

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: June 26, 2003

Reference No.: 2.1c.(7)
Action Item

From: ROBERT L. GARCIA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Ross Chittenden
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Traffic Congestion Relief Program

Ref: **TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF (TCR) PROGRAM APPLICATION AMENDMENT
APPROVALS, RESOLUTION TAA-03-06, Amending Resolution TA-02-06**

BACKGROUND:

At the December 2002 meeting, the California Transportation Commission (Commission) took action to defer approval of any additional Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) applications and allocations due to the continuing economic challenges faced by the State. The Governor signed Executive Order D-49-01, BL 02-21, directing all State agencies and departments to reduce expenditures in order to achieve General Fund savings wherever possible. The Governor's Budget May Revision proposes a partial suspension of the General Fund transfer to the TIF. The \$207 million will be transferred to the TIF, then to the TCRF, to reimburse eligible project costs for those projects with an existing allocation. The budget proposal does not include additional funding needed to make new allocation of funds from the TCRF. These actions will have direct impacts on the TCRP.

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) defer approval of Resolution TA-03-06 for the following Traffic Congestion Relief Program application amendment for \$14,000,000 in new TCR funding until such time as the legislative consideration and action regarding the Administration's fiscal year spending proposals has been determined, or until the applicant agency identifies an alternate funding source and proceeds with the project under an approved Letter of No Prejudice. A fact sheet describing the project is attached.

- Project #37.2 – Los Angeles Mid-City Transit Improvements; build Light Rail Transit system along Exposition Blvd. in Los Angeles County. Amend application to program an additional \$14,000,000 in TCR funding for Phase 1 – Environmental and Permits (ENV) and update schedule for Phase 1 – ENV, as well as overall project cost and schedule. Original TCR application approved under Resolution TA-02-06. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is requesting this amendment.

Attachments

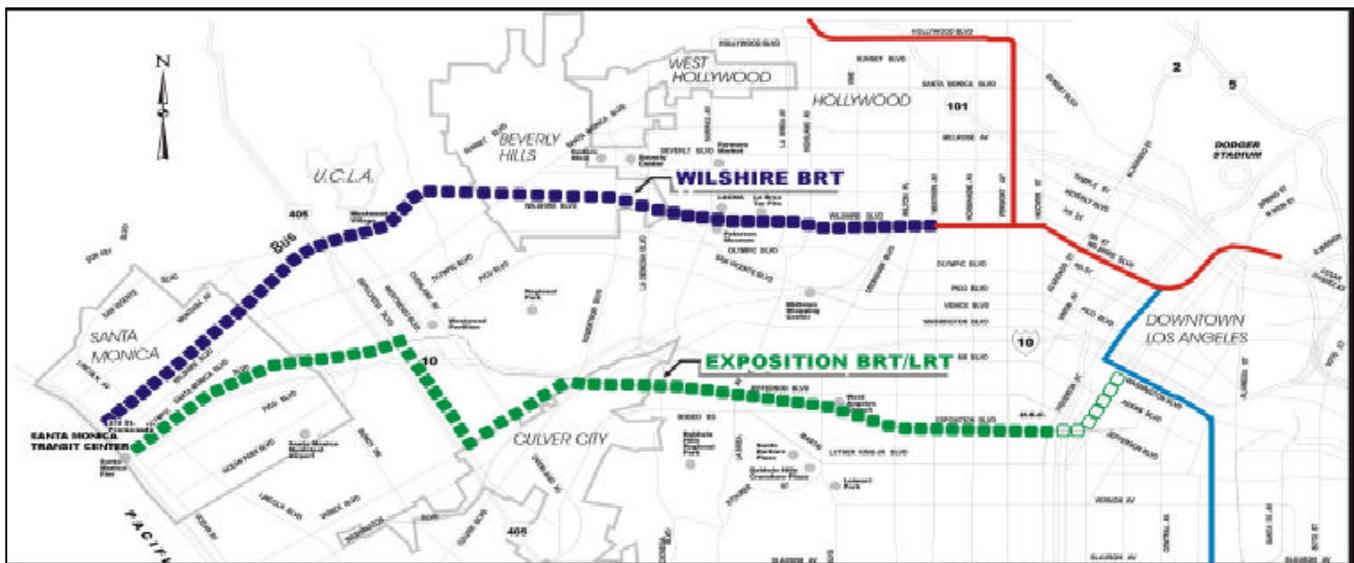
TCR Program – Application Amendment Project # 37.2

Los Angeles Los Angeles Mid-City Transit Improvements; build Bus Rapid Transit system or Light Rail Transit in Mid-City/Westside/Exposition Corridors in Los Angeles County.

(\$ X 1,000)

Estimated Project Cost:	\$631,500 \$343,900	TCRP Funds covered by application:	\$14,000
TCRP Funds – Subproject #37.2:	\$69,100 \$27,100	Phases(s) covered by application:	1
TCRP Funds for Project #37:	\$256,000	TCRP funds previously approved for #37.2	\$11,000
Lead Agency:	Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA)	Implementing Agency:	LACMTA

TCRP allocation request concurrent w/application:	\$14,000	for Phase(s):	1
Advance requested:	\$0	for Phase(s):	N/A
TCRP allocations to date:	\$11,000	for Phase(s):	1



Project Summary: The purpose of the Los Angeles Mid-City Transit Improvements project is to build a light rail transit (LRT) or bus rapid transit (BRT) system along the Mid-City/Westside/Exposition corridors in Los Angeles County. The project will be implemented to two sub-projects.

- Sub-Project #37.1 – BRT system along Wilshire Boulevard (Total cost = \$194,400,000, including \$186,900,000 in TCRP funding), and
- **Sub-Project #37.2** – LRT system along Exposition Boulevard (Total cost = \$631,500,000, including \$69,100,000 in TCRP funding). (The \$69,100,000 in TCRP funding proposed for #37.2 includes \$42,000,000 de-programmed from #37.1 in October 2002.)

Sub-Project #37.2 – the Mid-City LRT along Exposition Boulevard, will serve as a major east-west route connecting downtown Los Angeles to the University of Southern California and West Los Angeles ending at Venice/Robertson Boulevards. The LRT will start at the existing Metro Red Line 7th/Flower station, branching off the existing Blue Line at Washington Boulevard and Hill Street. The LRT will proceed south on Hill Street in mixed traffic to the LACMTA owned Exposition right-of-way, purchased in 1991 in anticipation of this project, where it will continue 7.7 miles to Venice/Robertson Boulevards. The LACMTA is proposing to construct this project using the design/build approach.

Summary of Action: This application programs an additional \$14,000,000, for a total of \$25,000,000, for Phase 1 – Environmental (ENV), updates the schedule for Phase 1 - ENV, and updates the overall project financial plan.

Reason for Change: The additional funds for Phase 1 are to address the possibility of grade separations, a tunnel segment through Exposition Park and other enhancements to the alignment not previously planned. The increase to the overall project cost is attributed to a clearer definition of the project scope (including the full project alignment to Venice/Robertson), and current estimates for project costs (including support and contingency costs).

Cost and Schedule (\$ x 1,000)

Phase	Scope	Start	End	Cost
1	Environmental Review, Permits, Prelim Engineering	5/00	7/04 10/03	\$25,000 \$11,000
2	Plans, Specifications and Estimates - Final Design	8/04	8/05	\$25,000
3	Right of Way Acquisition	11/03	11/04	\$4,700
4	Construct Design/Build Contract Light Rail Vehicle Acquisition	8/04	6/10	\$458,800 \$118,000
Total:				\$631,500

Funding Plan (\$ x 1,000)

Source	Type		Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Total
TCRP	State	Committed	\$25,000				\$25,000
		Proposed	\$11,000				\$11,000
PC25%	Measure	Committed				\$60,600	\$60,600
		Proposed		\$5,200		\$38,900	\$44,100
RSTP	Federal	Committed				\$39,900	\$39,900
		Proposed					
5309 New Starts	Federal	Committed					
		Proposed		\$19,800	\$4,700	\$291,100	\$315,600
CMAQ	Federal	Committed				\$34,100	\$34,100
		Proposed					
STIP - RIP	State	Committed					
		Proposed				\$112,200	\$112,200
	Totals:	Committed	\$25,000			\$134,600	\$159,600
		Proposed		\$25,000	\$4,700	\$442,200	\$471,900
		Totals:	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$4,700	\$576,800	\$631,500

Note: Activities, such as Studies and the Draft EIR/EIS, were completed in conjunction with other projects in the region, prior to approval of this application, therefore costs associated with completing those activities are not reflected in the funding plan above.

Prior TCRP Action: Original application for Project #37 (now known as Sub-Project #37.1) was approved on January 18, 2001 (Resolution TA-01-01), for Phase 1 – Environmental Review and Permits. A subsequent application was approved on May 9, 2002, under Resolution TA-02-06, to split the project into two sub-projects and program Phase 1 – Environmental Review and Permits, for **Sub-Project #37.2** – Mid-City LRT system along Exposition Boulevard, to complete the Final Environmental Impact Report/Statement and start Preliminary Engineering.

Status of Conditions: No conditions.

Discussion/Issues: Department and Commission staff recommend that the Commission defer action on LACMTA's request until such time as the legislative consideration and action regarding the Administration's fiscal year spending proposals has been determined, or until the applicant agency identifies an alternate funding source and proceeds with the project under an approved Letter of No Prejudice.

Note: Activities, such as Studies and the Draft EIR/EIS, were completed in conjunction with other projects in the region, prior to approval of this application, therefore costs associated with completing those activities are not reflected in the funding plan above.

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Approval of Traffic Congestion Relief Program
Project Application Amendment

RESOLUTION TAA-03-06,
Amending Resolution TA-02-06

- 1.1 WHEREAS the Traffic Congestion Relief Act of 2000 (herein after referred to as “statute”), which was established by Chapters 91 (AB 2928) and 656 (SB 1662) of the Statutes of 2000, establishes the Traffic Congestion Relief Program, providing \$5.39 billion for projects throughout the State of California to reduce traffic congestion, provide for safe and efficient movement of goods, and provide system connectivity; and
- 1.2 WHEREAS in accordance with Government Code Section 14556.11 the California Transportation Commission (Commission) has adopted guidelines, in consultation with the Department of Transportation (Department) and regional agencies, to implement the Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP); and
- 1.3 WHEREAS the statute and guidelines require applicants to specify full and complete project applications, including scope, cost and schedule, financial plans and funding sources; and
- 1.4 WHEREAS on May 9, 2002, the Commission passed Resolution TA-02-06 approving TCRP Sub-project #37.2 – Los Angeles Mid-City Transit Improvements; build Light Rail Transit system along Exposition Blvd. in Los Angeles County, for \$11,000,000 for Phase 1 –ENV to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA); and
- 1.5 WHEREAS the LACMTA determined that an additional \$14,000,000 is needed for Phase 1- ENV to address enhancements not previously planned with revised project schedule for Phase 1 – ENV, as well as revision to over all project schedule and financial plan; and
- 1.6 WHEREAS the LACMTA has submitted an amended application for TCRP Sub-project #37.2 – Los Angeles Mid-City Transit Improvements, to reflect increased funding and revised project schedule for Phase 1 - ENV, a revised overall project schedule, and an updated financial plan; and
- 1.7 WHEREAS the Commission, in accordance with Executive Order D49-01, BL 02-21, directing all State agencies and departments to reduce expenditures in order to achieve General Fund savings, reserves the right to defer approval of any additional Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP) applications and allocations due to the continuing economic challenges faced by the State; and
- 1.8 WHEREAS the Governor’s Budget May Revision proposed a partial suspension of the General Fund transfer to the TIF and does not include additional funding needed to make new allocation of funds from the TCRF.
- 2.1 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Commission does hereby defer approval at this time for the following TCRP project application amendment as submitted, with subsequent clarifications and revisions:

- Project #37.2 – Los Angeles Mid-City Transit Improvements; build Light Rail Transit system along Exposition Blvd. in Los Angeles County. Amend application to program an additional \$14,000,000 in TCR funding for Phase 1 – Environmental and Permits (ENV) and update schedule for Phase 1 – ENV, as well as overall project cost and schedule.

Applicant Agency: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA)

Implementing Agency: LACMTA;

and

- 2.2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all applicant agencies shall provide the Commission and the Department with a progress report on April 1st and October 1st of each year on actual expenditures and status of work, until the projects have been completed.