

**TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND  
RELATED AGENCIES  
FY 2011 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS**

**Department of Transportation Requests**

**Los Angeles County Projects**

**Federal Highway Administration**

***Project Title: I-5 Santa Clarita-Los Angeles Gateway Improvement Project, CA***

Recipient: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Location: One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Amount Requested: \$2,000,000

The Santa Clarita-Los Angeles Gateway Improvement Project will add northbound and southbound truck lanes and extend carpool lanes on Interstate 5 in order to relieve traffic congestion in the Santa Clarita Valley. This project will extend the high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes and incorporate truck climbing lanes around the interchange with State Route 14. Adding these carpool and truck lanes is estimated to increase roadway capacity by 50 percent. State, local and private funding will cover more than 30 percent of the \$465 million total cost of this project. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will provide improved goods movement along this nationally strategic artery and will improve air quality and safety.

***Project Title: I-710 Corridor/Gerald Desmond Bridge Gateway Project, CA***

Recipient: City of Long Beach Harbor Department (Port of Long Beach)

Location: 925 Harbor Plaza, Long Beach, CA 90802

Amount Requested: \$2,000,000

The Gerald Desmond Bridge is the principal road entry to the Port of Long Beach and trucks using the bridge carry 10 percent of all U.S. waterborne container volume. The bridge has only four lanes and is typically gridlocked on a daily basis. The project entails demolition of the existing bridge and replacement with a six-lane cable-stayed bridge. The total cost is \$1.125 billion, of which the Port has secured \$699 million to date. The project is in the environmental review phase with expected completion in 2017, and is in the State Transportation Improvement Plan. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will help alleviate traffic congestion and ensure the movement of goods from the port to the rest of the country.

***Project Title: Schuyler Heim Bridge Replacement and SR-47 Expressway, CA***

Recipient: Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority

Location: One Civic Plaza, Suite 350, Carson, CA 90745

Amount Requested: \$2,000,000

This project will replace the existing, seismically deficient Schuyler Heim lift bridge over

the Cerritos Channel, which provides the northern access to the Port of Long Beach and Port of Los Angeles-Terminal Island, with a fixed span, four-lane elevated roadway. These improvements will allow truck traffic to flow to the warehouse districts and rail loading facilities north of Terminal Island without stopping for ships under the bridge, bypassing three major intersections and five at-grade rail crossings. State and local funding identified for this \$687 million project to date is \$671 million. This project, which is in the State Transportation Improvement Plan, is in final design with expected completion in 2014. This is a beneficial use of federal funding because it will greatly enhance goods movement at the Nation's busiest ports.

### **Federal Railroad Administration**

***Project Title: Metrolink - Grade Crossing Improvements, CA***

Recipient: Southern California Regional Rail Authority – Metrolink

Location: 700 South Flower Street Suite 2600, Los Angeles, CA, 90017

Amount Requested: \$1,000,000

The Metrolink “Sealed Corridor” program will improve 63 road and rail grade crossings to prevent accidents involving automobiles on the tracks, such as the 2005 Glendale wreck. 15 projects are currently underway and two have been completed. Improvements include quad gates and median islands at crossings, swing gates and other barriers to limit access to rail right-of-ways. The requested funding will be used for design and construction. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it enhances safety for train passengers, motorists, and pedestrians.

***Project Title: Metrolink Positive Train Control, CA***

Recipient: Southern California Regional Rail Authority – Metrolink

Location: 700 South Flower Street Suite 2600, Los Angeles, CA, 90017

Amount Requested: \$5,000,000

The Rail Safety Improvement Act requires implementation of Positive Train Control on railroads nationwide by 2015; Metrolink wants to be finished by 2012. Installation of Positive Train Control on the 216 miles of Metrolink rail is estimated at \$201 million, of which Metrolink agencies have been able to secure \$94 million in state and local dollars. Metrolink operates seven routes carrying nearly one million passengers each month. This is a beneficial use of federal funding because it will drastically improve safety on a rail system in which passengers and freight trains traveling in opposite directions share a single track.

***Project Title: San Gabriel Trench Project - Alameda Corridor East Construction Authority, CA***

Recipient: Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

Location: 4900 Rivergrade Road, Irwindale, CA 91706

Amount Requested: \$1,000,000

The Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach import 40 percent of the nation's containerized cargo. Much of these goods are transported via the Alameda Corridor East through the San Gabriel Valley, home to 2 million residents. In order to allow for local traffic and curb long lines at grade crossings, the San Gabriel cities are improving 39 railroad grade crossings and constructing 20 underpasses. State, local and private funding will cover 80 percent of the \$1.5 billion total cost of this project. Federal funding will be used for final design and construction. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because these improvements will increase mobility, enhance safety and encourage economic vitality in connection with the movement of goods from the Ports to the rest of the country.

**Federal Transit Administration**

***Project Title: Crenshaw / LAX Transit Corridor, CA***

Recipient: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Location: One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Amount Requested: \$5,000,000

The Crenshaw / Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Light Rail Project is an 8.5-mile extension between the Expo Line (under construction) and the existing Metro Green Line. The extension will serve the cities of Los Angeles and Inglewood and will include at least six new stations. This connection would enable transit riders to access both downtown Los Angeles and the Westside, relieving congestion and improving mobility. This project connects to an Automated People Mover planned to be constructed at LAX. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will extend public transportation to key hubs of employment, residency, and throughout greater Los Angeles, while also providing convenient access to and from the country's third busiest airport.

***Project Title: Downtown Connector/Westside Subway Extension, CA***

Recipient: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Location: One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Amount Requested: \$10,000,000

The Downtown Regional Connector is a 2-mile light rail connecting three existing lines at their downtown stations, providing a final link of 50 miles of light rail service throughout Los Angeles. The Metro Board has paired this project with the Metro Westside Extension, which will extend the existing subway system over nine miles into Beverly Hills, Century City and Westwood. The Westside is one of the major job centers

of Southern California, with more than 150,000 jobs in the areas to be served by this new subway. Ridership forecasts anticipate up to 116,000 new systemwide boardings daily by the year 2030. This is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will extend public transportation to several key hubs of employment, residency, and education throughout greater Los Angeles, promoting the use of mass transit, taking cars off of the road, mitigating congestion and improving air quality.

I am also requesting the following language:

*“For purposes of approval into preliminary engineering and project evaluation and rating under 49 U.S.C. 5309(d)(5), and analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Secretary shall treat the Westside Subway Extension from Wilshire Boulevard and Western Avenue to Westwood as a single project.”*