



Metro

REVISED
PLANNING & PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE
November 15, 2006

SUBJECT: 2007 CALL FOR PROJECTS

ACTION: APPROVE 2007 CALL FOR PROJECTS APPLICATION PACKAGE

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the 2007 Call for Projects Application Package (sent to Metro Board under separate cover). **See Attachment A for revisions to the Supplemental Funding Application previously distributed in the Call for Projects Application package.**

ISSUE

Metro has initiated the 2007 Call for Projects process for Los Angeles County. The Call for Projects is a competitive grant process that co-funds new regionally significant capital projects and is typically held biennially in odd numbered years. Metro Board approval is needed on the draft 2007 Call for Projects Application Package. This package provides the instructions and specific modal applications that will be used by potential project sponsors that wish to nominate projects for consideration.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Metro is the regional transportation planning agency for Los Angeles County responsible for programming available state and federal funding on a timely basis. The Call for Projects implements Metro's multi-modal programming responsibilities for Los Angeles County and the Board-adopted Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). It provides critical funding for local agencies for needed transportation improvements that help implement the LRTP.

OPTIONS

On August 24, 2006 the Metro Board initiated the 2007 Call for Projects for Los Angeles County. Since then work has completed on the Draft 2007 Call for Projects Application Package to provide minor updates for program requirements and refine the evaluation criteria. Overall the Draft 2007 Call for Projects Application Package is similar in format and content as in past Calls. At this time the Metro Board could modify the Draft 2007 Call for Projects Application Package. Any modifications would be provided to project sponsors at the same time the supplemental 2007 Call for Projects Application package is distributed in mid-December. As in past Calls, once the Metro Board has approved the

Application Package, staff distributes a supplemental package in mid-December to notify interested parties of any additional program changes.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funds available for the 2007 Call for Projects come from three principal sources:

- Local Proposition C 25% bond financing;
- State Traffic Congestion Relief Program allocations and repayments; and,
- Federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).

The draft 2006 LRTP update baseline assumption about Proposition C 25% bond financing is consistent with Metro's debt policy and remains very conservative given the historic lag between programming of the bond funds and cash needs for projects. With the California Transportation Commission (CTC) recently having allocated State Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) funds to the Exposition Light Rail Transit project, a significant amount of federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program and local Proposition C 25% funds that were previously programmed to the project have become available for re-programming. Also, with the CTC having agreed to repay funds that Metro advanced for several Los Angeles County projects, including the Orange Line Busway project, Metro would be able to indirectly provide funding from those repayments to the 2007 Call for Projects. Finally, through the enactment of SAFETEA-LU, Congress has provided additional federal transportation funds that could be programmed in the 2007 Call for Projects.

The funding levels for the overall 2007 Call for Projects and for individual modal categories won't be determined until early 2007. These will be identified as part of the ongoing development of the LRTP update. Staff anticipates bringing preliminary funding marks for the 2007 Call for Projects to the Board in March 2007.

At the August 16, 2006 Planning and Programming Committee meeting, staff was directed to provide the Board with potential modal funding percentages based on the anticipated 2007 Call for Projects funding levels. The modal share estimates were presented at the August 24, 2006 Board meeting and were based on an estimated funding range of \$250-600 million (without freeway modal category) to be programmed over a five to six year period. The historical allocation of non-freeway funds in prior Call for Projects has been \$60-100 million annually.

BACKGROUND

Work on the 2007 Call for Projects process began in August 2006. Metro's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), TAC subcommittees, and sub-regional agencies were consulted to develop the current Call for Projects process and application requirements. The Call for Projects will have seven (7) modal categories. These categories and eligible projects within each category are identified in Attachment B. Funding for Goods

Movement projects will be integrated with the Regional Surface Transportation Improvements modal category, but depending upon the outcome of the Infrastructure Bond Initiative, may not be programmed through the Call for Projects. In addition to the seven (7) modal categories, the 2007 Call for Projects will allow local government sponsors, on a one-time basis, to apply for additional funding needed to address cost increases for previously-approved projects programmed in FY 08 and FY 09 through prior Call for Projects.

The 2007 Call for Projects Application Package is similar to past Call applications. Since a Call has not been held since 2001, the 2007 Call for Projects Application Package contains new programming requirements resulting from new policy and programming actions from the Metro Board, Caltrans and other agencies. The new program requirements that are highlighted in this Call Application Package include the following:

- **Supplemental Funding Call Application:** For projects programmed in FY 08 and FY 09 through a previous Call for Projects that have experienced cost increases, a Supplemental Funding Call Application can be used to apply for additional funding. However, the scope of work must remain the same as originally approved by the Metro Board. This supplemental funding opportunity is similar to the recent FY 07 supplemental application submittal, and it is projected that relatively few projects will be submitted in the FY 08 and FY 09 Supplemental Funding process.
- **Non-Disclosure Agreement:** Applicants will be required to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement which limits the use of Metro data used to prepare and submit applications for the 2007 Call for Projects. This new program requirement is necessary because of potential security concerns related to the uncontrolled release of the Metro information.
- **PSR/PDS and PSRE:** Metro requires that projects affecting a state highway facility have an approved Caltrans' Project Study Report (PSR) as this document contains cost figures sufficient to program construction dollars. If Caltrans requires that a Project Study Report/Project Development Support (PSR/PDS) be completed for a project, Metro will accept the PSR/PDS and may consider the project on a case-by-case basis as the PSR/PDS does not identify costs as specifically as the PSR.
- **Federal and State Funding:** The amount of local funds available through this Call for Projects will be limited. Therefore, federal and state funds represent the majority of the available funding and will be subject to numerous federal and state requirements that may require significant staff time to process if awarded funds, such as strict "timely use of funds policies" and obtaining advance authorization for such activities, including but not limited to: "Requests for Authorization" for preliminary engineering, utility relocation, right-of-way, and construction.
- **Local Match:** Local Match continues to be a Call for Projects Requirement. **PROJECTS SUBMITTED THAT DO NOT MEET THE MINIMUM LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.** In the 2007 Call for Projects, the required 20% local match must be a monetary cash match. For RSTI, the required Local Match is

35%, the minimum 20% must be monetary, and the remaining 15% can consist of “in-kind” local match contributions. As with past Call for Projects, additional local match funding above the requirement will result in a higher score – up to 10 additional points, depending upon the amount of the overmatch as described in the project evaluation criteria and weighting section of each modal category application. For RSTI, all overmatch above the 35% must be monetary cash.

In the 2007 Call for Projects, any project sponsor monies spent on environmental document preparation, and/or preliminary engineering will be considered as contribution to the 20% Local Match. This provision only applies to monies spent on environmental documentation preparation and preliminary engineering within three (3) years prior to Metro Board adoption of the 2007 Call for Projects scheduled for July 2007. However, because federal and state funds represent the majority of available funding in the 2007 Call for Projects, project sponsors who choose to exercise this option will be required to submit additional hard matching funds in future years if awarded federal and state funding.

- **Goods Movement:** Metro’s approach to funding for the Goods Movement projects within the RSTI modal category depends upon the outcome of Proposition 1B, the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006. In the event Proposition 1B fails at the polls on November 7, 2006, Metro will be using this application for determining investments in Goods Movement projects. In the event Proposition 1B passes, Metro will be considering alternate programmatic and project specific approaches to implementing Goods Movement projects. Traditionally, Metro has capped its contribution to major Goods Movement projects at 17%.
- **SAFETEA-LU Project Eligibility:** SAFETEA-LU Earmark Projects are eligible to compete for funding in modal categories based on their merits. However, Earmark funding through SAFETEA-LU cannot be used as the Local Match Requirement. Additionally, Earmark dollars cannot be used as overmatch in order to obtain bonus points under Local Match Criteria.
- **Transit Oriented Development (TOD):** Metro Board members asked staff to consider how the 2007 Call for Projects could promote and benefit TODs. Each of the seven (7) modal categories in the Draft 2007 Call for Projects Application Package contains language to determine if the proposed project benefits existing or proposed TODs, and if so, awards additional points. In addition, projects adjacent to Metro or Commuter Rail stations, such as regionally significant transit stops and transit centers, are eligible for funding.

NEXT STEPS

Once the Metro Board has approved the Application Package, staff will distribute a supplemental package in mid-December to notify interested parties of any additional program changes.

The highlights of the 2007 Call for Projects schedule are as follows:

- Mid-December 2006: Final Application Package Supplement released to local agencies.
- January 26, 2007: Applications due from project sponsors.
- March 2007: Preliminary Call for Projects funding marks presented for Board consideration.
- May 2007: Staff completes preliminary project and funding recommendations.
- May 2007: TAC conducts review and appeals process.
- June 2007: Board workshop to review and provide direction on recommendations.
- July 2007: Board considers Call for Projects recommendations and makes funding decisions.
- August 2007- March 2008: Call for Projects programming decisions incorporated into state and federal Transportation Improvement Programs.


ATTACHMENTS

- A. Revisions to Supplemental Funding Application contained in Call for Projects Application Package.**
- B. Modal Categories and Eligible Projects**

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Attachment A

INSTRUCTIONS & APPLICATION

**PART III
SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING APPLICATION**

At their May 3, 2006 meeting, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors approved on a **one-time basis**, allowing project sponsors to apply for supplemental funding to cover cost increases for existing projects previously funded through the Call for Projects. In the 2007 Call for Projects, sponsors of previously approved projects may apply for supplemental funding if their projects first programmed year of funding is FY 2008 or FY 2009. Applicants for Supplemental funding should note that if successful, funds **will not** be escalated. Therefore, applicants should carefully review and consider the total amount of funding that they will need to complete the project.

Supplemental funding can only be used to complete the scope of work as originally approved by the Metro Board of Directors. **No additional scope is allowed. Metro funds cannot be used to replace local funds previously expended on the project. Completed projects are not eligible. Further, applicants approved for funding ~~have 18 months from the Metro Board approval date to encumber or to expend the funds.~~ must adhere to the appropriate federal, state or local lapsing policies.**

Applications will be evaluated based on the following three (3) criteria:

- Project readiness;
- Relative ranking received on the original Call application; and
- Size of additional local match the Applicant is willing to contribute towards the project's increased cost. At a minimum, eligible sponsors are required to apply for funding which maintains the same proportion of sponsor to Metro funding as the original grant. **Applications that have a lower local match than ~~what is required for each modal category~~ contained in their original grant are automatically ineligible.**

PART I**SUPPLEMENTAL CALL FOR PROJECTS FUNDING**

General Project Information contained on pages 136-140

Item 1. Metro Call for Projects ID#:

Provide the four-digit code identifying your specific project. Each project received a four-digit Call for Projects number during the original Call process (this code is also noted in the MOU or LOA). For example, Project ID#s in the 2001 Call start with the number “8” and ID#s from the 1999 Call begin with “6.”

Item 2. Project Title:

Provide the title of the project as approved in the original Call and as indicated in the MOU or LOA.

Item 3. Project Sponsor:

Identify the Agency applying for funding under this Supplemental Call for Projects. Also, choose a contact person who will serve as a liaison between the Project Sponsor and Metro for all matters pertaining to the project application and if funding is awarded, the grant. Include the person’s name, title, mailing address, direct telephone line, fax number and e-mail address. **Please note:** Metro will ONLY communicate with this contact person for the duration off this application process and throughout grant cycle if your organization is selected.

Item 4. Modal Category:

Check the box for the modal category in which this project was originally awarded funding. The modal category should match the original Call modal designation unless subsequently changed.

Item 5. Local Sponsor Project Priority:

If your Agency submits more than one application within a modal category, each project must be prioritized. Indicate the project’s priority in the space provided. For example, if you submit two projects in the Transit Capital category, the first priority project must be designated “1 of 2” and the second priority project designated “2 of 2”. This is for informational purpose only.

Item 6. Justification for Additional Funding:

Please explain why your Agency is requesting additional funding from Metro. Describe the circumstances and issues so as to give Metro a sound basis on which to evaluate your funding request.

Item 7. Project Expenses (Up to 34 points):

Under Original Cost, please provide the total cost of the project as originally funded by Metro including the Metro share and the percentage and the Local share and the percentage. The figures should coincide with your MOU or LOA. Under Incremental Cost Increase, please provide the total incremental increase only, the Metro share and the percentage, the Local share and the percentage. A Sponsor must provide a minimum local share equal to the local share provided in the original Call. For example, if the local share was 35% in the

original Call, then a **minimum 35% local match is required** for the incremental cost increase. This is one of the scoring criteria worth up to 34 points with more points given for a higher minimum local match so the higher the local match, the greater number of points awarded. Under Revised Cost, add the totals across from the two boxes to show Total, Metro share and Local share. Compute the percentages respectively for the Metro and Local percentage shares.

Item 8. Year and Amount of Incremental Metro Funding Requested:

Provide the amount of incremental Metro funding only for FY ~~06-07~~ 07-08 and/or FY 07-08 08-09.

Item 9. Year and Amount of Incremental Local Match:

Provide the amount and the source of the incremental Local match funding for both FY ~~06-07~~ 07-08 and/or FY ~~07-08~~ 08-09.

Item 10. Project Readiness Status (Up to 33 points):

Provide an update for the various project elements as shown in the box. Please include a start date and a completion date. Please tell us in how many months the project will be completed in the space provided (i.e. the months in which the project will be available for public use). Also, provide information as to the current status of the advertising, bidding, and award process. If already in construction, please note your project status, e.g. construction is 20% complete, or provide information that would be helpful for Metro to understand your current situation.

Item 11. Project Score Assessment (Up to 33 points):

No information is needed from project sponsor.

Item 12. Verification:

Please document as best you can that your Agency will be ready ~~and able to expend or obligate funds within the 18-month time frame to comply with the appropriate federal, state or local lapsing policies~~ by providing supporting documentation such as a cash flow and/or-project implementation schedule.

Item 13. Certification:

Please have a duly authorized person (person authorized to enter into agreements) sign for your Agency/organization. If applicable, please have co-sponsors sign as well.

Attachment A, Cash Flow:

To complete the cash flow, please provide us with a breakdown per Fiscal Year and by Quarter of the incremental funding required to complete your project. Please total the amounts in the bottom row called "Total Amount," and in the rightmost column called "Total Budget."

Metro Use Only
Project # _____
Mode: _____
Area: _____

2007 Metro Call for Projects

**Supplemental Funding Application for Existing Call Projects
for Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009**

NOTE TO APPLICANT: This application is only for projects which previously received Call for Projects funding. Each individual project must be submitted as a separate application. If awarded, Project Sponsors have ~~18 months from the Metro Board approval date to obligate (federal) or expend (non-federal) the funds~~ must adhere to the appropriate federal, state, or local lapsing policies. Certain funding types are subject to restrictions. Project Sponsors are requested to answer all sections of the application. Thank you.

PART I- General Project Information

1. METRO CALL FOR PROJECTS ID# _____

2. PROJECT TITLE _____

3. PROJECT SPONSOR
Lead Agency Name/Address: _____

Contact Person Name and Title: _____

Phone # and Fax #: _____

E-mail: _____

4. MODAL CATEGORY
- Regional Surface Transportation Improvements
 - Signal Synchronization & Bus Speed Improvements
 - Transit Capital
 - Bikeway (eligible for STIP TEA after FY 2008)
 - Pedestrian Improvements (eligible for STIP TEA after FY 2008)
 - Transportation Enhancement Activities (eligible for STIP TEA after FY 2008)
 - Transportation Demand Management (only federal CMAQ funds potentially available)

5. LOCAL SPONSOR PROJECT PRIORITY

If more than one application is being submitted per mode, what is your agency’s priority for this project in comparison to the total number of projects submitted for each mode (for informational purposes only)? # ____ out of ____.

6. JUSTIFICATION FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Please explain why your Agency is requesting additional financial support from Metro. Responses are limited to 250 words, minimum 12-point font. Also, please state whether you have federal clearance and/or can use federal funds.

7. PROJECT EXPENSES (up to 34 points will be given for an increased local share over the original percentage share):

ORIGINAL COST		INCREMENTAL COST INCREASE		REVISED COST	
Total		Total		Total	
Metro Share		Metro Share		Metro Share	
%		%		%	
Local Share		Local Share		Local Share	
%		%		%	

8. **YEAR AND AMOUNT OF INCREMENTAL METRO FUNDING REQUESTED:**
 (Funding request will not be escalated)

FY 07-08 \$_____ FY 08-09 \$_____

9. **YEAR AND AMOUNT OF INCREMENTAL LOCAL MATCH (include source):**
 (Funding request will not be escalated)

FY 07-08 \$_____ FY 08-09 \$_____

Source:_____ Source:_____

* Responses to Question 8 should total the amount under INCREMENTAL COST- Metro Share

* Responses to Question 9 should total the amount under INCREMENTAL COST- Local Share

10. **PROJECT READINESS STATUS (up to 33 points will be given for projects that are ready for construction or acquisition):** From the Metro Board approval date, how many months will your agency need to complete the project (completion defined as available for use by the general public)? _____ Months.

Provide an update for the project including the following as appropriate:

PHASE	START	COMPLETION
Environmental Clearance		
Preliminary Engineering		
Design		
Right-of-Way		
Construction		

- For construction, please include information as to when you will advertise and award a contract. If you are already in construction, what is your project status?

11. **PROJECT SCORE ASSESSMENT (Up to 33 points will be awarded).** All projects in each Call year will be standardized so that they can be compared fairly within each mode across all Call years. No information is required from the project sponsor. Metro will score the projects based upon previous Call for Projects.

12. Verification:

Depending upon the type of funds awarded, project sponsors ~~will have 18 months from the Metro Board approval date to encumber or expend funds~~ must adhere to the appropriate federal, state, or local lapsing policies. Please document to the best of your ability that your local jurisdiction will be ready and able to obligate or expend funds within this time frame by providing supporting documentation such as a cash flow and/or project implementation schedule (See Attachment).

CERTIFICATION:

A person duly authorized to sign for the organization (city manager, general manager, executive director, or high ranking officer) must sign and certify the application.

The applicant is responsible for meeting the terms and conditions of the Metro Board project approval, local match requirements, and the stipulations contained within the standard Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Letter of Agreement (LOA), State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) LOA, or Transit LOA.

I attest to the fact that the data submitted herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that the project will be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained to maximize safety:

Signature

Date

NAME

TITLE

Co-Sponsors: (If applicable)

Signature/Title

Signature/Title

ATTACHMENT A: CASH FLOW
 [CFP#, PROJECT TITLE]

SOURCES OF FUNDS	FY/ QTR	FY/ QTR	FY/ QTR	FY/ QTR	FY/ QTR	FY/ QTR	FY/ QTR	FY/ QTR	TOTAL BUDGET
METRO COMMITMENT:									
LOCAL MATCH: Specify Source:									
TOTAL AMOUNT:									

ATTACHMENT B

Modal Categories and Eligibility Criteria

Modal Application	Eligible Projects
Regional Surface Transportation Improvements	Major capital improvements and goods movement projects on regionally significant arterial highways such as: arterial widening, bottleneck intersection improvements, closure of gaps in the arterial system, grade separations, and other arterial improvements. Rehabilitation, Reconstruction and Repavement (3R) are eligible as a component of a larger capacity enhancing project.
Signal Synchronization & Bus Speed Improvements	Traffic signal synchronization, transit preferential treatment and priority systems, bottleneck intersection improvements, traffic control and monitoring systems, and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS).
Transportation Demand Management	Technology and/or innovation based strategies, Ridesharing Incentive/Disincentive Programs, Parking Management Programs, Transportation Facilities Amenities, and Commuter Service Centers.
Bikeway Improvements	Regionally significant projects providing Class I bike paths; Class II bike lanes; Class III bike routes connecting bikeway segments; bicycle underpasses, ramps or bridges; bike safety improvements; and bike amenities such as: bicycle parking, bicycle detection devices, intersection improvements, signage, lighting, fencing and incidental landscaping.

(continued on next page)

ATTACHMENT B (continued)

Modal Categories and Eligible Projects

Modal Application	Eligible Projects
Pedestrian Improvements	Pedestrian improvements that promote walking as a viable form of utilitarian travel, pedestrian safety, and an integral link within the overall transportation system.
Transit Capital	Bus capital, improvements or construction of transit stations, transit centers and park and ride lots, commuter rail stations, transit stop improvements and transit vehicle or transit equipment purchases.
Transportation Enhancement Activities	Acquisition of scenic or historic sites, scenic or historic highway programs, landscaping and scenic beautification, historic preservation, rehabilitation of historic transportation buildings, control and removal of outdoor advertising, archaeological planning and research, environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff, safety and educational activities for pedestrian and bicyclists, reduction of vehicle-caused wildlife mortality and establishment of transportation museums.