

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	October 31, 2024
SUBJECT:	Approve Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA) State Transit Assistance Reserve Request of up to \$401,892 to Fund Operational Expenses Related to Facility Maintenance, Technology, and Mobility Management
AGENDA ITEM:	7-6
STAFF CONTACT:	Laurent Beauregard, Assistant Transportation Planner

SUMMARY:

The Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA) is requesting up to \$401,892 in State Transit Assistance (STA) regional reserve funds, to fund operational expenses related to services provided by Transdev for facility maintenance, information technology management, and mobility management as these pass-through expenses that Transdev incurs are paid for by RABA. Staff recommends the board of directors approve funding for the operational expenses incurred.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors approve reimbursement of RABA's operational expenses incurred from the regional STA reserves, up to \$401,892, for facility maintenance, information technology management, and mobility management.

DISCUSSION:

Background – Regional STA reserves are funded through the annual Transportation Development Act (TDA) budget process. In order to bring all projected STA funds to the region, after estimated transit obligations and other regional priorities are funded, the remaining estimates in STA revenue are scheduled to be paid into a regional reserve account held with the Shasta County Treasurer. SRTA administrates these funds as required by the TDA as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency. Any STA eligible transit provider can submit a claim to these STA reserve funds, and requests are brought to the board of directors for consideration.

RABA is a recognized STA transit operator and is permitted to make a request for these funds. STA reserve funds are still subject to the requirements for eligible activities in accordance with the TDA. RABA's activities presented in their request follow the STA requirements and staff is recommending approval of their request.

RABA had intended to use Senate Bill (SB) 125 funds to cover the expenses incurred above. Due to significant delays from the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), SB 125 funding was not provided on schedule. To cover RABA's necessary cash flow, an issue caused by the schedule delays of the SB 125 program, RABA has requested \$401,892 of STA reserve funds to cover its operational expenses. This revenue adjustment to STA reserves will allow for RABA's incurred expenses to be reimbursed faster and leave a greater portion of future SB 125 activities to be covered with that program when it's funded.

ALTERNATIVES:

The board of directors may fund in part, or decline, RABA's request for STA reserve funds. The board may direct SRTA staff as to the method and timing of the reimbursements to RABA.

FISCAL & POLICY COMMITTEE:

The Fiscal & Policy Committee met on October 22, 2024, to discuss RABA's STA reserve request and concur with the staff recommendation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

STA and SB 125 program funds can only be spent on regional transit capital and operations activities. There has been delays in SRTA being able to receive and allocate SB 125 funds to RABA for already approved transit activities due to California's fiscal year 2024/25 budget process. RABA is requesting disbursements up to \$401,892 from SRTA's STA reserve account for already occurred and eligible activities. As of September 30, 2024, the STA reserve balance is \$1,259,629. Approval of RABA's request will leave an STA reserve of approximately \$857,737. If approved, RABA will submit an STA claim form to SRTA, in accordance with current TDA and SRTA policies, for the requested funds. Payment instructions will be submitted by SRTA to the Shasta County Treasurer to remit payment directly to RABA for the approved amount. This action will allow a portion of SB 125 funds to be deferred for future eligible activities.



Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director

Attachment: RABA Request Letter to SRTA



July 17, 2024

Sean Tiedgen, AICP, Executive Director
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency (SRTA)
1255 East Street, Suite 202
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Request for Funding from the State Transit Assistance (STA) Reserve

Dear Mr. Tiedgen,

The Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA) would like to make a request to SRTA regarding receipt of \$401,892 to cover operational expenses related to RABA.

RABA intends to use these funds to cover necessary cash flow to ensure expenses are paid to support transit operations and as a result defer the use of recently awarded SB125 funds for future years. Specific projects that RABA intends to use these funds includes:

- Cover operational expenses related to services provided by Transdev related to facility maintenance, information technology management and mobility management as these pass-through expenses that Transdev incurs and is paid for by RABA.

As you are aware, the current TDA Policy prevented RABA full access of this transit only dedicated fund source based on the current 80%/20% rule. With RABA claiming only STA fund this year, it allowed for RABA member agencies to use Local Transportation Fund (LTF) for other purposes as allowed under the TDA and as a result the need for the balance of the STA will ensure RABA to have the ability to leverage its other funding sources for cash flow purposes based on a defined schedule.

We respectfully request your consideration of this request and for placement of this matter on the next SRTA Board of Directors meeting.

Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at 530.245.7116 or email jandoh@rabaride.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Andoh", written over a light blue horizontal line.

John C. Andoh
Transit General Manager
Redding Area Bus Authority

REDDING AREA BUS AUTHORITY

777 CYPRESS AVENUE, REDDING, CALIFORNIA 96001-3396 • (530) 245-7116 • FAX (530) 225-4325

EMAIL RABA@RABARide.com • WEB www.RABARide.com

BOARD MEMBERS: JUSTIN JONES - CHAIR, JACK MUNNS - VICE CHAIR

JOSHUA JOHNSON, TENESSA AUDETTE, JULIE WINTER, PATRICK JONES, MIKE GALLAGHER

EXECUTIVE STAFF: STEVE BADE - EXECUTIVE OFFICER, JOHN C. ANDOH, CCTM, CPM – TRANSIT GENERAL MANAGER