



**HUMBOLDT COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

611 I Street, Suite B

Eureka, CA 95501

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**AGENDA ITEM NO 5a**  
SCC Meeting  
August 15, 2016

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DATE: August 4, 2016  
TO: Service Coordination Committee  
FROM: Debbie Egger, Fiscal Administrative Officer  
SUBJECT: **FY 2016-17 State Transit Assistance (STA) Fund Allocation**

**STAFF REPORT**

**Contents:**

- Staff's Recommended Action
- Staff Summary
- STA Fund:
  - ✓ Project Worksheet
  - ✓ STA project request letters
  - ✓ STA late requests

**Staff's Recommended Action:**

1. Introduce the item as an action item;
2. Allow staff to present the item;
3. Receive public comment;
4. Discuss item and consider making the motion:  
"The SCC recommends the HCAOG Board approve the revised  
FY 2016-17 STA Program of Projects."

**Staff Summary:**

At the April meeting, the SCC reviewed the FY 2016-17 STA project requests submitted, and the Committee forwarded a recommendation to the HCAOG Board to approve the STA Program of Projects. The project worksheet is attached. Due to the lack of adopted rules and criteria and key funding information affecting funding for the Blue Lake Rancheria Transit System, the HCAOG Board requested that the SCC reconsider the request for funding from the City of Blue Lake.

At the HCAOG Board meeting, staff conveyed the discussion and reasoning from the April SCC meeting for denying the funding request from the City of Blue Lake, specifically the requirement that eligible recipients of STA funds demonstrate that they made efforts to secure state and

federal funds. Although there was not a representative from the Blue Lake Rancheria Transit System present at the April meeting, the Mayor of Blue Lake confirmed that Blue Lake Rancheria did apply for and received capital improvement funds under the 5311(c) program.

The passage of *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)*, the former federal transportation bill, resulted in changes to the Tribal Transportation Program. Of key importance to the Blue Lake Rancheria is the unavailability of operating funds that had been consistent in previous years through the 5311(c) program. The capital improvement funds were the only funds that the Blue Lake Rancheria was eligible to receive.

The regional 5311 funding opportunity was also discussed at the HCAOG Board meeting. The City of Blue Lake did not apply for this funding as the solicitation coincided with the City Manager transition. Although neither the City of Blue Lake nor the Blue Lake Rancheria requested regional 5311 funding last round, the lack of rules and criteria requiring such action should be taken into account when reconsidering the City of Blue Lake request. HCAOG Board members also took issue with the “bending” of the rules in supporting funding requests turned in after the deadline and allocating funds in for the City of Eureka in excess of the funding request. The funds allocated to the City of Eureka cannot be applied to the original allocation year. The claim process requires each jurisdiction to show the funding need in the current year.

The HCAOG Board is requesting that the SCC reconsider the request from the City of Blue Lake. The recommendation, unchanged or revised, will be forwarded to the Technical Advisory Committee and the HCAOG Board for approval. Rules and criteria governing the allocation of STA funds will be on the October SCC agenda.