

Chief Planning Officer's Report Countywide Planning & Development

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Small Starts Program

- On March 2006 Metro requested Small Starts Funding through Federal Appropriations Process.
- Requested \$100 million for Metro Rapid and components of North/South San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Project.
- Congress did not appropriate any funding for Small Starts in FY 07



Small Starts Program

- FTA issued Interim Guidance & Instructions in August
- Small Starts require similar analysis as regular New Starts Projects
- Very Small Starts require less analysis, shorter application
- Applications due September 15



Small Starts Program

Small Starts Program

- New SAFETEA-LU capital investment category starting in FY07.
- Total project cost limit of \$250m, federal funding limit of \$75m.
- Must either:
 - (a) meet the definition of a fixed guideway project for at least 50% of the project length in the peak period
 - (b) be a fixed guideway project, or
 - (c) be a corridor-based bus project with the following minimum elements: substantial stations, traffic signal priority, low-floor vehicles, service branding, and frequent headways.



Small Starts Program

Very Small Starts Program

- Subset of Small Starts Program.
- Total project cost limit of \$50m, and less than \$3m per mile.
- Must be a very simple, low-risk, and demonstrably effective bus, rail or ferry project that includes: substantial stations, traffic signal priority, low-floor vehicles, service branding, and frequent headways.
- Existing riders must exceed 3,000 per weekday.



Small Starts Proposal

Three Very Small Starts Proposals

1. Metro Rapid System Gap Closure Project \$24M
 - Construct final eight Metro Rapid lines

2. Van Nuys Boulevard Bus Speed Improvement Project \$ 8M
 - ½- mile bus lane between Burbank & Oxnard (\$100k)
 - Northbound peak period bus lanes between Addison & Chandler (\$200k)
 - Bus approach lane at Parthenia (\$100k)
 - Queue jumper at Vanowen (\$50k)
 - Bus signal priority enhancements (\$500k)
 - Bridge widening over flood control channel (\$1.5m)
 - 101 Freeway/Van Nuys Blvd. interchange improvement contribution (\$5m)

3. Sepulveda Boulevard Bus Speed Improvement Project \$37M
 - 7.6 mile northbound peak hour bus lane between Ventura Blvd and Chatsworth Street (\$36.7m)
 - Includes two direction bus lane between Rinaldi and Nordhoff (3 miles) (\$300k)

2007 Call for Projects - Update

- Released memo to Cities in August announcing Upcoming Call and Schedule
 - Updated Call Information on Metro Website
- Developing Application Package
 - Will consult with Metro's Technical Advisory Committee and its Subcommittees
- Planning & Programming considers Application Package November 15