

TDA Reform Task Force

Subcommittee on Amendments

“Regional Authority” Workgroup

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Webinar/ Conference Call

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Draft Amendments in Three Initial Areas

- Farebox Recovery Ratio Calculation and Compliance
 - Replace non-compliance penalties with regional alternative
 - Supplement fare box revenues/ exclude all ADA paratransit costs/ flexible E&H ratio & differentiated E&H costs from fixed route costs
- TDA Administration
 - Set limit on \$ amounts expended on administration
- Planning & Programming
 - Clarify use of \$s for transportation purposes only

Regional Flexibility/ Non-Compliance

Outline – New administrative process managed at regional level, with State oversight:

- Addresses a transit operator's inability to meet farebox recovery ratio
- Ensures appropriate level of State oversight
- Allows local agencies to manage resources
- Ensures transit agency accountability
- Ensure vulnerable populations and disadvantaged communities are protected

Regional Flexibility/ Non-Compliance

Phase 1 Notification Period

- Operator forecasts that it will not (or has not) met its FRR
- Operator reports to Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA)
- RTPA notifies Caltrans, which initiates a one-year review period

Regional Flexibility/ Non-Compliance

Phase 2 Initial Review Period

- 1-year review period starts
 - Operator works with RTPA to identify factors leading to inability to meet FRR, analyze conditions and assess the status of the Operator after one year
 - During period, overall service analysis ensues; includes review of route performance, ridership levels, costs, and fares, to identify opportunities to create efficiencies
- If FRR recovers, Operator is moved out of the 1-year period
- If FRR doesn't recover, Operator placed in new 5-year Administrative Review Period; RTPA notifies Caltrans

Regional Flexibility/ Non-Compliance

Phase 3 Administrative Review Period

- During 5-year Administrative Review period, RTPA and Operator, in consultation with Caltrans, tasked with evaluating the following issues/ items:
 - A more detailed and in-depth service analysis, includes review of performance on the agency's routes, ridership levels, costs, and fares to identify opportunities to create efficiencies
 - Agency overall expenses
 - Importance of service to vulnerable or transit dependent communities
 - Impacts of service reductions on disadvantaged communities

Regional Flexibility/ Non-Compliance

Phase 3 Administrative Review Period (cont.)

- If, during 5-year period, FRR is met, then clock resets
- If, during 5-year period, FRR still not met, RTPA is authorized to make “finding of overriding consideration” that the service should still be funded
 - The statement could address impact to transit-dependent or disadvantaged communities as justification
 - The RTPA statement could be supported by findings that there will be a differentiation/ breakdown of routes where FRR is required or not required

Regional Flexibility/ Non-Compliance

Questions from Subcommittee

- What is the role of Caltrans?
- Shouldn't there be a report to the Legislature?
 - Of what?
 - On what frequency?
- What is it that the RTPA is evaluating and reporting on?
- Allow RTPA, as one of the factors on which it makes its finding of necessity (to not apply the penalty phase now), to tie operator's performance to SB 375 sustainable communities strategy's goals?
- For what period may the RTPA suspend the penalty phase?