



Veterans Transition Center of Monterey County

6 July 2020

Measure X Closeout Report Veterans Transition Center Marina, CA

Overview

As spelled out in the policies and projects of Measure X, the goals of this program were to:

- Give seniors more transportation options
- Support independent travel by people with disabilities
- Provide safer and more reliable senior transportation services

VTC is extremely grateful to have been a recipient of \$258,689 in Measure X funds. Our organization can show that we have fulfilled these program goals and all related requirements, which allowed us to enhance transportation for Monterey County's elderly and disabled.

This report is the grant closeout, which describes VTC and all that was done through Measure X.

Description of Community Served

The mission of the Veterans Transition Center (VTC) is to empower Veterans to move from crisis to self-sufficiency. VTC is a 501c3 non-profit, which has been on the north end of the Ft Ord complex since 1998. The VTC staff provides housing and wrap-around services to homeless Veterans and their families. Services include housing (emergency, transitional, permanent), case management, food, life skills, substance abuse counseling, employment training, benefit and medical referrals, and –thanks to Measure X—transportation.

VTC has grown during the duration of this grant and now has a baseline population of 115 residents. This includes Veterans enrolled in programs with the Departments of Veteran Affairs (VA) and Housing and Urban Development (HUD), as well as their dependents. For the grant cycle, our average demographics consisted of 40% elderly and 60% disabled. These two groups overlap and often vary due to the transient nature with our six housing programs. As well, we have a staff of twenty-seven, which includes 20% elderly and 40% disabled. Altogether then, the Measure X group served by VTC is approximately eighty individuals.

Transportation has long been a limiting factor for VTC. Physically, we are spread across three locations: housing, headquarters, and storage warehouses. These sites are separated by half a mile and require routine movement among our residents and staff. Residents also have regular appointments across the Monterey County area, including benefit counseling, medical appointments, Veteran services, legal services, and county health services.



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Measure X has had a significant impact on our operations. With this grant, VTC was able to expand outreach to Veterans in crisis, provide transportation for current residents, conduct follow up wellness checks for graduates, and serve all routine transportation needs for our elderly and disabled population.

Work Completed with Grant

The following tasks are from Attachment 2 of the Measure X Funding Agreement between VTC and TAMC of 1/26/2018:

Task 1 Project Management

- 1.1 Project Kickoff meeting
- 1.2 Project monitoring

Task 2 Public Outreach

- 2.1 Marketing Plan
- 2.2 Resource Fair
- 2.3 Media releases

Task 3 Transportation Services

- 3.1 Purchase vehicles
- 3.2 Begin service
- 3.3 Hire on-call drivers

Task 4 Fiscal Management

- 4.1 Quarterly invoicing
- 4.2 Annual reports

All tasks have been completed.

Expenses

Measure X allocated \$258,689 to VTC across five areas: vehicles, bus passes, branding, tracking systems, driver program. In May 2020, the funds were reallocated slightly to account for final expenses. A claim for payment was submitted in July 2020 to expend the re-allocated funds against specified budget lines.

The budget area summaries are as follows:

- Vehicles. Altogether eight vehicles were obtained through Measure X funds:

SUV 3 new purchased



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Van 2 new purchased
Car 2 hybrids (1 new, 1 used)
Bus 1 new leased

- Bus passes. Funds were used to purchase 157 of MST’s 31-day Super-Go passes for VTC residents.
- Branding. VTC contracted with Trucksis Enterprises, Inc., to provide wraps and stickers for all Measure X vehicles. This included the requirement to show “funded by Measure X” and TAMC logo on each vehicle.
- Tracking system. No money was expended on this. All VTC metrics were provided through manual vehicle logs.
- Driver program. VTC contracted with The Mattox Group of Marina to hire and run an on-call driver program. This was a jobs creator for VTC residents, which ultimately hired five Veterans. The vehicles had routes across the county, which served elderly and disabled residents. The program began in December 2019 and ran fully for four months before COVID restrictions limited it. As such funds were re-allocated to other budget lines.

Numbers Served

Five vehicles have been obtained and used during the grant. Three additional vehicles were sought at the closing of the grant. This includes two Ford vans and one additional Ford Fusion Hybrid automobile

VTC Annual Vehicle Use, Measure X Duration of Grant (2018 – 2020)

<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Trips</u>	<u>Elderly carried</u>	<u>Disabled carried</u>
GMC Terrain 1	25,121	780	621	464
GMC Terrain 2	22,115	640	245	207
GMC Terrain 3	17,538	301	34	329
Ford CMax Hybrid	10,552	385	68	51
Ford World Transport	3,721	205	221	218
Totals	79,047	2,311	1,189	1,269

This equates to over three trips around the Earth. On average, the distance covered was 34 miles per trip and each use had at least one elderly or disabled person onboard.



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Pictures

Shown on the following pages

Summary

Measure X has had a deep impact on VTRC, allowing us to expand transportation services for our elderly and disabled Veterans and their family members. We are extremely grateful to TAMC and the Measure X Oversight Committee for providing and supervising this grant. On behalf of the board of directors, staff, and residents, thank you for making Measure X possible.

Respectfully,

////Signed////

Kurt Schake, PhD, Colonel USAF (ret)
Executive Director
Veterans Transition Center
A California Public Benefit Organization under IRS 501(c)3



Veterans Transition Center of Monterey County



GMC Terrain SUV: The Workhorse of the VTC fleet



Branding for TAMC & Measure X – similar branding is on the entire fleet



Veterans Transition Center of Monterey County



Ford World Transport Bus, with Disabled Lift



Ford Transit Connect Van – carries up to six passengers



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Ford Transit Connect Van – modified for disabled transport



Ford Fusion Hybrid – highly efficient and used for longer trips



VTC Measure X fleet in front of VTC headquarter, the historic Martinez Hall on the old Ft Ord



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Disabled lift on Ford bus



Driver program employee helping board a disabled passenger