

**Metro**

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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**PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 18, 2009**

**SUBJECT: EASTERN SAN FERNANDO VALLEY NORTH-SOUTH BUS SPEED
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

ACTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Approve, as an early implementation project for the Eastern San Fernando Valley (SFV) North-South Bus Speed Improvements Project, striping, signal, and pedestrian enhancements in support of a new complementary Metro Orange Line service, Line 902 that will begin operations in December 2009. The service will link the Pacoima/Van Nuys Corridor to the North Hollywood Metro Red Line Station; and
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), contingent upon California Transportation Commission (CTC) approval, to:
 - 1. Amend the scope of work for the existing Funding Agreement with the City of Los Angeles for the Eastern SFV North-South Bus Speed Improvements project by deleting the preliminary engineering (PE) work and adding design and construction of traffic signal timing/priority and street improvements along with pedestrian enhancements to support the new Line 902. Attachment A shows the scope of work and dollars needed by fiscal year; and
 - 2. Request from the CTC in FY 11, \$380,203 in previously programmed State Local Transportation Partnership Program (SLTPP) funds to complete the design and construction of new Line 902 infrastructure improvements project.

ISSUE

The City of Los Angeles requested that we implement a new bus line linking the Pacoima area with the North Hollywood Metro Red Line Station and Metro Orange Line as part of the Eastern SFV North-South Bus Speed Improvements Project. Line 902, a

cost neutral new service, is scheduled to begin operations on December 13, 2009. This Line will begin in the Pacoima area and travel south on Van Nuys Boulevard, east on Burbank Boulevard and terminate at the North Hollywood Metro Red Line Station. This bus line will also serve as a complementary service to Metro Orange Line by directly linking passengers from the Metro Red Line to the Van Nuys Corridor (Attachment B). To support this service, the City has requested funding to implement bus speed improvements including signal timing/priority, intersection restriping, and pedestrian improvements. To enable the City to complete the desired work to support this new service, an amendment to the scope of work in their existing Funding Agreement needs to be made. Because these are State Traffic Congestion Relief (TCR) program funds, CTC approval is also necessary, which will be requested in December 2009. Therefore, we are requesting that the Board approve this amendment contingent upon the CTC's approval.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The proposed bus speed enhancements for the new Line 902 service would be an early implementation element of the Eastern SFV North-South Bus Speed Improvements project which is included in Measure R with an opening date of 2018. Measure R funds for this larger project are supposed to be available starting in year 2013-15. The Eastern SFV North-South Bus Speed Improvements project is also funded with State TCR and SLTPP dollars. This project is included in the constrained element of Metro's 2009 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

OPTIONS

The Board could choose to not amend the existing Funding Agreement or defer action until after CTC approval. These options are not recommended because the improvements requested by the City of Los Angeles will support the new Line 902 service. Further, deferring approval will delay the initiation of the design work.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The City of Los Angeles anticipates that it will need \$305,000 this fiscal year. The FY 10 budget contains \$450,000 in Cost Center 0441 Project number 465521 for PE for the Eastern SFV North-South Bus Speed Improvements project. Of this amount, \$421,595 of TCR grant monies remain to which work can be charged.

Because TCR program grants require prior approval by the State, in December we will request that the CTC change the scope of the project from Environmental to Plans Specifications & Estimates (PS&E) and Construction. Since this is a multi-year project, it will be the responsibility of the cost center manager and Chief Planning Officer to budget expenditures in future years.

Impact to Bus and Rail Operating and Capital Budget

The source of funds for the PE work is a TCR program grant awarded by the State. The grant is not eligible for bus and rail operating and capital expenses.

The new Line 902 has been added to Metro Bus service through a Bus Service Improvement program that was cost neutral.

BACKGROUND

In March 2007, the Board directed that \$900,000 be made available “to the City of Los Angeles to enable the City to complete an analysis and preliminary engineering of how best to increase bus speeds on Van Nuys Boulevard and other Eastern San Fernando Valley (SFV) streets identified in the SFV North/South Transit Corridor Study.” In October 2008, the Board authorized an amendment to the Funding Agreement to transfer funds from the PE element of the agreement to the project analysis. This Amendment made \$450,000 available for the analysis and \$450,000 for PE. In November 2008, the Board programmed \$2.75 million in SLTPP funds and the 50% local match using Proposition C 25% dollars for this project.

The City of Los Angeles has been working to identify a program of projects for its Eastern SFV project and plans to seek City Council and our authorization later this year. Once approved, the environmental clearance would need to be completed before the PE dollars can be accessed. Since the program of projects is not currently identified and the actual amount necessary for PE is unknown, it is recommended that the \$450,000 be transferred to the design and construction of the infrastructure improvements to support Line 902, contingent upon approval of the scope of work change by the CTC.

At the December 2009 CTC meeting, we will request their approval to change the scope of work from Environmental to Plans Specifications & Estimates (PS&E) and Construction.

The City plans to spend a total of \$1,182,000 for the Pacoima to North Hollywood Bus Speed Improvements and Pedestrian Enhancements. Therefore, an additional Board authorization of \$732,000 will be needed in FY 11 to complete the work. We are recommending that TCR funds and SLTPP dollars be used for this work.

NEXT STEPS

Upon both Board and CTC approval, we will amend the scope of work in the existing Funding Agreement and authorize the City to initiate work. In FY 11, we will request the CTC to allocate \$380,203 in SLTPP funds, using Proposition C 25% as the 50% required match, that were previously programmed by the Board to the project to cover the balance of the funding necessary to construct the remaining improvements.

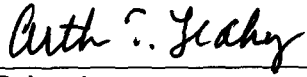
ATTACHMENTS

- A. Los Angeles City Project Components
- B. Project Map

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 Development



Carol Inge
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ATTACHMENT A

Cost Estimate and Schedule							
Near-Term Improvements for Van Nuys/Burbank Interline Service							
I. Signal Priority, Timing and Striping Improvements						Begin	End
(Design)	Signal Priority at Lankershim/Burbank and Van Nuys/Burbank (Design)				\$25,000	Jan-10	Apr-10
(Construction)	Signal Priority at Lankershim/Burbank and Van Nuys/Burbank (Construction)				\$25,000	Apr-10	Jun-10
(Construction)	Signal Timing Adjustments along Van Nuys Boulevard (Construction)				\$20,000	Feb-10	Jun-10
(Design)	Striping Changes to Add RT and LT Lanes along Van Nuys Boulevard (Design)				\$20,000	Jan-10	Mar-10
(Construction)	Striping Changes to Add RT and LT Lanes along Van Nuys Blvd (Construction)				\$60,000	Apr-10	Jun-10
(Design)	Bus Stop Improvements (Design)				\$15,000	Jan-10	Jun-10
Total:					\$305,000	FY 09-10	
II. Transit Improvements at Bus Stops							
Transit Imprvmnts per Location		Qty.	Unit	Price	Extension		
(Construction)	Pedestrian Lighting (3)	3	EA	\$10,000	\$30,000		
(Construction)	Bus benches / Lean Bars (2)	2	EA	\$1,000	\$2,000		
(Construction)	Trash Cans (1)	1	EA	\$500	\$500		
Cost Per Location (Excluding Bus Shelter, Electronic Sign and Bus Pad)**					\$82,500		
Bus Stop Location Improvements		Qty.	Unit	Price	Extension	Begin	End
(Construction)	Aetna/Bessemer (Orange Line Station)	2	EA	\$32,500	\$65,000	Oct-10	Jun-11
(Construction)	Victory Blvd	1	EA	\$32,500	\$32,500	Oct-10	Jun-11
(Construction)	Vanowen Street	1	EA	\$32,500	\$32,500	Oct-10	Jun-11
(Construction)	Sherman Way	2	EA	\$32,500	\$65,000	Oct-10	Jun-11
(Construction)	Roscoe Blvd	1	EA	\$32,500	\$32,500	Oct-10	Jun-11
(Construction)	Nordhoff St	1	EA	\$32,500	\$32,500	Oct-10	Jun-11
(Construction)	(Additional Stop on Burbank Blvd)	2	EA	\$32,500	\$65,000	Oct-10	Jun-11
(Construction)	Concrete Bus Pads	4	EA	\$50,000	\$200,000	Oct-10	Jun-11
Subtotal:					\$525,000		
Contingency:					\$171,000		
Total Construction Cost:					\$696,000		
(Design)	Bid & Award:				\$20,000	Jul-10	Oct-10
	Const. Mange & Inspec:				\$108,000		
	Subtotal:				\$128,000		
	Cost Escalator (1yr):				\$45,000		
	Total:				\$877,000	FY 10-11	
Overall Total:					\$1,402,000		

** : Bus shelters and electronic signs will be funded and implemented by Metro Rapid Program.

