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Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
May 21, 2009

SUBJECT: EXEMPTION FROM HIRING FREEZE

**ACTION: APPROVE EXEMPTION FROM HIRING FREEZE TO FILL VACANT
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING MANAGER V**

RECOMMENDATION

Approve an exemption to the hiring freeze to fill one vacant Transportation Planning Manager V position in the Local Programming section (cost center 4430) of Programming and Policy Analysis.

ISSUE

The Board of Directors approved a motion at its December 4, 2008 meeting to freeze hiring, promotions and any other form of compensation increase for all employees, and to ban new consulting contracts, unless specifically exempted by the Board.

The approved motion allows for the following exemptions:

- Hiring of employees required for the operation, maintenance and safety of LACMTA's transit systems (not including indirect costs)
- Hiring of employees required for the safety of other facilities and property owned or controlled by LACMTA
- Promotions and any other form of compensation increase as required by LACMTA Board-ratified memoranda of understanding
- Hiring of employees (not including indirect costs) or execution of new consulting contracts related to safety, Measure R implementation, Proposition 1B funding, congestion pricing, homeland security or legal support necessary and appropriate to minimize LACMTA's potential liabilities and protect its legal interests

Filling any vacant positions that do not meet the Board's criteria for exemptions to the hiring freeze require Board approval.

RATIONALE

The position provides senior management-level support primarily in managing the commuter rail program and associated passenger rail oversight activities with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA)/Metrolink such as service levels, cost sharing, budget, risk management and other issues. More specifically, the position works with SCRRA staff to develop the Los Angeles County share of the Metrolink annual budget that is expected to be financed largely with Proposition C 10% and Measure R 3% revenues. The position also will be formulating the new Measure R policy framework for Metrolink and analyzing the Metrolink Five-Year Investment Plan. In addition, the position facilitates monthly briefings of LACMTA Board members, Board staff and other LACMTA-appointed representatives on the SCRRA Board to develop consensus positions before SCRRA Board meetings. As the position is indirectly related to Measure R implementation in part, it requires Board approval to fill.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for the position is included in the FY09 budget and in the FY10 proposed budget in cost center 4430, projects 405533, 405511 and 300015. The source of funds for this position is a combination of Prop A, C and TDA admin and Prop C10%. None of these funds are eligible for bus and rail operating or capital expenditures.

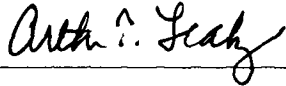
ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The alternative of not filling the position is not recommended due to the importance of these oversight activities with the SCRRA/Metrolink.

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