



Metro

Interoffice Memo

Date	March 22, 2013
To	Michele Jackson Board Staff
From	Martha Welborne
Subject	Item 19 (2/14/2013) – Restoration of Historic Streetcar Service in Downtown Los Angeles – Response to Board Staff Inquiry

Background:

Item 19 was approved on February 29, 2013 to authorize the CEO to approve a contract modification for additional professional services to complete the environmental document and the Small Starts application for the Project.

Inquiry:

Receive notice if there is any compromise to MTA's ability to apply for Small Starts funding without competition from this project.

Response:

There is potentially a modest compromise in Metro's ability to apply for Small Starts funding in the case there is an overlap of funding allocation with a potential candidate project in Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017.

The City of Los Angeles is scheduled to submit a Small Starts application for the Streetcar project by the end of this FY13, with the requested amount ranging from \$63-75 million. It is anticipated that the grant agreement would be executed in FY15. A majority of the funds would be allocated in FY15, FY16, with a small remainder in FY17.

Metro does not plan to submit a Small Starts application this fiscal year. Metro has initiated a Draft EIS/R for the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor which is exploring both BRT and LRT alternatives. There may be an opportunity to apply for Small Starts funding for the BRT alternative, if the total project cost meets the \$250 million threshold. At this time, it is too early in the analysis to know. Should the BRT alternative ultimately meet the Small Starts threshold and the Board selects this alternative as the LPA in the fall of 2014, the earliest Metro could consider submitting an application would be in the latter half of FY14. The majority of the Small Starts funds for the Streetcar project, if awarded, would be FY16, FY17 and FY18. Therefore, there could potentially be an overlap of funding allocation between the projects in the years FY16 and FY17.