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**PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 19, 2008**

**SUBJECT: PROPOSITION 1B STATE AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION  
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

**ACTION: APPROVE PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATION**

**RECOMMENDATION**

A. Program \$130.0 million of the \$275.5 million anticipated Los Angeles County share of Proposition 1B State and Local Transportation Partnership Program (SLTPP) funds for the following eligible Los Angeles County transportation projects that are already funded (as shown in Attachment A):

- Interstate 5 South from Orange County Line to SR 605 \$50.0 million
- Interstate 5/Carmenita Interchange \$40.0 million
- Interstate 5 North Carpool Lanes from SR 118 to SR 170 \$40.0 million

B. Program the remaining \$145.5 million in SLTPP funds to the following (as shown in Attachment A):

- Metro Bus and Rail Transit Capital and Safety Improvements \$41.3 million
- San Fernando Valley North-South Canoga Corridor \$73.8 million
- Metrolink Safety Improvements \$20.0 million
- 2009 Countywide Call for Projects \$10.4 million; and

C. Re-program the \$130.0 million of local sales tax funds released by the SLTPP programming action in "A" above to the following (as shown in Attachment A):

- San Fernando Valley North-South Canoga Corridor (match) \$73.8 million
- East San Fernando Valley North-South Corridor (match) \$ 2.7 million
- Metrolink Safety Improvements (match) \$20.0 million
- 2009 Countywide Call for Projects \$33.5 million.

## ISSUE

The Proposition 1B State and Local Partnership Program (SLTPP) provides \$1.0 billion to “Self-Help” Counties that have provided voter-approved dedicated transportation funds for transportation projects and to local agencies that have voter-approved tolls or development fees dedicated to transportation. We anticipate that Los Angeles County will receive approximately \$275.5 million in SLTPP funds, which can be used only on transportation projects and programs that have at least 50% voter-approved local transportation funds as match. All funds in the SLTPP Account are to be made available for the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to allocate over a period of five years, starting as early as January-February 2009.

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The SLTPP provides additional resources to augment Los Angeles County’s voter-approved sales taxes dedicated to transportation. These funds would allow us to program approximately \$275.5 million for eligible regional transportation projects and provide Los Angeles County agencies that cannot utilize these funds directly with an infusion of funds through the Countywide Call for Projects process. Based on the eligibility criteria, we recommend that \$130.0 million be programmed for eligible highway capital projects that are already funded. We also recommend that another \$145.5 million be programmed for transit capital and safety projects, including the San Fernando Valley North-South Canoga Project (\$73.8 million), various Metro bus and rail projects (\$41.3 million), proposed Metrolink safety improvements (\$20.0 million), and the 2009 Countywide Call for Projects (\$10.4 million) respectively. These programming actions would thereby “release” an equivalent \$130.0 million in Los Angeles County sales tax funds that we recommend be used as match for the San Fernando Valley North-South Canoga Project (Canoga Project), proposed Metrolink safety improvements, an augmentation to the Call for Projects starting in fiscal year (FY) 2010, and for the East San Fernando Valley North-South Corridor Project (East Valley Project).

Our recommended actions would provide a prudent use of the SLTPP funds for ready-to-go projects and programs and provide the means to support the intent of the implementing state legislation by allowing access to these funds for local sponsors through the Countywide Call for Projects. In addition, currently suspended state Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) funds programmed to the ready-to-go Canoga Project will be transferred now instead to the East Valley Project. We believe that these TCRP funds could become available in the future, when that East Valley Project (still in the planning phase) should be ready to utilize the TCRP funds. As the Canoga Project is ready-to-go and construction costs are volatile, it would be advantageous for us to program the local sales tax dollars released to fund the \$147.6 million needed to complete the funding for the Canoga Project.

## OPTIONS

The Board of Directors may choose not to approve our recommendation; however, these SLTPP funds are restricted to specific uses, must be used within three years of allocation, and come with a 50% local sales tax match requirement. The CTC is expected to make available all \$1.0 billion from the SLTPP Account over a five-year period from 2009. We believe that we have determined the optimal programming option for these funds to reach

the widest possible application, while also meeting eligibility and timely use of fund requirements.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The SLTPP funds will provide an additional \$275.5 million for Los Angeles County transportation projects and improvements. As the funds require a 50% local match, only specific projects are eligible under the funding criteria. The SLTPP will release an equivalent \$130.0 million that can be used to augment projects that are ready-to-go and not yet fully funded. The Canoga Project will be ready-to-go in 2009 and will be able to utilize \$147.6 million to backfill for deferred TCRP funding and to supplement \$70.0 million in Proposition 1B Transit Modernization funding that the Board of Directors previously committed. Also, the Call for Projects will be able to distribute an additional \$43.9 million for transportation projects countywide. As our recommendation applies to multi-year projects, the Chief Planning Officer and individual project managers for each activity will be responsible for budgeting the costs in future years.

## **BACKGROUND**

The 2008 State Budget Act included the provisions to establish criteria and conditions for the use of \$1.0 billion in Proposition 1 B funds to the State-Local Partnership Program Account. This program is part of the \$19.9 billion Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Fund of 2006. The purpose of the SLTPP is to do both of the following:

- Reward "self-help" counties, cities, districts, and regional transportation agencies in which voters have approved fees or taxes solely dedicated to transportation improvements; and
- Provide funds for a wide variety of capital projects that are typically funded in local or regional voter-approved expenditure plans and that provide mobility, accessibility, system connectivity, safety, or air quality benefits.

The SLTPP Account requires that eligible projects provide at least 50% local matching funds from revenues that originated with any voter-approved local or regional tax or fee solely dedicated to transportation improvements or from uniform developer fees to obtain funding under this program. Eligible projects include the following:

- Improvements to the state highway system, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
  - Major rehabilitation of an existing segment that extends the useful life of the segment by at least 15 years;
  - New construction to increase capacity of a highway segment that improves mobility or reduces congestion on that segment; and
  - Safety or operational improvements on a highway segment that are intended to reduce accidents and fatalities or improve traffic flow on that segment.

- Improvements to transit facilities, including guideways, that expand transit services, increase transit ridership, improve transit safety, enhance access or convenience of the traveling public, or otherwise provide or facilitate a viable alternative to driving.
- The acquisition, retrofit, or rehabilitation of rolling stock, buses, or other transit equipment, including, but not limited to, maintenance facilities, transit stations, transit guideways, passenger shelters, and fare collection equipment with a useful life of at least 10 years. The acquisition of vans, buses, and other equipment necessary for the provision of transit services for seniors and people with disabilities by transit and other local agencies is an eligible project under this paragraph.
- Improvements to the local road system, including, but not limited to the following:
  - Major roadway rehabilitation, resurfacing; or reconstruction that extends its useful life by at least 15 years; and
  - New construction and facilities to increase capacity, improve mobility, or enhance safety.
- Improvements to bicycle or pedestrian safety or mobility with a useful life of at least 15 years.
- Improvements to mitigate the environmental impacts of new transportation infrastructure on a locality's or region's air quality or water quality, commonly known as "urban runoff," including, but not limited to, the installation of catch basin screens, filters, and inserts, or other best management practices for capturing or treating urban runoff.

Based upon eligibility requirements, we are recommending that \$171.3 million in SLTPP funds be programmed to the following projects:

- *Interstate 5 South from Orange County Line to SR 605 (\$50.0 million)*  
This project has a local match that could utilize approximately \$50.0 million of SLTPP to fully fund it. This will keep the total project funding at \$1.2 billion and release \$50.0 million in Proposition C 25% funds. The total funding for this project is \$1.2 billion.
- *Interstate 5 South Carmenita Interchange (\$40.0 million)*  
This project has a local match that could utilize \$40.0 million of SLTPP funds to fully fund it. This will keep the total project funding at \$379.0 million and release \$40.0 million in Proposition C 25% funds. The total funding for this project is \$379.0 million.
- *Interstate 5 North Carpool Lanes form SR 118 to SR 170 (\$40.0 million)*  
This project has a local match that could utilize \$40.0 million of SLTPP funds to fully fund it. This will keep the total project funding at \$321.0 million and release \$40.0 million in Proposition C 25% funds. The total funding for this project is \$321.0 million.

- *Metro Transit Capital and Safety Improvements (\$41.3 million)*  
These projects have local match that could utilize approximately \$41.3 million over the five-year period. Eligible projects include bus and rail capital upgrades, Transit Access Pass (TAP) infrastructure, 7<sup>th</sup>/Metro Metro Rail station emergency egress, Metro Red/Purple Line Gating, Metro Rapid program upgrades and other infrastructure improvements throughout the system.

In total, utilizing the SLTPP funds as described herein will release approximately \$130.0 million in local sales tax funds that we are recommending be coupled with the remaining \$104.2 million in SLTPP funds for the following:

- *San Fernando Valley North-South Canoga Project (\$147.6 million)*  
This Canoga Project utilizes the existing right-of-way along Canoga Avenue providing an extension of the existing Metro Orange Line to the Chatsworth area. It will be ready to go in 2009. We originally intended to use funds from the state TCRP program that identified \$100.0 million for a North-South San Fernando Valley project. The CTC, however, has suspended any new TCRP funds in the near term due to a legal appeals process that prevents the issuance of planned Tribal Gaming Bonds. The current cost for the Canoga Project is estimated to be \$223.6 million, assuming a 2013 opening date. In total, \$6.0 million has been expended from prior funds (including \$5.5 million in TCRP funds), and \$70.0 million has been programmed from Proposition 1B Transit Modernization funds, which leaves the \$147.6 million project funding need that is addressed by our recommendation.
- *East San Fernando Valley North-South Corridor Project (\$2.7 million)*  
In cooperation with LACMTA and the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering (LABOE), the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) is undertaking a Bus Speed Improvement Project for four eastern San Fernando Valley North-South transit routes: Van Nuys Boulevard, Reseda Boulevard, Lankershim Boulevard and San Fernando Road. This East Valley Project will analyze bus speed delays along the four routes, identify specific engineering enhancements for each route to achieve targeted bus speed improvements and provide preliminary traffic and civil engineering plans for these improvements. Our Board also directed that the City conduct any required environmental clearance of the improvements. The project will build upon the previous "San Fernando Valley North-South Transit Corridor Regionally-Significant Transportation Study" that LACMTA and LADOT prepared in 2003.

We recommend programming \$93.6 million in the unallocated or unspent North-South San Fernando Valley TCRP funds to the East Valley Project, instead of the Canoga Project. Currently, \$0.9 million of allocated TCRP funds is already programmed for the East Valley improvements. Since current cost estimates for this project are approximately \$100.0 million, we recommend an additional programming amount of \$5.5 million in this action. Of this \$5.5 million amount, \$2.75 million can be provided through our released funds category and the other \$2.75 million can be provided through the "Metro Transit Capital Improvement and Safety Project" that we are recommending for direct SLTPP funding.

- *Metrolink Safety Improvements (\$40.0 million)*  
Due to the recent Metrolink/Union Pacific rail collision near Chatsworth, the Board of Directors has requested support for increased safety upgrades for the commuter rail system. As we are a major funding partner in the Metrolink commuter rail system, we recommend programming approximately \$20.0 million match and \$20.0 million LACMTA commitment from funds released, for a total of \$40.0 million, toward eligible rail safety upgrades such as positive train control or other improvements. This \$40.0 million will help augment other funding sources programmed or contemplated for Metrolink safety improvements.
- *2009 Countywide Call for Projects (\$43.9 million)*  
As the SLTPP rewards sales tax counties that have taxed themselves to augment the regional transportation system, we recommend that \$10.4 million be programmed from the \$104.2 million remaining from the SLTPP funds and an additional \$33.45 million from the local sales tax funds released by the re-programming action be used for the Call for Projects. This will allow local sponsors in the county to directly and indirectly access the SLTPP funds through the Call for Projects. We will ensure that only SLTPP fund-eligible projects can use these Call funds.

#### NEXT STEPS

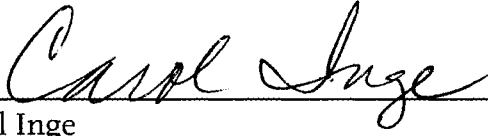
If the Board of Directors approves our recommendation, we will immediately begin seeking the grant approvals necessary to receive the SLTPP Account funds. The CTC is expected to begin allocations as early as January-February 2009.

#### ATTACHMENT

A. Proposition 1B State and Local Transportation Partnership Program Programming Plan

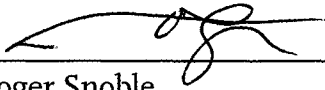
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**PROPOSITION 1B STATE AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM PROGRAMMING PLAN**

(\$ '000s)

Project Description	Programmed Total	FY 09	FY 10	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13
SLTTP Expected Revenue	\$275,500	\$55,100	\$55,100	\$55,100	\$55,100	\$55,100
Interstate 5 South from Orange County Line to SR 605	\$ 50,000			\$ 15,750	\$ 16,000	\$ 18,250
Interstate 5 South Carmenita Interchange	40,000	25,650	10,000	4,350		
Interstate 5 North Carpool Lanes form SR 118 to SR 170	40,000	25,100	14,900			
<b>SUB TOTAL PROJECTS WITH FULLY PROGRAMMED FUNDING</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>50,750</b>	<b>24,900</b>	<b>20,100</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>18,250</b>
Metro Transit Capital and Safety Improvement	41,300	4,350	10,200	5,000	9,000	12,750
MetroLink Safety Improvements	20,000			10,000	10,000	
San Fernando Valley North-South Canoga Project	73,800		20,000	20,000	15,000	18,800
Call for Projects	10,400				5,100	5,300
<b>SUB TOTAL PROJECTS WITHOUT FULLY PROGRAMMED FUNDING</b>	<b>145,500</b>	<b>4,350</b>	<b>30,200</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>39,100</b>	<b>36,850</b>
<b>TOTAL SLTTP PROGRAMMING ACTION</b>	<b>275,500</b>	<b>55,100</b>	<b>55,100</b>	<b>55,100</b>	<b>55,100</b>	<b>55,100</b>

MetroLink Safety Improvements	20,000			10,000	10,000	
San Fernando Valley North-South Canoga Project	73,800		20,000	20,000	15,000	18,800
Call for Projects	33,450		11,200	10,000	10,000	2,250
East San Fernando Valley North-South Corridor Project	2,750					2,750
<b>TOTAL RE-PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS RELEASED</b>	<b>\$ 130,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 31,200</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>	<b>\$ 35,000</b>	<b>\$ 23,800</b>

NOTE - Annual programmed amounts for projects are estimated and may be revised depending upon individual project needs and state funding availability, without changing total programmed amounts for projects.