – Project sponsor has failed to fulfill monitoring and reporting requirements for any previously funded TFCA project.
- **Implementation of Prior Project(s)** – Project sponsor has a signed Funding Agreement for a TFCA project that has not shown sufficient progress; the project sponsor has not implemented the project by the project completion date without formally receiving a time extension from the Transportation Authority; or the project sponsor has violated the terms of the funding agreement.

8. Program Diversity – Promotion of innovative TFCA projects in San Francisco has resulted in increased visibility for the program and offered a good testing ground for new approaches to reducing motor vehicle emissions. Using the project type criteria established above, the Transportation Authority will continue to develop an annual program that contains a diversity of project types and approaches and serves multiple constituencies. The Transportation Authority believes that this diversity contributes significantly to public acceptance of and support for the TFCA program.