SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 505 VAN NESS AVENUE

ACCESS FOR ALL PROGRAM

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

2024-2025 Funding Year

This notice is to announce the availability of a \$35.2 million statewide Access for All Fund, administered by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC),¹ for the 2024-2025 Funding Year.

The Access for All Program Overview and Requirements guide version 1.3 was released on January 30, 2023. This guide provides all necessary information about the selection and approval of Local Access Fund Administrators (LAFAs), disbursement of funds, compliance with data reporting, the program timeline, and other implementation matters. To view the guide and find more information on how to apply, please visit <u>www.cpuc.ca.gov/tncaccessadmin/</u>

Deadline for Local Access Fund Administrator Applications

Decision <u>D.23-02-024</u> defined eligible LAFAs as Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs), County Transportation Commissions (CTCs), and Public Transit Agencies. For these eligible entities, please note that applications to serve as a LAFA for the 2024-2025 Funding Year are due April 3, 2024. For the 2024-2025 Funding Year, the Board Resolution component of the application must be submitted by July 10, 2024 to avoid any delay in the distribution of funding by September 29, 2024. If the Board Resolution is submitted after July 10, 2024, the LAFA may not receive funding until after September 29, 2024 but is still required to obligate funds to Access Provider(s) by July 1, 2025.

2024-2025 Funding Year: Available Funds

The amount of funds available for each geographic area, as of June 30, 2023, are provided in the table below. These fund balances reflect fees collected, offsets and exemptions approved from Q3 2019 through Q2 2023, and estimated audit contract expenses that are anticipated to begin in 2024 (the source funds for the 2024-2025 Funding Year). For geographic areas where no LAFA is selected, the remaining funds will be retained and will be awarded to an independent entity to act as the Statewide Access Fund Administrator. Therefore, the available funds for this funding year may not be indicative of future year funding.

¹ See California Public Utilities Code §5440.5(a)(1)(F).

2024-2025 Funding Year:

| COUNTY | ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDS | COUNTY | ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDS |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| ALAMEDA | \$2,825,014 | ORANGE | \$5,537,802 |
| ALPINE | \$0 | PLACER | \$269,453 |
| AMADOR | \$227 | PLUMAS | \$505 |
| BUTTE | \$125,274 | RIVERSIDE | \$1,657,938 |
| CALAVERAS | \$51 | SACRAMENTO | \$2,359,640 |
| COLUSA | \$297 | SAN BENITO | \$2,958 |
| CONTRA COSTA | \$434,226 | SAN BERNADINO | \$1,758,499 |
| DEL NORTE | \$30 | SAN DIEGO | \$2,731,158 |
| EL DORADO | \$77,540 | SAN FRANCISCO | \$1,713,063 |
| FRESNO | \$191,651 | SAN JOAQUIN | \$328,571 |
| GLENN | \$226 | SAN LUIS OBISPO | \$68,497 |
| HUMBOLDT | \$17,769 | SAN MATEO | \$2,150,419 |
| IMPERIAL | \$21,768 | SANTA BARBARA | \$155,823 |
| INYO | \$13 | SANTA CLARA | \$3,663,138 |
| KERN | \$523,931 | SANTA CRUZ | \$54,422 |
| KINGS | \$7,084 | SHASTA | \$59,645 |
| LAKE | \$123 | SIERRA | \$0 |
| LASSEN | \$16 | SISKIYOU | \$27 |
| LOS ANGELES | \$6,671,609 | SOLANO | \$94,210 |
| MADERA | \$5,987 | SONOMA | \$373,222 |
| MARIN | \$274,800 | STANISLAUS | \$173,730 |
| MARIPOSA | \$167 | SUTTER | \$16,449 |
| MENDOCINO | \$764 | TEHAMA | \$1,021 |
| MERCED | \$42,502 | TRINITY | \$0 |
| MODOC | \$0 | TULARE | \$71,037 |
| MONO | \$401 | TUOLUMNE | \$663 |
| MONTEREY | \$82,658 | VENTURA | \$143,823 |
| NAPA | \$200,898 | YOLO | \$265 <i>,</i> 459 |
| NEVADA | \$8,409 | YUBA | \$11,021 |
| STATEWIDE TOTAL | \$35,175,628 | | |

Program Background

Senate Bill (SB) 1376, the TNC Access for All Act, mandated Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) to provide access for persons with disabilities with a primary focus on wheelchair users who need wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAVs). SB 1376's goal is to increase on-demand wheelchair accessible transportation to meet the needs of persons with disabilities including wheelchair users who rely on WAV transportation. The CPUC is implementing SB 1376 through proceeding R.19-02-012 by creating the TNC Access for All Program.

In July 2019, through Decision <u>D.19-06-033</u>, CPUC continued implementing SB 1376 by creating the TNC Access for All Fund (Access Fund) which, starting July 1, 2019, is funded by a \$0.10 pertrip "Access Fee" collected by TNCs on each completed TNC trip. TNCs remit the fees to the CPUC on a quarterly basis beginning the third quarter of 2019. TNCs may offset the fees owed to the Commission by investing in the improvement of WAV service in each geographic area. Any remaining fees are remitted to the CPUC and deposited into the Access for All Fund.

The Access for All Program, described in the <u>Access for All Program Overview and</u> <u>Requirements</u>, awards funding to approved Local Access Fund Administrators (LAFAs) in each county. LAFAs are responsible for selecting eligible Access Providers to establish on-demand transportation programs or partnerships to meet the needs of persons with disabilities, including wheelchair users who rely on WAV transportation. In <u>D.20-03-007</u>, the Commission determined that LAFAs shall administer the program to Access Providers within their respective jurisdictions. Eligible LAFAs include Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs), and County Transportation Commissions (CTCs). <u>D.21-03-005</u> establishes the eligibility requirements for Access Providers. Subsequently, <u>D.21-11-004</u> further modified the eligibility requirements for Access Providers to allow a non-CPUC permitted transportation carrier to apply as long as they can demonstrate comparable safety protocols as a CPUC-permitted transportation carrier. In <u>D.23-02-024</u>, the Commission expanded the LAFA eligibility to include public transit agency if an MPO, RTPA, or CTC does not apply.

Additional program information can be found on the <u>Access for All Fund</u> page on the <u>CPUC</u> <u>website</u>.

If you have questions about the Program, please contact the CPUC at <u>tncaccess@cpuc.ca.gov</u>.