

## **Draft FAQ's for LCTOP**

### **Do I have to use my share of the LCTOP funds this fiscal year, or may I “bank” them to next year?**

*In FY 2014-15, you may not defer your funds, they must be used in this fiscal year or they will be lost. In subsequent fiscal years (starting in FY 2015-16) you may defer your share of LCTOP funds and combine the funds with the following year's allocation.*

### **May I give my share of funds to another agency?**

*Funds may be contributed to another agency within your region that supports the approved project. If a contributing sponsor has a disadvantaged community (DAC) within its jurisdiction, they may only contribute funds to another entity that contains a DAC within its jurisdiction and at least 50% of the transferred funds must benefit a DAC.*

*Reference: Page 7, Contributing Sponsor, “LCTOP Guidelines”.*

### **If I don't have a disadvantaged community within my service area, do I have to do anything?**

*You will need to provide a map for operating projects that clearly identify your service area even if it isn't within a disadvantaged community.*

### **Why can't I just use these funds for operations and buy fuel?**

*Funds may be used to purchase renewable natural gas or other low carbon renewable alternative fuels that support new/expanded transit service. The recipient transit agency must demonstrate that each expenditure directly enhances or expands transit service to increase mode share and that expenditures reduce greenhouse gas emissions.*

*Reference: Page 12 b/4, Low Carbon Transportation Projects...“LCTOP Guidelines”.*

### **Where do I get my application and information on Low Carbon Transit Operations Program?**

*The application and information on the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program can be obtained on Caltrans website @ <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/lctop.html>*

### **Why can't I use these funds for planning (i.e., Environmental, PS&E, Right of Way)?**

*If funds are used during the planning stages of a project, there is no guarantee that the project will actually be implemented. If it does not pass any of these stages, there is the possibility that the project will not proceed, and consequently the funds would not meet their purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.*

*The Low Carbon Transit Operations Program was created to provide operating and capital assistance for transit agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve mobility, with a priority on serving disadvantaged communities.*

*Reference: Page1 Executive Summary “LCTOP Guidelines”.*

**Can I use future funds to continue and or complete a project that had been approved on a previous cycle?                      Unclear how to answer this question? Ralph**

*If the project funding plan for the original application included subsequent year LCTOP funds, it will already be approved, and the funds can be applied to the project as they become available. The originally approved project would have indicated inclusion of these funds. If the project cost has increased, the project would be resubmitted to indicate the increased cost and reason for the increase. Then the subsequent year funds could be applied.*

*Ideals/Notes: Established projects, Pilot projects, GHG reduction.*

**Do I need to complete and submit the Total Project Cost and Funding Plan and the List of Proposed Expenditure forms with my application?**

*The Total Project Cost and Funding Plan form will need to be completed and submitted with all applications. This form lets us know the project is fully funded. The List of Proposed Expenditures form must be completed and submitted with the application if the funds will be used for multiple projects.*

*Reference: Page 14a.list of proposed expenditures “LCTOP Guidelines”*