



Southern California  
Regional Transit  
Training Consortium  
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August 31, 2015

California Environmental Protection Agency  
Air Resources Board (ARB)  
Cal/EPA Headquarters Building  
Attention: Mary Nichols, Chair  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Second Investment Plan and Draft Funding Guidelines for Agencies  
Administering California Climate Investments

Dear Chair Nichols:

As ARB identifies the priorities of the Second Investment Plan and Draft Funding Guidelines for Agencies Administering California Climate Investments and focuses on the 40% of Cap and Trade 'Discretionary Funding', the Southern California Regional Transit Training Consortium (SCR TTC) implores your consideration for eligibility inclusion of the current unfunded expense of Advanced Technology Transit Training.

SCR TTC is a 501c(3) that seeks to direct ARB's attention to include the development and delivery of key transit training priorities that transcend and will ensure the successful deployment of each 'Overarching Themes' within the ARB 'Integrated Projects for Climate Action':

- Sustainable Communities and Clean Transportation
- Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy
- Natural Resources and Waste Diversion

We believe that projects, which will implement these 'Overarching Themes' would each benefit from discretionary funds which are made eligible and allocated to essential unfunded transit industry training and workforce development priorities as outlined and detailed by the SCR TTC below:

- Advanced Technology Transit Training is key and instrumental in achieving GHG reductions but, as indicated in the May 11<sup>th</sup> and June 8<sup>th</sup> Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Pilot Projects Work Group meetings, has not been included in ARB's Cost Analysis.
- The cost of new course development and repeated delivery of new technology training for low/zero emission buses is not provided for in transit operations budgets nor covered in vendor provided training with new bus procurements.
- Advanced Technology Transit Training is needed to ensure these buses are maintained, serviced and repaired in order to operate smoothly and successfully in continuing to maintain GHG reduction achievements.



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The SCR TTC is a recent recipient of the **National Transit Institute's (NTI) National Model Program Award**, recognized for its program effectiveness in the development and administration of a **National Innovative Transit Training Learning Model**.

Conceived from a grassroots effort by transits required to comply with the South Coast Air Quality District (AQMD) mandates, the SCR TTC has proven expertise in developing and delivering transit specific training and educational resources focused on the transit industry's workforce.

As our attached funding history indicates, the SCR TTC was initially federally funded to develop a 'Learning Model' that could be replicated nationally. The elimination of earmarks coupled with no new national transportation bill, have thwarted potential funds to leverage this ready resource for the state of California.

We therefore recommend the following essential unfunded transit industry workforce development priorities to provide eligibility in your future funding considerations:

- **Transit Training Needs Assessments:** Conduct Transit Training Needs Assessments so that the ARB Zero-Emission Bus Deployment Project Objectives of 'Training/Workforce Development' can be effectively achieved enabling the industry to remain current with the pace of emerging and continually advancing technologies required to reach GHG air quality attainment goals. These updated assessments, when compared with existing training resources, provide an essential tool required to identify new training gaps. Those documented new training gaps could expedite time sensitive funding priorities to keep our transit industry current with GHG technology deployments;
- **New Technology Procurement Workshops:** The development and delivery of a California specific transit technology and alternative fuels system procurement workshop to assist California transits in specifying vendor-provided training in new bus procurements so that the ARB Zero-Emission Bus Deployment Project Objectives of 'Training/Workforce Development' can be effectively identified. New technology procurements frequently present challenges and unknown factors to those writing those procurements. Attempts to determine unanticipated and/or unforeseen training needs specific to CARB air quality attainment mandates can fall short of what is ultimately required;
- **Grant Program:** A competitive grants program open only to California 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations whose mission is in direct alignment with the goals of AB 118 for projects designed to achieve fuel or air emission benefits and encourage partnerships which leverage existing and



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established working relationships so that ARB Zero-Emission Bus Deployment Project Objectives of 'Training/Workforce Development' are developed, delivered and made available to transits fleet deployments of zero-emission transit buses;

- **Curriculum Development:** Proposals that provide Operational budgets allowing the cost of new course development and repeated delivery of new/emerging technologies training of low/zero emission transit buses. This specific appropriation is currently not included in CARB's operational Cost Analysis nor in most vendors' provided training and therefore not funded but greatly needed to ensure these buses are continually maintained, serviced and repaired safely by the transit technicians and to achieve the ARB Zero-Emission Bus Deployment Project Objectives of 'Training/Workforce Development'. Any interruption of transit bus operation, due to lack or improper maintenance, results in costly interruptions of service to the transit consumer;
- **Train-the-Trainer:** A critical component to expanding the pool of transit instructors and enabling increased course accessibility to full potential capacity would be a Train-the-Trainer (T-t-T) course delivery of each fully validated transit specific course developed. Certified Instructors are key to the ARB Zero-Emission Bus Deployment Project Objectives of 'Training/Workforce Development';
- **Workforce Development:** Allow the identification, within zero-emission bus project costs, for the expense of ongoing, advanced technology transit training that will enhance vehicle performance. This will encompass incumbent workers and provide an initial, interim and long range career path for new hires and apprentices and ensure that the ARB Zero-Emission Bus Deployment Project Objectives of 'Training/Workforce Development' will be met;
- **Reduced Procurement Size:** Provide small sized procurements of \$150k or less so that individually or collaboratively, when/if California transits who share training needs, can collaboratively apply for funds specific to immediate needs and timeline required for successful implementation and GHG attainment as well as continuity regarding ARB Zero-Emission Bus Deployment Project Objectives of 'Training/Workforce Development';
- **No-Cost Procurement Extensions/Renewals:** Provide no-cost procurement extensions when implementation of funded projects is impeded by unforeseen circumstances which often occur in the deployment of new technology; Provide the opportunity for streamlined procurement renewals vs. new procurements when required work-plan deliverables are achieved ahead of schedule, under budget or exceed documented Key Performance Indicator (KPI) measurements;



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- **Outreach:** Frequently funded last with expiring unspent budgets, conversely Outreach should be prioritized and funded at the onset to ensure optimum increased awareness/access of all program and/or project opportunities. Embed into each funded program/project where Outreach is a component necessary to achieve the desired outcomes, and/or identify Outreach as an independent and eligible program/project category so that strategic Outreach methods are provided adequate time for preparation, delivery and dissemination to result in their intended impact.

If you should have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact David Stumpo, Executive Director, at 360-945-2150.

Sincerely,

Tommy Edwards, Chair

cc: Board of Directors  
David Stumpo, Executive Director

Attachments: SCR TTC Board Member List  
SCR TTC Government Relations Flyer

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SCRTTC

# Southern California Regional Transit Training Consortium



The SCRTTC is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of transportation agencies and community colleges in Southern California. Our mission is to provide a training resource network comprised of public and private organizations focused on ***advancing the skills of our transit workforce...preparing for tomorrow.***

## SCRTTC Training 2004–2015

**64,564**

Training hours delivered

**15**

Participating  
Colleges

**4,501**

Students trained

**30**

Participating  
Transit Agencies

## Courses Offered:

- DVOM and eDVOM
- Electrical I, II, III, IV, V and eElectrical I
- Brakes I & II
- 8.3 Cummins CNG Engine Basic & Advanced
- Cummins 8.9 CNG Level I, Insite, eInsite and Level II
- HVAC I and HVAC II
- Hybrid I, II, III, IV & V
- CNG Transit Vehicle Safety & eCNG Transit Vehicle Safety
- OSHA Basic Safety
- Commercial Vehicle Inspection
- Supervisor Leadership
- eLeadership



## Transit Members:

Anaheim Transportation Network  
Antelope Valley Transit Authority  
Arcadia Transit  
Beach Cities Transit  
First Transit/City of Pasadena  
Commerce Municipal Bus Lines  
Culver City Municipal Bus Lines  
Foothill Transit  
Fresno Area Express  
GTrans  
Gold Coast Transit  
Golden Empire Transit  
La Mirada Transit  
LA DOT  
LA METRO  
Long Beach Transit  
Montebello Bus Lines  
Monterey-Salinas Transit  
Norwalk Transit  
Orange County Transportation Authority  
Omnitrans  
Pomona Valley Transportation Authority  
Riverside Transit Agency  
Roaring Forks Transit (Colorado)  
San Joaquin RTD  
Santa Clarita Transit  
Santa Monica Big Blue Bus  
Torrance Transit  
SunLine Transit  
UCLA Fleet and Transit

## College Members:

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College of the Desert  
El Camino College  
Golden West College  
Hartnell College  
Kern Community College  
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