

STAFF REPORT



MEETING DATE:	October 30, 2025
SUBJECT:	Approve Senate Bill 125 Transit Project Modifications and Additions for Submission to the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA)
AGENDA ITEM:	11
STAFF CONTACT:	Laurent Beauregard, Assistant Transportation Planner

SUMMARY:

The California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) oversees and approves requests for Senate Bill (SB) 125 funds for transit capital and operating improvements statewide. SRTA administers SB 125 funds for the Shasta Region. The SRTA Board of Directors approved an initial allocation package in December 2023 and project updates in February 2025. In consultation with transit partners, staff propose further modifications to reallocate funding and add new projects utilizing all remaining unallocated Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) funds. These changes support ongoing transit modernization, fleet replacement, and zero-emission readiness efforts.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Approve the proposed modifications to existing SB 125 projects and the addition of new projects as shown in Attachment A and
2. Authorize the executive director to submit the updated allocation package materials to CalSTA for review and approval, and to make minor administrative amendments in coordination with the Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA), as appropriate, in response to CalSTA comments.

DISCUSSION:

Background – SB 125 provides regional formula funds to enhance transit capital and operations through the TIRCP and Zero Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP). SRTA coordinates with RABA to administer these funds regionally and submit allocation packages to CalSTA for approval.

The board of directors last acted in February 2025 (Attachment B) to update the Regional Ridership Retainage & Growth (R3) project scope and allow diesel-hybrid bus purchases. Since then, SRTA and RABA have identified further project adjustments and new eligible projects to fully utilize remaining TIRCP funds and support RABA's transition toward zero-emission operations. Attachment A has a summary of currently approved projects, proposed project adjustments, and new projects.

Proposed Project Modifications – Two changes to previously approved projects are proposed:

1. **North State Intercity Passenger Transit System**

This project originally included two components: (a) a \$100,000 transit demand study and (b) the purchase or lease of renewable diesel buses for intercity service along State Route 99 from Redding to Chico.

- The \$100,000 allocated for the study is proposed to be transferred to the R3 project to support transit operations assistance and micro-mobility partnerships. The study is no longer needed. Modifications are reflected in Attachment A.
- The project scope is updated to reflect the pending transition from intercity service along the SR 99 corridor to the I-5 corridor, between Redding and Sacramento. The revised project scope includes the *purchase or lease of renewable diesel buses, operational support of I-5 service, and marketing*. Modifications are reflected in Attachment A.

2. R3

The R3 project includes multiple subcomponents supporting RABA and regional partners. Two modifications are proposed:

- Transfer \$100,000 from the North State Intercity Passenger Transit System project to the R3 *Transit Operations Assistance and Micro Mobility Partnerships* component, raising its total to \$4,775,000. Modifications are reflected in Attachment A.
- Merge the Dignity Health Connected Living (DHCL) *Electric Pilot Van* subcomponent (\$425,000 ZETCP) with RABA's electric van procurement, resulting in seven electric vans (total \$1,525,400 ZETCP). Modifications are reflected in Attachment A.

New Projects – SRTA and RABA have met several times to identify how to use the unallocated funds efficiently. The remaining \$6,159,265 in unallocated TIRCP funds are proposed to be programmed toward the following new projects:

1. **Ellis Street Site Improvement Project** (\$2,188,260 TIRCP): Construct a bus parking expansion area with fencing, surface improvements, and utility connections to accommodate future zero-emission charging infrastructure or a hydrogen fuel station adjacent to RABA's maintenance facility. This portion of land was purchased with only state funds which lowers administrative costs.
2. **Passenger Amenities** (\$500,000 TIRCP): Purchase and install bus shelters, benches, solar lighting, trash receptacles, signage, and real-time information displays throughout RABA's service area. The project also includes acquisition of 37 Lamar-owned shelters to bring them under RABA management and associated sidewalk improvements.
3. **Replacement Fareboxes and Transit Signal Priority** (\$1,000,000 TIRCP): Replace RABA's obsolete Genfare fareboxes with modern FastFare units supporting contactless and mobile payments. Install additional Opticom transponders and traffic signal equipment to enhance route on-time performance.
4. **Transit Operations Support** (\$2,471,005 TIRCP): Provide operating assistance for RABA fixed-route, deviated fixed-route, and Americans with Disabilities Act paratransit services, including contractor payments, fuel, preventive maintenance, and facility expenses.

Next Steps - Pending the board of directors' approval, staff will submit the updated allocation package to CalSTA for review and approval. Following CalSTA's authorization, SRTA will amend the sub-recipient agreement with RABA, as needed, and authorize reimbursements for eligible expenses.

ALTERNATIVES: The board of directors may decline to approve the proposed modifications and additions or propose alternative modifications and additions consistent with SB 125 guidelines. The board of directors may request additional information to be brought back in December before taking action.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

SRTA continues to coordinate with RABA and CalSTA to ensure project eligibility and timely implementation. The Technical Advisory Committee received a verbal update on October 13, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The proposed modifications and additions use existing SB 125 allocations. No new funding is requested. The remaining TIRCP funds—approximately \$1,436,051 from FY 2024/25 and \$4,723,214 from FY 2025/26—will be fully programmed through the new projects outlined above. All activities are funded through TIRCP and ZETCP sources consistent with CalSTA guidelines.



Keith Williams, AICP, Senior Transportation Planner

Attachments:

A: Proposed SB 125 Project Modifications and Additions Summary Tables

B: History of SB 125 Board Related Items

Table 1. Summary of Changes to Currently Approved Projects

Project	Agency	Components	TIRCP FY 23/24	TIRCP FY 24/25	ZETCP FY's 23/24 -27/28
Regional Ridership Retainage and Growth (R3)	RABA/ DHCL/ SRTA	Transit Operations Assistance and Micro mobility Partnerships \$4,675,000	\$2,675,000	\$2,000,000	
	RABA	Match for Up to 5 30-35 Foot Electric Bus Replacements for RABA \$924,246		\$2,250,554	\$2,449,646
	RABA	Diesel-Hybrid Bus Replacements \$2,250,554			
	RABA	6 Electric Vans for Fixed Route, Demand Response, and Micro transit for RABA \$1,100,400			
	SRTA/ DHCL/ RABA	1 Electric Pilot Van for DHCL \$425,000			
	RABA	RABA Micro transit operations \$1,800,000	\$200,000	\$1,600,000	
RABA Technology Enhancements	RABA/ SRTA/ DHCL	Implement and cover the operational costs associated with technology needed to enhance public transit services \$1,435,000	\$1,435,000		
CTSA coordination	RABA/ DHCL/ SRTA	Transfer of CTSA contract to RABA \$500,000		\$500,000	
North State Intercity Passenger Transit System	SRTA/ RABA	Updating the demand study, including research, data collection, and expert consultations \$100,000	\$2,050,000		
	SRTA/ RABA	Purchase or lease of renewable diesel buses \$1,950,000			
SB 125 Admin	SRTA	Administration of SB 125 to the Region \$215,348			\$215,348
Total			\$6,360,000	\$6,350,554	\$2,664,994

Color legend:

Moving \$100k from bottom green cell to upper green cell

Moving \$425K from bottom red cell to upper red cell

Expanding project service area

Table 2. New Projects

Project	Agency	Components	TIRCP FY 24/25	TIRCP FY 25/26
Available:			\$ 1,436,051	\$ 4,723,214
Ellis Street Site Improvement Project	RABA	Construct bus parking expansion area with fencing, pavement, and utility connections to support future zero-emission charging or hydrogen fueling infrastructure. \$2,188,260		\$ 2,188,260
Passenger Amenities	RABA	Install new shelters, benches, solar lighting, signage, and trash receptacles; acquire 37 Lamar-owned shelters and complete related sidewalk improvements. \$500,000	\$ 436,051	\$ 63,949
Replacement Fareboxes & Transit Signal Priority	RABA	Replace outdated fareboxes with FastFare units and expand Opticom signal-priority equipment to improve on-time performance. \$1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	
Transit Operations	RABA	Provide operating support for RABA fixed-route, deviated fixed-route, and ADA paratransit services, including fuel, maintenance, and contractor costs. \$2,471,005		\$ 2,471,005
Total:			\$ 1,436,051	\$ 4,723,214

Table 3. Consolidated List of Proposed Modifications and Additions to SB125 Projects

Project	Agency	Components	TIRCP FY 23/24	TIRCP FY 24/25	TIRCP FY 25/26	ZETCP FY's 23/24 -27/28
Regional Ridership Retainage and Growth (R3)	RABA/ SRTA	Transit Operations Assistance and Micro mobility Partnerships \$4,775,000	\$ 2,775,000	\$ 2,000,000		
	RABA	Match for Up to 5 30-35 Foot Electric Bus Replacements for RABA \$924,246 (ZETCP)				
	RABA	Diesel-Hybrid Bus Replacements \$2,250,554 (TIRCP)		\$ 2,250,554		\$ 2,449,646
	RABA	7 Electric Vans for Fixed Route, Demand Response, and Micro transit for RABA \$1,525,400 (ZETCP)				
	RABA	RABA Micro transit operations \$1,800,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 1,600,000		
RABA Technology Enhancements	RABA/ SRTA	Implement and cover the operational costs associated with technology needed to enhance public transit services \$1,435,000	\$ 1,435,000			
CTSA coordination	RABA/ SRTA	Transfer of CTSA contract to RABA \$500,000		\$ 500,000		
North State Intercity Passenger Transit System	RABA/ SRTA	Purchase or lease of renewable diesel buses, Operational support of I-5 Service, and Marketing. \$1,950,000	\$ 1,950,000			
SB 125 Admin	SRTA	Administration of SB 125 to the Region \$215,348				\$ 215,348
Ellis Street Improvement	RABA	Expand bus parking with zero-emission infrastructure prep. \$2,188,260			\$ 2,188,260	
Passenger Amenities	RABA	Upgrade stops with shelters, benches, and lighting. \$500,000		\$ 436,051	\$ 63,949	
Fareboxes & Transit Signal	RABA	Replace fareboxes and add signal-priority equipment. \$1,000,000		\$ 1,000,000		
Transit Operations	RABA	Support fixed-route and paratransit operating costs. \$2,471,005			\$ 2,471,005	
Total			\$ 6,360,000	\$ 7,786,605	\$ 4,723,214	\$ 2,664,994
Sum			\$ 21,534,813			

SENATE BILL 125 (SB 125)

HISTORY OF RELATED SRTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA ITEMS

Full staff reports are provided via hyperlink.

2023

MEETING ON DECEMBER 14, 2023, [AGENDA ITEM #12](#)

APPROVE SENATE BILL (SB) 125 SHORT-TERM CAPITAL PROGRAM AND SRTA-RABA INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Approve and authorize the executive director to submit the Senate Bill 125 Short-Term Capital Program initial allocation package of projects totaling \$17,505,155;
2. Authorize the executive director to make minor administrative amendments, as appropriate, in response to CalSTA comments or provide any other necessary information in support of the initial allocation package;
3. Delegate the executive director to execute the necessary agreements with CalSTA to receive funds; and
4. Approve and authorize the executive director to execute an interagency agreement (Attachment B) between SRTA and RABA for the purpose of jointly developing and building a hydrogen station on property owned by RABA.

In FY 23/24, the Shasta Region was allocated \$21,534,813. After consulting with the Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA), and Dignity Health Connected Living, SRTA submitted the following projects for funding by the deadline on December 31, 2023:

- Regional Ridership Retainage and Growth (\$4,675,000);
- RABA Technology Enhancements (\$1,435,000);
- CTSA Coordination (\$500,000);
- RABA Micro Transit Operations (\$1,800,000);
- Zero Emission Vehicle Replacements (\$4,700,200);
- North State Intercity Passenger Transit System (\$2,050,000);
- Expansion of Cycle 3 TIRCP for North State Intercity Bus to Rail (\$2,129,607); and

- SRTA SB 125 Administration (\$215,348)

By motion made and seconded (Watkins/Audette) and passed unanimously with modification, the board of directors took the following actions:

- Staff recommendation Nos. 1, 2, and 3 were approved minus the \$2,129,607 for the "Expansion of Cycle 3 TIRCP for North State Intercity Bus to Rail" project, therefore, only \$15,375,548 in SB 125 funding allocations were approved, leaving \$6,159,265 for allocation at a future date; and
- Staff recommendation No. 4 was pulled for more information and continued to a future meeting.

2024

MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2024, [AGENDA ITEM #7-9](#)

AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE SUB-RECIPIENT COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH REDDING AREA BUS AUTHORITY (RABA) AND DIGNITY HEALTH CONNECTED LIVING (DHCL) FOR DISTRIBUTION OF SENATE BILL 125 TRANSIT CAPITAL, OPERATING, AND PLANNING FUNDS

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Authorize the executive director to execute a Sub-Recipient Cooperative Agreement (SCA) between RABA and SRTA for the distribution of Senate Bill (SB) 125 funds;
2. Authorize the executive director to execute a Sub-Recipient Cooperative Agreement (SCA) between DHCL and SRTA for the distribution of Senate Bill (SB) 125 funds; and
3. Authorize the executive director to make administrative amendments as appropriate

This Consent Calendar item was pulled to Regular Calendar by board member Gallagher. By motion made and seconded (Audette/Crye) the item passed with six "Yes" and one "No".

2025

MEETING ON FEBURARY 26, 2025, [AGENDA ITEM #10-8](#)

RECEIVE UPDATE ON SENATE BILL 125 PROGRAM PROGRESS, APPROVE PROJECT SCOPE MODIFICATIONS REQUESTED BY THE REDDING AREA BUS AUTHORITY (RABA), AND DIRECT STAFF TO SUBMIT TO CALSTA FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Receive an update on the SB 125 program progress;
2. Approve the proposed project modifications shown in Table 2; and

3. Authorize the executive director to submit the updated allocation package materials to CalSTA and make minor administrative amendments, as appropriate, in response to CalSTA comments.

Chair Watkins requested that this agenda item be pulled for further discussion. By motion made, seconded by roll call vote (Kelstrom/Audette) and unanimously carried, Consent Calendar Item 10-8 passed unanimously.

MEETING ON OCTOBER 30, 2025, AGENDA ITEM #11

APPROVE SENATE BILL 125 TRANSIT PROJECT MODIFICATIONS AND ADDITIONS FOR SUBMISSION TO THE CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY (CALSTA)

It is recommended that the board of directors:

1. Approve the proposed modifications to existing SB 125 projects and the addition of new projects shown in Attachment A; and
2. Authorize the Executive Director to submit the updated allocation package materials to CalSTA for review and approval, and to make minor administrative amendments in coordination with the Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA), as appropriate, in response to CalSTA comments.

Pending results of the SRTA BOD meeting on October 30, 2025.