

## **STAFF REPORT**

Board Meeting of April 21, 2021

AGENDA ITEM: 8-A

**PREPARED BY:** Troy McNeil, Deputy Director/Fiscal Supervisor

## **SUBJECT:**

Proposed FY 2021-22 Member Assessment Fees

Enclosure: Yes

**Action:** Approve proposed 2021-22 Member Assessment Fees Schedule and direct staff to contact the local jurisdictions to incorporate the fee in its respective jurisdiction budget.

Additional direction may be provided.

## **SUMMARY:**

Madera County Transportation Commission's participation in the Valley Voice program is crucial as it not only allows Madera a seat at the table but also allows Madera to be seen and heard. The Valley Voice effort has been successful, and Madera County has benefited from its establishment. Unfortunately, there are no MCTC Federal or State funding sources that can be utilized for lobbying activities.

To actively participate in the Valley Voice programs, staff recommends continuing the Member Assessment Fees in the 2021-22 Budget process on a per capita basis in the amount of \$38,000. Included in your package is a copy of the proposed 2021-22 Member Assessment Fees Schedule that identifies the proportional amount that each member agency would be requested to pay for the Valley Voice effort.

To help supplement the Valley Voice effort, MCTC staff has been discussing the possible need to have MCTC retain a lobbyist to assist in advocating for various policies, programs, and projects that would benefit the Madera County region. Adding a lobbyist may potentially be an additional \$24,000-75,000 a year. The Valley Directors are also discussing retaining a state lobbyist for Valley wide efforts. The Valley wide effort may require a contribution of \$12,000 and the MCTC lobbyist may be approximately \$24,000-\$60,000. Staff will discuss these options during the Board meeting.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact to the approved 2020-21 Overall Work Program and Budget.