

Transportation Research Board Annual Law Meeting

Grants 101: Making the Decision

July 16, 2018



SFMTA

Introduction

What goes into the process of making a decision in applying for a transportation related grant?

**What role do the lawyers
play in this important
process?**

Grants 101: Making the Decision

About the SFMTA

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency is a **department of the City and County of San Francisco, and the nation's 8th largest public transit system.**

1912: Voters establish the Municipal Railway (Muni)

1999: Voters merge Muni and the Department of Parking and Traffic - Proposition E (Sustainable Streets)

2008: Voters add the Taxi Commission to the SFMTA



SFMTA



About the SFMTA

The SFMTA is a **department of the City and County of San Francisco, and the nation's 8th largest public transit system.**

Today, the SFMTA manages all ground transportation in San Francisco including transit, parking and traffic, bicycling and walking. The Agency also regulates taxis and plans and implements strategic, community-based projects to improve transportation.



SFMTA







F MARKET CASTRO

1073

BICYCLE

STOP
REAR VIEW
MIRROR

WORLD
UNITED
CHICKEN

bidbrinc

WORLD
EASTHOLD

WORLD
CHICKEN

BREAKFAST



6500

1000000

140233

6509

1000000

6548

1000000



Clean Air Vehicle

5701

CA4900

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WHARTON MBA
2 COASTS
WHARTON

Market

155 0099

Orange traffic cone

Orange traffic cone

P





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John W. Snow
Secretary of the Treasury

SERIES 2003 A

ONE DOLLAR

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Treasurer of the United States
Anna Escobedo Cabral

WASHINGTON, D.C.

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SERIES 2003 A

“The Color of Money”

- Every dollar is not the same.
- No project is made up of any one source.
- Every transportation agency applying for any grant must put together what is called “**a full funding plan**”
- What is important to know is that the requirements, make-up and guidelines for each of these sources need to be considered.

San Francisco County Transportation Authority



PAID FOR
BY YOUR
PROP K
SALES TAX

Transportation Sales Tax

San Francisco Transportation Sales Tax

- Proposition K ½ cent Sales Tax
- Passed by SF Voters in November 2003
- Includes an **Expenditure Plan with 44 lines**
- Each “EP” has *eligibility requirements*

Example:

EP 39 = Bicycle Circulation and Safety

EP 22M = Guideways (e.g. Rail and Overhead)

Each EP has a total amount of funding available, and funds cannot be swapped between EPs.

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Federal Transit Administration



Federal Transit Administration

Grants 101: Making the Decision

Federal Transit Administration/Federal Highway Administration

Funds from the **Federal Transit Administration (FTA)** typically require a **local match of 20% minimum.**

Street Improvements funded by federal pass-throughs from the State **require a minimum local match of 11.47%.**

In California, Federal Highway dollars are passed through to local agencies through the California State Department of Transportation (CalTrans).



■ Example: Church and Duboce

■ Funding sources included:

- FTA Section 5309 Fixed Guideway Funds, Prop K Sales Tax EP 22M, State STIP Funds, Federal Transportation Enhancement Funds – ***FOUR SOURCES***

Grants 101: Making the Decision

Central Subway Project



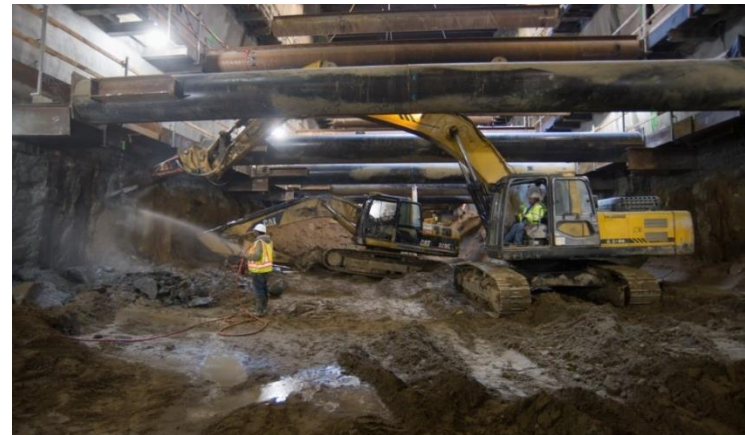
- **History:** 1989 to present (studies, analysis, hearings, opposition, value engineering, new alignment, more review, environmental appeal)
- **Politics:** Community involvement, funding plans, election cycles to recent history
- **Progress/Status:** FFGA 10/11/2012! Now in construction.

Grants 101: Making the Decision Central Subway Project

central  subway



Chinatown Station Construction



Union Square Station Construction



Moscone Station Construction



Surface Work ~ Sewer Replacement @ 4th Street

Grants 101: Making the Decision

Central Subway Project



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

	T Third (Phase 1)	Central Subway (Phase 2)	Total (Phase 1 & 2)	Percentage of Total
Federal	\$123.380	\$983.225	\$1,106.605	49.7%
State	\$160.700	\$471.100	\$631.800	28.4%
Local	\$364.380	\$123.975	\$488.355	21.9%
Total	\$648.460	\$1,578.300	\$2,226.760	100.0%

** Funding listed in millions of dollars*

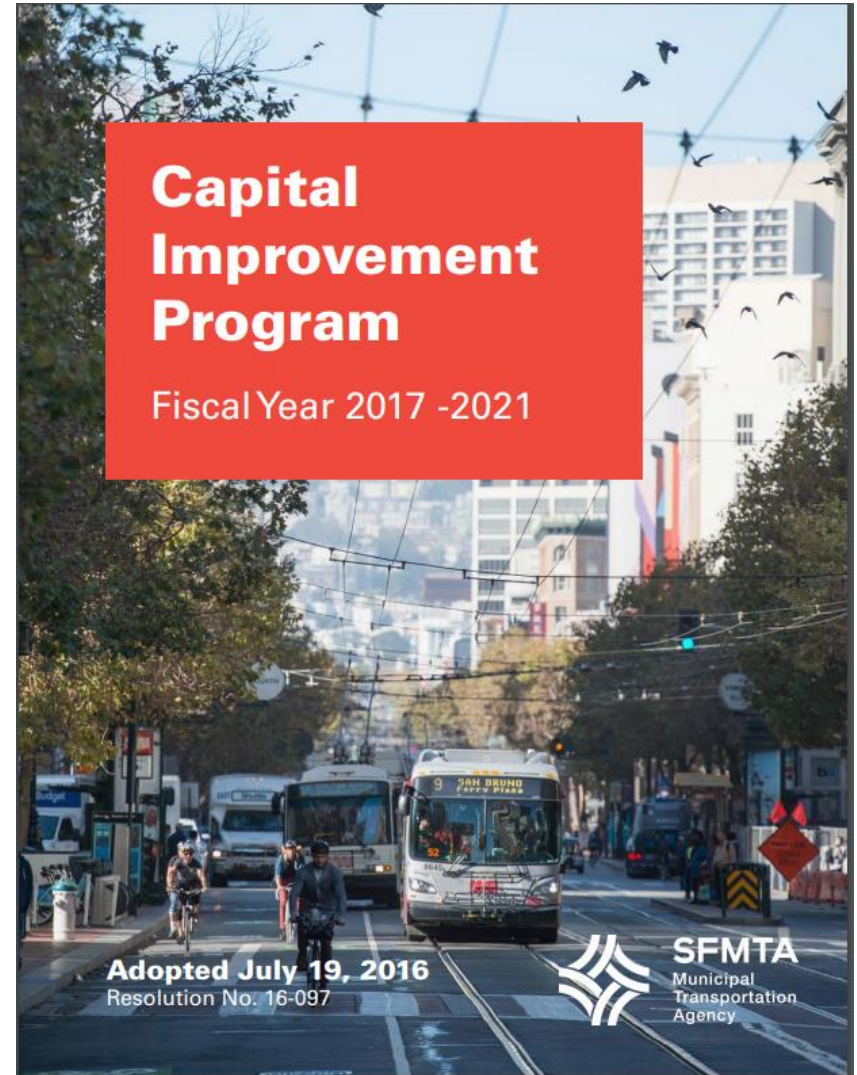
- Over **65,000 customers per day in overall corridor in 2030**; 43,700 in 2019.
- Serves a transit-dependent population
- Reduces existing surface congestion

Our lawyers are an important part of this step in the process as they:

- Evaluate and advise on the **legislative and regulatory requirements** of each source.
- Provide counsel on the **commitments** related to each sources.
- Most importantly guidance on the **consequences** to the project – scope, schedule or budget.



Programming and Grant Development Steps

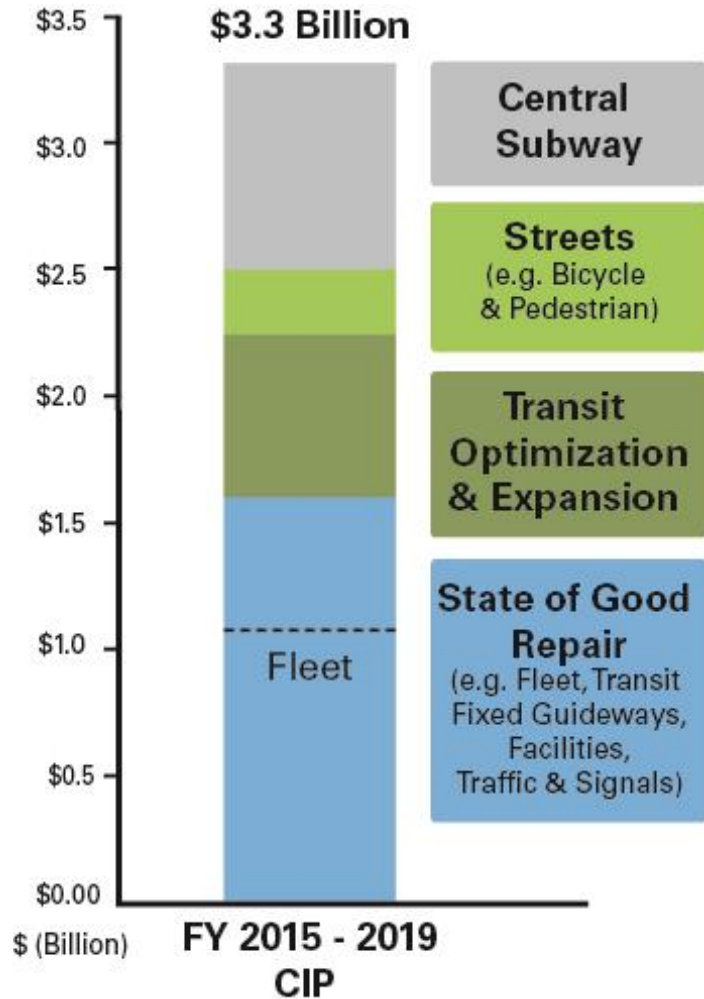


Programming and Grant Development Steps

- Develop a financially constrained **5-Year Program of Projects** for the Transportation System
 - Review and Project 5-Year Capital Revenue Sources
 - Develop a Strategic Investment/Value Analysis for project prioritization and funding
- Serve as **an implementation tool** for the SFMTA Strategic Plan and other Plans and Strategies
- Prevent funding accessibility from being a barrier to project delivery
- **Build credibility** with external funding agencies (eg. Metropolitan Transportation Commission, MPO , FTA)
- Work toward **a 10% Capital Fund Reserve** allowing for flexibility and revenue uncertainty

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Programming and Development Steps



- 370 Projects
- \$3.3 Billion Total Investment
 - \$793 M Central Subway
 - \$225 M Fixed Guideway Projects
 - \$329 M / year State of Good Repair
 - Full Replacement of Rubber Tire Fleet
 - Muni Forward Project Implementation
 - Safer Streets
 - Expanded Bicycle Network

Grants 101: Making the Decision

Grant Development

Process:

Step 1: Survey Partners and Competition

Step 2: Review Project Candidate Lists

Step 3: Finalize Project Selections

Proposed Criteria for Project Selection:

Which projects will help achieve strategic **policy goals**?

Which support **existing commitments** that need a boost?

Which have a clear Project Champion and **Team** in place?



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Grant Development

- Making the Case – Can **tell the important the story** about your project and meet the scoring criteria?
- Can you **provide matching** dollars?
- Does your organization have the **experience to implement** using the federal/state/local dollars?



Grants 101: Making the Decision

The Lawyers

Our lawyers are an important part of this step in the process as they:

- Review the draft **grant agreement** and confirm the requirements.
- Assist with **sub-recipient requirements** and other related grant agreements.
- Provide guidance and support throughout the **implementation** process (environmental review, procurement, contract administration).



Thank You.

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