

**Board Report**

File #:2016-0008, **File Type:**Policy

Agenda Number:

**PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING
FEBRUARY 17, 2016****SUBJECT: FIRST/LAST MILE STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE****ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE****RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file status report on activities to implement the First/Last Mile Strategic Plan.

ISSUE

Metro Director Eric Garcetti requested that staff provide an update on the implementation of Metro's First/Last Mile Strategic Plan (adopted April 2014). An update was last provided by staff on June 17, 2015.

DISCUSSION

As reported to the Planning and Programming Committee on January 20, 2016, through the Active Transportation Strategic Plan effort, staff estimated preliminary annual active transportation needs, including first/last mile needs, in Los Angeles County in the range of \$549 million to \$1.48 billion. This high-level estimate reflects regional and local active transportation networks, first and last mile access to major transit stations, Metro bike services (capital costs, operations and maintenance), and education and encouragement programs. A component of the overall figure, the first/last mile access to major transit stops/stations has an estimated annual range from \$457 million to \$872 million. These preliminary cost estimates will be further refined as staff develop the Active Transportation Strategic Plan.

Near Term Highlights

- **Innovative Partnership** - Metro staff has been negotiating a pilot partnership with ride-hailing service Lyft to address first/last mile issues. The basis of the partnership is to test ride-hailing as a first/last mile solution at selected Metro station locations through marketing. The potential benefits of this partnership for Metro are improving ridership and transit customers' experience, improving overall mobility and convenience, and sustainability policy objectives for reduced dependence on driving alone. The details of the agreement are being finalized. In general, the 12- to 18-month pilot program with Lyft focuses on analyzing Lyft ridership data through a collaborative research effort and cross marketing and promotion of Lyft services at select Metro stations.

-
- Additional progress has been made on implementing the First/Last Mile Strategic Plan including the following activities:
 - The Active Transportation Program (ATP)-funded Blue Line First/Last Mile Plan was allocated funds by the California Transportation Commission at its October 2015 meeting. The statement of work is being finalized for procurement. Project start is anticipated in 1st quarter of FY 2017.
 - Procurement and contractor selection for a First and Last Mile Training program. The trainings will be conducted at the sub-regional level this year with city staff and elected officials. As part of the trainings, participants will conduct a walk audit and begin drafting a first/last mile plan.
 - Various activities to position first/last mile improvements for funding under the cap-and-trade Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program, including commenting on program guideline revisions, developing a Metro policy framework, and outreach to local agencies.
 - Metro's Wayfinding Signage Grant Pilot Program is in progress. This Program provides assistance to local cities to implement wayfinding signage to enhance first / last mile connectivity to Metro fixed guideway stations. The applications were due November 13, 2015. Staff is currently evaluating applications and anticipates presenting funding recommendations to the Metro Board in March 2016.
 - Coordination with local cities on first and last mile messaging for the line openings for Expo Line Phase II and Gold Line Foothill Extension.

At the local level, multiple first and last mile implementation activities are in progress around Los Angeles County. By way of example, in preparation for the Gold Line Foothill Extension, the City of Duarte is implementing first and last mile improvements for the Duarte Gold Line Station. Also at the local level, the Metro Call for Projects has funded multiple first and last mile projects throughout Los Angeles County.

As shown in Attachment A - First and Last Mile Implementation Update, a matrix of detailed tasks for implementation was provided for the Planning and Programming Committee on June 17, 2015. The matrix contains the current status of each item as of February 2016.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue to carry out the First and Last Mile Trainings and procurement for the Blue Line First and Last Mile Planning effort. As local efforts for first and last mile implementation projects continue to gain traction in the County, staff will develop a tracking mechanism for these projects.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - First and Last Mile Implementation Update

Prepared by: Katie Lemmon, Transportation Planning Manager, (213) 922-7441
Jacob Lieb, Sustainability Policy Manager, (213) 922-4132
Diego Cardoso, Executive Officer, (213) 922-3076

Reviewed by: Calvin E. Hollis, Interim Chief Planning Officer, (213) 922-7319

This table was provided on June 17, 2015 for a Planning and Programming Committee update. The “Status” column has been added to indicate progress on each item as of the February 17, 2016 Planning and Programming Committee meeting.

Table A-1: First/Last Mile Strategic Plan Implementation Concepts

Task	Subtask	Description	Status
1. Identify, plan, and scope additional pilot project locations	1.1 Deliver pilot projects	Work with successful ATP project sponsors to implement their projects	In Progress
	1.2 Refine and develop remaining pilot stations	Complete planning work and rework ATP applications for funding	City of Santa Monica 17 th Street project funded through Metro Call for Projects
	1.3 Identify future pilot stations	Utilize existing funding sources to implement temporary (a.k.a. pop-up) first/last mile projects	Coordinating with SCAG on pop-up projects through Go Human campaign
2. Facilitate private-sector involvement including bike, car, and ride share services	2.1 Implement car share pilot program	Solicit bids for operating car share and initiate pilot program	Pilot program ongoing
	2.2 Implement permanent car share program	Incorporate lessons learned from pilot and implement at new park and ride facilities	Pending
	2.3 Study integration with technology	Study and report on infrastructure and technological barriers and opportunities for first/last mile solutions	Pending
	2.4 Integrate first/last mile improvements in joint development	Where feasible, include physical linkages to stations	Ongoing coordination; first / last mile assessment part of joint development process
	2.5 Convene private sector workgroup	Workgroup would focus on additional areas for private sector involvement in meeting first/last mile goals and objectives	Ad-hoc discussions with individual private sector entities including Lyft, Uber, and employer-based EV shuttle program

Task	Subtask	Description	Status
3. Conduct first/last mile planning on existing transit lines	3.1 Conduct first/last mile planning for Metro Blue Line	Seek allocation/obligation of ATP funds. Procure consultant and deliver final product	ATP funds allocated by CTC. Procurement upcoming.
	3.2 Seek additional planning funds to conduct first/last mile planning on Metro fixed-guideway lines	Identify and seek additional funding from ATP and other sources	Assessing location for need
	3.3 Seek funding to initiate a grant program for local jurisdictions to conduct first/last mile planning for non-fixed guideway transit service	Identify opportunities to create a Metro-sponsored grant program. Funding TBD	Pending
4. Develop guidelines and criteria for future Measure R transit projects	4.1 Include first/last mile planning into planning budget for second and third decade Measure R transit projects	Conduct first/last mile planning as part of alternatives analysis	Pending
	4.2 When feasible, include first/last mile improvements as design elements of approved second and third decade Measure R transit projects	Provide design criteria and specifications for first/last mile improvements	Pending
5. Evaluate and refine first/last mile planning methodologies	5.1 Conduct before/after studies of pilot stations	Measure and document impact of first/last mile improvements including ridership and safety factors	Pending
	5.2 Update first/last mile planning methodology	Update methodology to include socio-economic indicators	To be updated through Blue Line First / Last Mile Planning effort
	5.3 Conduct first/last mile planning trainings for local jurisdictions and organizations	Host trainings for interested jurisdictions and organizations about applying the planning methodology	In Progress

Task	Subtask	Description	Status
6. Develop and identify funding need and sources	6.1 Include estimated cost for first/last mile planning for existing Metro fixed-guideway system	Create funding need matrix for conducting first/last mile planning of existing Metro fixed-guideway system	In Progress
	6.2 Estimate first/last mile construction funding needs based on results of 3.1 and 3.2	Once planning is complete, prepare cost estimates for the total construction funding need	In Progress
	6.3 Prepare a funding strategy for first/last mile build-out	Develop funding and financial plan for first/last mile improvements	In Progress
	6.4 Identify funding for first/last mile improvements to second and third decade Measure R transit projects	Identify and seek eligible funding for first/last mile improvements from sources including any future local transportation funding mechanism	In Progress