

**September 27, 2007**  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Metro Board of Directors Authorizes \$455 Million for Wide Array of Transportation Improvements**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors today approved \$454,520,000 for 169 LA County transportation projects that range from bridge widening and major street improvements to traffic signal synchronization, bikeways, pedestrian amenities and other local mobility projects as part of the 2007-2013 Countywide Call for Projects program.

The Countywide Call for Projects is a Metro-administered countywide program that awards funds on a competitive basis to local cities, the County of Los Angeles, municipal bus operators and other public agencies for improving mobility throughout LA County.

Transportation projects that have been funded under the program in the past include transit centers, freeway gap closures and carpool lanes, street widening, traffic signal synchronization, new bus purchases, bikeways and pedestrian improvements.

In this new Countywide Call for Projects, Metro is funding mobility improvements in eight categories:

- Regional Surface Transportation Improvements: \$218,609,000
- Signal Synchronization & Bus Speed Improvements: \$83,897,000
- Transportation Demand Management: \$7,079,000
- Bikeway Improvements: \$34,897,000
- Pedestrian Improvements: \$40,616,000
- Transit Capital: \$37,056,000
- Transit Capital (STIP Augmentation): \$11,390,000
- Transportation Enhancement Activities: \$12,828,000
- Supplemental Call: \$8,148,000

Some samples of the projects are:

### **Regional Surface Transportation Improvements**

**Nogales Street (LA Subdivision) Grade Separation Project:** This project is located on Nogales Street north of SR-60 between Gale Avenue and San Jose Creek in the city of Industry and the county of Los Angeles. This project will construct a grade separation for Nogales Street from the existing two Union Pacific Railroad tracks by lowering the roadway. The grade separation will include utility relocations, a railroad bridge and retaining walls to allow Nogales Street to pass under the tracks. In addition, Gale Avenue and Walnut Drive will be widened to accommodate two lanes of traffic in each direction; and the intersection of Nogales Street and Gale/Walnut will be widened to dual left turns lanes. This project will eliminate existing conflicts between the train and vehicular traffic, resulting in improvised safety and increased circulation. Funding: \$28,849,000

### **Signal Synchronization & Bus Speed Improvements Category**

**Atlantic Avenue Signal Synchronization and Enhancement Project:** This project implements demand responsive signal timing synchronization and closes two existing gaps in the interconnect system and will allow

bus signal priority on Atlantic Avenue between Warlord Road and Ocean Boulevard. Funding: \$2,706,000

**Fiber Optic Communication Gap Closure for Information Exchange Network (IEN) Expansion:** Project provides fiber optic interconnect and communication equipment for signal communication and synchronization between the north part of Glendale and Glendale's Traffic Management Center (TMC). It expands connection to the Los Angeles County IEN by an additional 12 mile of Glendale arterials. Funding: \$1,433,000

### **Bikeway Improvements**

**Downtown Santa Monica Bike Transit Station:** This project is for the design and construction of a 4,200 sq ft store front Bike-Transit/Clean Mobility Center in Santa Monica's downtown parking structure 2. The project will include attendant and self parking for 250 bicycles and 50 rentals bicycles, wayfinding signage to/from the facility, an office, repair space, restroom/changing room, lighting, and camera security system. Funding: \$1,669,000

### **Pedestrian Improvements**

**Eastside Light Rail Pedestrian Linkage:** This project extends the new Metro stations further into the surrounding community and improves pedestrian safety leading to Metro's Gold Line stations. The project includes pedestrian improvements and transit enhancements such as new pedestrian lights, stamped crosswalks, bicycle racks, trash receptacles, ADA access ramps, street trees with decorative trees wells, and decorative sidewalks. Improvements are within the ¼ mile area of each of the Metro Gold Line. Funding: \$2,392,000

### **Transit Capital**

**Baldwin Park Metrolink Transit Center:** The City of Baldwin Park Metrolink Transit Center will be part of a large transit oriented development that will include the construction of 200 dedicated transit user parking spaces, a new bus layover, and operator restroom. The project also funds a pedestrian paseo, which will connect Ramona Boulevard to the existing Metrolink platform, providing additional access to new retail and 300 proposed residential units. Funding is for design and construction costs only associated with the transit element of the total project. Funding: \$4,529,000

Metro received and evaluated 407 project applications totaling approximately \$1.7 billion in funding requests before paring the list. For a complete list of projects that have been funded, go to [www.metro.net/projects\\_programs/call\\_projects/default.htm](http://www.metro.net/projects_programs/call_projects/default.htm).

**Metro-179**