



**PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE
JANUARY 19, 2005**

**SUBJECT: LA BREA COMMUNITY LINKAGES - STATION AREA PLAN
FOR THE MID-CITY/EXPOSITION TRANSIT CORRIDOR**

**ACTION: AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO ACCEPT A
COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GRANT TOTTALLING \$191,636,
AMEND THE FY05 BUDGET, AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH
THE TRANSPORTATION & LAND USE COLLABORATIVE (TLUC)**

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to:

- A. Accept a Community Based Planning Grant from CALTRANS for a total of \$191,636 to prepare a La Brea Light Rail Station Area/ Community Linkages Plan;
- B. Enter into an Agreement with Transportation and Land Use Collaborative of Southern California (the sub-recipient of the grant) to prepare a La Brea Light Rail Station Area/ Community Linkages Plan in coordination with Metro;
- C. Amend the FY05 budget to reflect the increase in revenues and expenditures;

ISSUE

The Transportation and Land Use Collaborative of Southern California (TLUC) and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) have the opportunity to accept a CALTRANS community-based transportation planning grant in the amount of \$191,636, to fund a Community Linkages/Station Area Plan for the La Brea Light Rail Station on the Mid-City/Exposition Light Rail Transit Corridor. See Scope of Work in Attachment A. Metro will participate as the fiscal agent (recipient) for the grant and partner with TLUC to coordinate the Community Linkages/Station Area Study.

A Community Linkages/Station Area Study will use a community-based planning process to recommend designs for the area immediately surrounding the proposed La Brea Avenue Station on the planned Exposition Light Rail Line. Among the issues to be considered are station-specific community linkages, pedestrian safety, traffic safety, transportation-oriented development concepts, streetscape improvements, residential needs and economic

development concerns. Invited collaborators would include the City of Los Angeles, Caltrans, various community stakeholders, and the general public.

TLUC and Metro will provide an in-kind 20% local match needed to obtain this grant. This grant will not require additional FTEs, given that Metro (Planning) staff will not complete additional work beyond what was already envisioned in current work plans for this station area.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Acceptance of the CALTRANS grant is consistent with Metro Policy to:

- Promote and enhance transit ridership
- Enhance and protect the transportation corridor and its environment
- Enhance the land use and economic development goals of surrounding communities
- Conform to local and regional development plans

OPTIONS

The Board could choose not to accept the grant. This option is not recommended, as the preparation of a station area/community linkages plan for the future La Brea Station on the Mid-City/Exposition Light Rail Transit Corridor will enhance the development of the project. Furthermore, by not accepting this grant Metro will forgo an opportunity to build on community/stakeholder dialogue that has been initiated in the community outreach of the Mid-City/Exposition Light Rail Transit Project.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Approval of this action will authorize staff to amend the FY05 operating budget.

DISCUSSION

TLUC prepared and submitted an application for a Community-Based Transportation Planning Grant to the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) in December 2002. The initial project area was identified as the Venice/Washington Station of the Mid-City/Exposition LRT Project. CALTRANS requires a public sponsor serve as the fiscal agent of a grant award. Given the location of the initial Project Area TLUC engaged in dialogue with Culver City and Metro so as to identify who could partner with TLUC to receive the grant.

Upon further discussion, TLUC and Metro identified the La Brea Light Rail Transit Station as the most suitable location for the planning study. On May 2004, CALTRANS awarded a Community-Based Transportation Grant to Metro & TLUC to provide a Station Area/

Community Linkages Plan for the La Brea Light Rail Station Area in the amount of \$191,636. See Project Schedule & Costs summary in Attachment B.

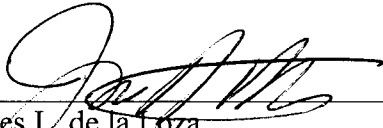
NEXT STEPS

If approved by the Board, staff would execute the necessary grant agreements and initiate work on the study with the Transportation and Land Use Collaborative. Upon completion of the study, the Station Area Plan would be brought back to the Board for approval.

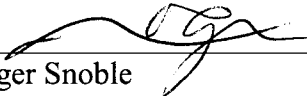
ATTACHMENTS

- A. Scope of Work
- B. Project Schedule & Costs

Prepared by: Adrian Alvarez, Project Manager
Westside Area Team



James L. de la Loza
Chief Planning Officer
Countywide Planning and Development



Roger Snoble
Chief Executive Officer

Summary of Project

Metro, along with the Transportation and Land Use Collaborative of Southern California (TLUC), propose a community-based planning process to design and develop a station area and community linkages plan for the area immediately surrounding the proposed La Brea Station of the Mid-City/Exposition Light Rail Transit Project. This project will collectively address crucial transportation and land-use planning issues at, and within a ¼ mile radius of the La Brea Station. The area is currently a confluence of vehicular traffic on major arterials, including traffic from the nearby Santa Monica (I-10) Freeway, and the immediate vicinity of the station area is predominantly served by commercial, light industrial and residential uses.

The La Brea Station is situated in a moderately dense neighborhood, with 14,023 people living within the station area. According to the 2000 Census data the median income in the station's census tract is less than \$20,000 and approximately 78% of local residents are Hispanic or Latino, African-American or Asian. These results imply an ethnically diverse population that will benefit tremendously from the improved access to regional jobs and services as a result of the Mid-City/Exposition LRT Project and community linkages/station area planning.

The community-based planning process proposed here would enable neighbors, community groups, property owners, interested developers, and the local municipality and government agencies to participate in a joint planning project to envision public and private land-use concepts to revitalize the La Brea Station area. Among the issues considered would be community linkages, bicycle linkages, pedestrian safety, traffic safety, traffic congestion, transportation-oriented development concepts, streetscape enhancements, residential needs and economic development concerns.

Metro has started a station design planning process for the Mid-City/Exposition LRT Project. Metro views station area planning/community linkages as a natural companion to the work on the Mid-City/Exposition LRT Project that is underway, by building on the community dialogue that has been initiated. The last official planning document completed of the area was the 1990's update of the West Adams-Baldwin Hills-Leimert Community Plan, conducted by the Los Angeles City Planning Department.

Summary of Proposed Workshops/Committees to be Implemented

Creation of a Project Committee:

A preliminary committee comprised of representatives of TLUC, Metro, Caltrans, and Los Angeles planning, redevelopment and local City Council staffs and other jurisdictional transportation agencies will meet to discuss jurisdictional/technical concerns and finalize an outreach strategy. The committee would select specific meeting times, dates, locations and outreach efforts. TLUC and its project manager will take the lead through out this planning process to ensure a thorough and timely completion.

TLUC and the committee members will meet periodically throughout the process to ensure that concerns are raised and addressed on an on-going basis.

Community Meetings/Workshops:

Five initial outreach meetings with community groups and local officials/agencies will identify issues and potential solutions, resulting in a series of draft recommendations. Community representatives from each of the five community meetings would be selected, to serve on the committee.

Metro & TLUC may contract with an independent urban design firm as necessary to lead the educational outreach and design development component of the five community meetings. The design firm would also be responsible for working with the appropriate Planning and Transportation staff to develop conceptual site plans as the plan is developed.

Expanded Project Committee:

The final committee (which now will include community members as well) will meet no fewer than four times to draft a plan in preparation for presentation to the community.

Public Plan Review Workshops:

The plan will be reviewed at two additional community meetings. A presentation of the plan will be followed by community discussion and a public comment period.

Finalizing the Plan:

The committee then will hold conclusive meetings to review the public comments and finalize the plan.

Release of the Plan:

Presentation of the plan will be made to the public, officials of the City of Los Angeles as well as Metro, Caltrans and other interested parties.

Attachment B
 La Brea Light Rail Station Area Plan
 Project Schedule & Costs

TASKS	Duration (months)	Total Cost	Grant Funds	TLUC In Kind Match	Metro In Kind Match
Phase I: Startup	4	\$47,355	\$38,613 (16%)	\$7,742 (3%)	\$1,000 (0.4%)
Phase II: Outreach/Draft Plan	9	\$86,648	\$72,006 (30%)	\$7,242 (3%)	\$7,400 (3.1%)
Phase III: Draft Final Plan/Public Commentaries	5	\$51,049	\$38,783 (16%)	\$11,266 (5%)	\$1,000 (0.4%)
Phase IV: Final Report	2	\$54,492	\$42,234 (18%)	\$11,258 (5%)	\$1,000 (0.4%)
TOTAL COST PHASES I-IV	*17 Months Total Project Duration*	\$239,544	\$191,636 (80%)	\$37,508 (16%)	\$10,400 (4%)

Thursday, January 20, 2005 9:30 A.M.

Agenda

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Executive Management and Audit Committee Meeting

One Gateway Plaza
3rd Floor Boardroom

Call to Order

Directors

Frank Roberts, Chair
James Hahn, Vice Chair
John Fasana
Gloria Molina
Zev Yaroslavsky
Ron Wong, non-voting member

Officers

Roger Snoble, Chief Executive Officer
Michele Jackson, Board Secretary
Karen Gorman, Ethics Officer
William Waters, Inspector General
County Counsel, General Counsel



METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD RULES (ALSO APPLIES TO BOARD COMMITTEES)

PUBLIC INPUT

The meetings of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board are open to the public. A member of the public may address the Board on **one agenda item** per meeting; and/or on **one** item of interest which is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Each person will be allowed to speak for **one minute**. The Board may limit the public input on any item, based on the number of people requesting to speak and the business of the Board. **A request to address the Board must be submitted in person at the meeting to the Board Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.**

Public Comment will be heard at the end of each meeting. The public shall have the opportunity to comment for one minute on Agenda items before or during the Board or Committee's consideration of the item up to five minutes per item, or at the discretion of the Chair. ***This requirement shall not apply if the opportunity for public comment on the item was previously provided by a Committee or other meeting at which a quorum was present and the item has not substantially changed since the committee hearing.*** All requests for Public Comment must be submitted prior to the posted start time of each meeting.

The public may also address the MTA on non-agenda items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the MTA or a Committee during the Public Comment period indicated on the Agenda. Individuals may speak no more than once during the Public Comment period. Public Comment will last a maximum of twenty minutes, or as otherwise indicated by the Chair. Speakers will be called according to the order in which the speaker request forms are received until the Public Comment period has expired.

Each individual will have the opportunity to speak only once during the Public Comment period. The Public Comment period will last thirty minutes maximum in length. Speaker will be called in the order in which the speaker request forms are received until the thirty minute period has expired. The Chair may limit the public input on any item or the total amount of time allocated for public testimony based on the number of people requesting to speak and the business of the Board. **If you are a party to a specific item, you will be called upon to speak at the time that issue is being considered.**

In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.3(a) the Chair may from time to time dispense with public comment on items previously considered by a committee composed exclusively of Board members.

In accordance with State Law (Brown Act), all matters to be acted on by the MTA Board must be posted at least 72 hours prior to the Board meeting. In case of emergency, or when a subject matter arises subsequent to the posting of the agenda, upon making certain findings, the Board may act on an item that is not on the posted agenda.

CONDUCT IN THE BOARD ROOM The following rules pertain to conduct at Metropolitan Transportation Authority meetings:

REMOVAL FROM THE BOARD ROOM The Chair shall order removed from the Board Room any person who commits the following acts with respect to any meeting of the MTA Board:

- Disorderly behavior toward the Board or any member of the staff thereof, tending to interrupt the due and orderly course of said meeting.
- A breach of the peace, boisterous conduct or violent disturbance, tending to interrupt the due and orderly course of said meeting.
- Disobedience of any lawful order of the Chair, which shall include an order to be seated or to refrain from addressing the Board; and
- Any other unlawful interference with the due and orderly course of said meeting.

INFORMATION RELATING TO AGENDAS AND ACTIONS OF THE BOARD

Agendas for the Regular MTA Board meetings are prepared by the Board Secretary and are available prior to the meeting in the MTA Records Management Department and on the Internet.

Every meeting of the MTA Board of Directors is recorded on cassette tapes, and duplicate tapes are available for a nominal charge. A Spanish language translator is available at all Board Meetings. Translators for other languages must be requested 72 hours in advance. After each Board meeting, a record is prepared which indicates the actions taken by the Board. This record is available on the second business day following the meeting.

DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

The State Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 84308) requires that a party to a proceeding before an agency involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use including all contracts (other than competitively bid, labor, or personal employment contracts), shall disclose on the record of the proceeding any contributions in an amount of more than \$250 made within the preceding 12 months by the party, or his or her agent, to any officer of the agency, additionally PUC Code Sec. 130051.20 requires that no member accept a contribution of over ten dollars (\$10) in value or amount from a construction company, engineering firm, consultant, legal firm, or any company, vendor, or business entity that has contracted with the authority in the preceding four years. Persons required to make this disclosure shall do so by filling out a "Disclosure of Contribution" form which is available at the LACMTA Board and Committee Meetings. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the assessment of civil or criminal penalties.

ADA REQUIREMENTS

A cordless microphone is available for those persons with mobility impairments who cannot access the public speaking area. Sign language interpreter services are available by giving notice at least three business days in advance of the meeting. Please telephone (213) 922-4600 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Our TDD line is (800)252-9040.

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Copies of Agendas/Record of Board Action/Cassette Tapes of Meetings - (213) 922-2335 (Records Management Department)

General Information/Rules of the Board - (213) 922-4600

Internet Access to Agendas - www.mta.net

TDD line (800) 252-9040

NOTE: ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM IDENTIFIED ON THE AGENDA.

13. RECEIVE report of the Chief Executive Officer.
14. RECEIVE oral **Federal Affairs update**.
15. RECEIVE AND FILE report on **Audit Activities** from the Office of Inspector General.
16. CONSIDER:
 - A. adopting the updated **LACMTA Investment Policy**;
 - B. delegating to the Treasurer or his/her designees, the authority to invest funds for a one-year period, pursuant to California Government Code Section 53607; and
 - C. approving the Financial Institutions Resolution authorizing financial institutions to honor signatures of LACMTA officials.
17. APPROVE the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority **Fiscal Year 2006 Financial Standards**.
18. APPROVE in concept **proposed legislative language pertaining to our procurement processes**, contribution and financial interest limits, and post employment restrictions. **SUPPORT**
19. CONSIDER:
 - A. receiving and filing report of Procurement's **comparative analysis of procurement manuals from other agencies and Sandia National Laboratories**; and
 - B. rewrite the Procurement manual.

20. AMEND Board policy GEN-34, "Metro System Advertising: Revenue-Generating & Informational", **to allow revenue-generating advertising to be posted on the exteriors of Metro Rapid vehicles.**

21. AUTHORIZE the Chief Executive Officer to execute a 10-year revenue contract with Transit Television Network to install, operate, maintain, and sell **advertising on a passenger information system** (consisting of small video screens on the bus fleet) in exchange for a minimum annual payment of \$100,000 or ten percent of gross advertising revenues, whichever is greater.

22. AUTHORIZE the Chief Executive Officer to enter into agreement(s) with the Los Angeles to **Pasadena Metro Blue Line Construction Authority (Construction Authority)** that would affect the following:
 - A. Transfer of the Del Mar Gold Line Station Parking Structure to Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) ownership and management, subject to Construction Authority and City of Pasadena approvals;
 - B. Exchange of \$2,951,036 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 Federal Bus Capital earmarked funding with the Construction Authority for an equivalent amount of local sales tax funds, so that the funds may be used for making final payments to Phase I contractors and closing out Phase I construction contracts, subject to the Construction Authority seeking the appropriate federal approvals that would allow for the exchange of funds contemplated;
 - C. Advance of \$10 million of previously identified funding from the LACMTA Short Range Transportation Plan for Los Angeles County (SRTP) from FY 08 to FY 06, programmed but not dispersed, so that it may be used towards an initial property purchase for a rail maintenance facility upon notification from the Construction Authority that they are ready for escrow; and
 - D. Entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to review the planning, design and construction of the Phase II extension as required by the Construction Authority's enabling legislation SB 1847 and draft of an MOU no later than June 2005.

23. **LUDLOW MOTION** – The Los Angeles County Counsel provides representation and advice to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, County Departments and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA);

The MTA Board of Directors is comprised of all five members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and elected officials from the City of Los Angeles and outlying cities. The County Counsel may be in conflict in its duties as counsel for County Board of Supervisors and to the Board of Directors of the MTA.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that staff report to the February Executive Management and Audit Committee and Regular Board meetings on the feasibility of creating an MTA Counsel.

24. CLOSED SESSION:

A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – G.C. 54956.9 (a):

1. Robinson v. MTA SC080118
2. CUNA Mutual Life Insurance v. MTA BC171223

B. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release – G. C. 54957

Consideration of items not on the posted agenda, including: items to be presented and (if requested) referred to staff; items to be placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Committee or Board; and/or items requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC INTEREST WITHIN COMMITTEE'S SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

ADJOURNMENT