

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: August 4-5, 2004

Reference No.: 2.1c.(1)
Action Item

From: ROBERT L. GARCIA
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Ross Chittenden
Division Chief
Transportation Programming

Ref: **TRAFFIC CONGESTION RELIEF (TCR) PROGRAM APPLICATION APPROVALS
RESOLUTION TA-04-**

ISSUE:

Attached are three Traffic Congestion Relief (TCR) project applications totaling \$247,200,000. A fact sheet describing each project is attached.

RECOMMENDATION:

Pending resolution of future funding for TCR projects, the California Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission) defer approval of this Resolution at this time and add these projects to the list of applications submitted by applicant agencies that are pending further action by the Commission.

BACKGROUND:

On May 13, 2004, the Administration released its budget proposals for FY 2004-05. The proposals include the transfer of \$163,000,000 from the General Fund to the TCR Fund for those TCR projects with existing allocations. The May Budget Revision proposes additional funding to allow the Commission to resume making new allocations of funds, dependent upon approval of revenue to be derived from new gaming compacts. These funds will not be made available for allocation until after the November 2, 2004 elections.

The Department recommends that requests to program and allocate new or additional funds be deferred until such time that future funding for the TCR Program is secured and a review of TCR projects is completed.

Attachments

TCR Program – Application Approval Project #37.1

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.

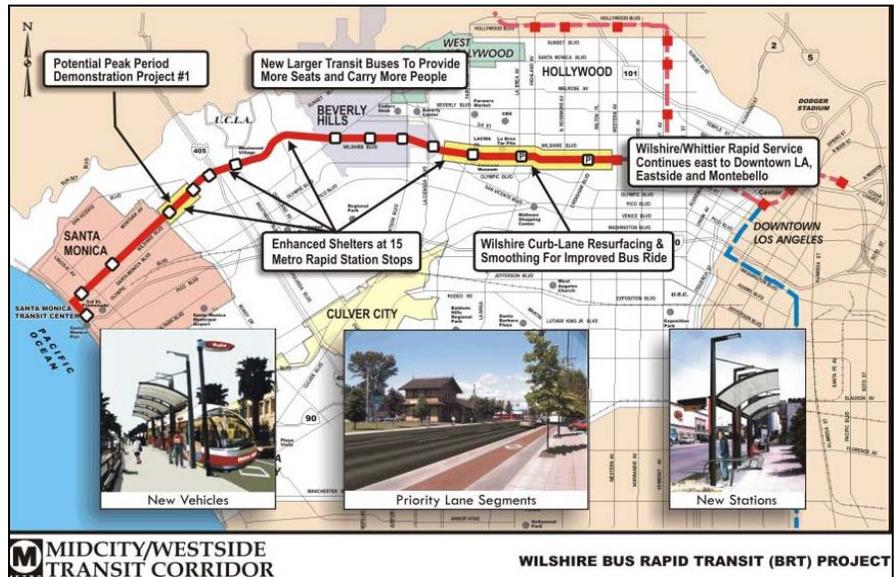
(\$ X 1,000)

Estimated Project Cost:	\$194,400	TCRP Funds Covered by Application:	\$105,100
TCRP Funds – Sub-Project #37.1:	\$186,900	Phase(s) Covered by Application:	All
TCRP Funds for Project #37:	\$256,000	TCRP Funds Previously Approved for #37.1:	\$81,800
Lead Agency:	Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA)	Implementing Agency:	LACMTA

TCRP Allocation Requested Concurrently with Application:	\$23,900	for Phase(s):	2,3
Advance Requested:	\$0	for Phase(s):	N/A
TCRP Allocations to Date:	\$6,200	for Phase(s):	1

Project Summary: 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 overall project will be implemented as two sub-projects:

- Sub-Project #37.1 – BRT system along Wilshire Boulevard.
- Sub-Project #37.2 – LRT system along Exposition Boulevard.



Sub-Project #37.1: This project will provide a 12.7-mile limited stop express bus service along Wilshire Boulevard that will connect the Wilshire/Western Metro Red Line station to 2nd Street and Colorado Blvd. in Santa Monica. The Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) selected, based on the results of the environmental studies and public input, is to implement a service enhancement project intended to provide high capacity transit service to the Westside of Los Angeles County, improving the existing Metro Rapid Bus service. The enhancements will be based upon BRT features found in other systems worldwide and will contain two sets of components. The first set of components to be implemented are as follows: Enhanced Metro Rapid Stations; High Capacity Vehicles; Wilshire Boulevard Curb Lane and Intersection Reconstruction; Maintenance and Storage Facilities and Community Parking Facilities. The second set of components is considered alternatives to the project, with implementation subject to approval and concurrence of local jurisdictions. The alternatives include Expanded Transit Signal Priority and Peak Period Dedicated Bus Lanes.

Summary of Action: This application programs \$105,100,000 for Phase 4. In addition, the application transfers of \$1,500,000 of TCRP funds from Phase 1 to Phase 4. The allocation capacity from Phase 1 will be used for Phase 3 along with an allocation request of \$23,100,000 --Concurrent Item: Reference No. 2.6e.(1). The schedule is updated based on TCR funding being suspended.

Cost and Schedule (\$ x 1,000)

Phase	Scope	Start	End	Cost
1	Environmental study to develop an EIR/EIS and preliminary engineering.	12/00	12/05 7/04	\$7,200 \$8,700
2	Preparation of design/build contract or final design plans under design/bid/build	8/04 7/03	6/06	\$5,000
3	Right of Way Acquisition	7/04 7/03	12/05 6/04	\$26,100
4	Construction Activities for BRT	6/05 1/04	11/08	\$111,600 \$110,100
4	High Capacity Vehicle Acquisition	11/02	7/06	\$44,500
Total:				\$194,400

Funding Plan (\$ x 1,000)

Source	Type		Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Total
TCRP	State	Committed	\$4,700	\$5,000	\$26,100	\$151,100	\$186,900
		Proposed	\$6,200			\$44,500	\$81,800
						\$105,100	\$105,100
Prop C 25%	Measure	Committed				\$5,000	\$5,000
		Proposed					
STIP-RIP	State	Committed	\$2,500				\$2,500
		Proposed					
	Totals:	Committed	\$7,200	\$5,000	\$26,100	\$156,100	\$194,400
Proposed		\$8,700			\$49,500	\$89,300	
Totals:		\$7,200	\$5,000	\$26,100	\$156,100	\$194,400	
			\$8,700			\$154,600	

Prior TCRP Action:

- Original application for Phase 1 (ENV) was approved on January 18, 2001 (Resolution TA-01-01).
- Minor Amendment was approved June 20, 2002, to extend the end date of Phase 1, per April 2002 Progress Report.
- A subsequent application was approved October 3, 2002 (Resolution TA-02-13) to update the overall project scope, and program additional funds to continue Phase 1 preliminary engineering activities, as well as funds for Phase 2 - PS&E, Phase 3 – ROW, and Phase 4 – CON. As a result of the scope update, the TCRP funds originally proposed for this sub-project were reduced, from \$228,900,000 to \$186,900,000. A minor amendment was also included to extend the end date of Phase 1 (ENV) to June 2003.
- A major amendment was approved June 26, 2003 (Resolution TAA-03-02) to update the project schedule. LACMTA has indicated that additional time is needed to complete Phase 1 – ENV, Phase 2 – PS&E to enable the agency to seek federal environmental clearance that will allow them to utilize federal funds not previously planned for this project. Additionally, as TCR funds may not be available in the short-term, LACMTA had to re-evaluate funding availability which caused a slight delay in the progress of Phases 1 and 2, until a funding plan for the overall project could be determined.

Status of Conditions: No conditions set for this project under Resolution TA-01-01.

The following condition set forth under Resolution TA-02-13 has been met:

- Prior to an allocation of funds for any capital phase of the project, LACMTA must develop a parking management plan that, among other requirements, provides for procedures to ensure that a specified number of non-tandem designated parking spaces are for the exclusive use of Metro Rapid riders, and ensure the commuter parking spaces are maintained and operated separately from other parking areas.

The remaining conditions set forth under Resolution TA-02-13 remain in effect:

- Prior to an allocation of funds for Phase 2 (Plans, Specifications & Estimates), LACMTA must notify the Department and Commission staff which design approach will be used for the project.
- Prior to an allocation of funds for bus procurement, LACMTA shall provide a Financial Operating Plan that demonstrates they have the financial capability to operate the expanded service once the project has been completed.

Discussion/Issues: Regional Transportation Plan documentation is on file. Commission reviewed the Final EIR/EIS and approved the project for future consideration of funding on October 3, 2002, under Resolution E-02-44.

A concurrent action for the Commission to allocate \$23,900,000 of TCR funds is under Reference No. 2.6e.(1).

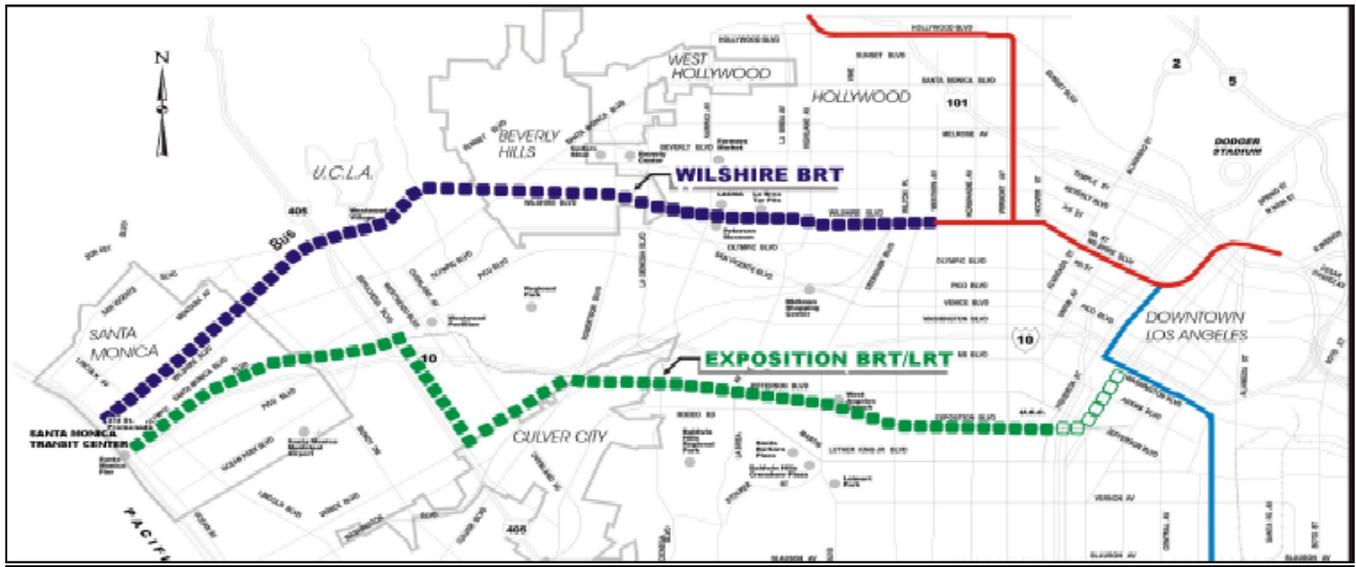
TCR Program – Application Approval Project #37.2

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:	\$505,500	TCRP Funds Covered by Application:	\$44,100
TCRP Funds – Sub-Project #37.2:	\$69,100	Phase(s) Covered by Application:	All
TCRP Funds for Project #37:	\$256,000	TCRP Funds Previously Approved for #37.2	\$25,000
Lead Agency:	Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA)	Implementing Agency:	LACMTA

TCRP Allocation Request Concurrent with Application:	\$0	for Phase(s):	N/A
Advance Requested:	\$0	for Phase(s):	N/A
TCRP Allocations to Date:	\$11,000	for Phase(s):	1
LONP Approved to Date:	\$14,000	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 as two sub-projects.

- Sub-Project #37.1 – BRT system along Wilshire Boulevard
- Sub-Project #37.2 – LRT system along Exposition Boulevard

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 \$5,200,000 for Phase 2 and \$38,900,000 for Phase 4.

Cost and Schedule (\$ x 1,000)

Phase	Scope	Start	End	Cost
1	Environmental Review, Permits, Prelim Engineering	5/00	6/06	\$25,000
2	Plans, Specifications and Estimates - Final Design	7/07	12/09	\$20,000
3	Right of Way Acquisition	7/07	2/10	\$18,400
4	Construct Design/Build Contract	1/08	9/12	\$383,300
	Light Rail Vehicle Acquisition	1/10	9/12	\$58,800
Total:				\$505,500

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.

Funding Plan (\$ x 1,000)

Source	Type		Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Total
TCRP	State	Committed	\$25,000	\$5,200		\$38,900	\$69,100
		Proposed					
Prop C	Measure	Committed		\$14,800	\$2,100	\$55,100	\$72,000
		Proposed					
5309 New Starts	Federal	Committed					
		Proposed				\$252,700	\$252,700
CMAQ	Federal	Committed			\$16,300	\$63,900	\$80,200
		Proposed					
STIP - RIP	State	Committed					
		Proposed				\$31,500	\$31,500
Totals:		Committed	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$18,400	\$157,900	\$221,300
		Proposed				\$284,200	\$284,200
Totals:			\$25,000	\$20,000	\$18,400	\$442,100	\$505,500

AB 1335 Letter Funding Plan (\$ x 1,000)

Source	Type		Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Total
Prop C	Measure	Committed	\$14,000				\$14,000

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.
- An application amendment was approved, on September 25, 2003 (Resolution TAA 03-10) to program an additional \$14,000,000, for a total of \$25,000,000, for Phase 1 – Environmental (ENV), and update the schedule for Phase 1 - ENV, and update the overall project financial plan. An AB 1335 Letter of No Prejudice (Letter) in the amount of \$14,000,000 for Phase 1 was approved (TL-03-01) as well.
- An application amendment was approved on June 17, 2004 (Resolution TAA-04-05) to update the project schedule for Phase 1 – Environmental (ENV).

Status of Conditions: No conditions.

Discussion/Issues: Phase 1 is currently underway. Due to the financial uncertainties of TCR funds, alternative funding has been identified to enable Phase 1 activities to continue on schedule. The LACMTA will use Local Prop C 25% funds to complete Phase 1-ENV. However, should TCR funds become available in the future, the LACMTA wishes to be reimbursement for any and all eligible expenses related to Phase 1-ENV activities. A Letter has been approved to enable the allocation/reimbursement of TCR funds when they become available.

TCR Program – Application Approval Project #38.2

Los Angeles Los Angeles-San Fernando Valley Transit Extension; (B) Build a North-South corridor bus transit project that interfaces with the foregoing East-West Burbank-Chandler corridor project and with the Ventura Boulevard Rapid Bus project.

(\$ X 1,000)

Estimated Project Cost: \$260,300
 TCRP Funds – Sub-Project #38.2: \$100,000
 TCRP Funds for Project #38: \$245,000
 Lead Agency: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA)

TCRP Funds Covered by Application: **\$98,000**
 Phase(s) Covered by Application: All
 TCRP Funds Previously Approved for #38.2: \$2,000
 Implementing Agency: LACMTA

TCRP Allocation Requested Concurrently with Application: **\$18,000** for Phase(s): 1,2,4
 Advance Requested: **\$0** for Phase(s): N/A
 TCRP Allocations to Date: **\$2,000** for Phase(s): 1

Project Summary: The overall project will provide new bus rapid transit services in the San Fernando Valley (SFV) along the north-south corridor that will interface with the SFV East-West Burbank Chandler Corridor project and the Ventura Boulevard Rapid Bus Corridor Project. The project will help relieve surface congestion and improve mobility for transit dependent residents.

The first application for this project was for the Major Investment Study (MIS) that will help determine the most appropriate type of project for the corridor and define the project boundaries.

The project will be segmented, and therefore phases may overlap.

Summary of Action: This application programs \$3,000,000 for Phase 1, \$10,000,000 for Phase 2, \$15,000,000 for Phase 3 and \$70,000,000 for Phase 4. In addition, the end date for Phase 1 is extended from December 2003 to June 2006.



Cost and Schedule (\$ x 1,000)

Phase	Scope	Start	End	Cost
1	Major Investment Study, Environmental Clearance Assessment, Conceptual plan	8/01	6/06	\$10,400
			12/03	\$12,000
2	Design for Locally Preferred Alternative	7/04	6/10	\$13,300
3	Right of Way Acquisition	7/10	6/12	\$29,000
4	Construction	7/04	6/14	\$207,600
Total:				\$260,300

Funding Plan (\$ x 1,000)

Source	Type		Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Total
TCRP	State	Committed	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$70,000	\$100,000
		Proposed					
Transit Funds	Local	Committed					
		Proposed	\$5,000	\$2,300	\$14,000	\$60,600	\$81,900
Prop A/C	Measure	Committed	\$400	\$1,000		\$16,600	\$18,000
		Proposed				\$60,400	\$60,400
Totals:		Committed	\$5,400	\$11,000	\$15,000	\$86,600	\$118,000
		Proposed	\$5,000	\$2,300	\$14,000	\$121,000	\$142,300
Totals:			\$10,400	\$13,300	\$29,000	\$207,600	\$260,300

Prior TCRP Action:

- Original application was approved on June 6, 2001 (Resolution TA-01-09) for \$2,000,000 for Phase 1.
- A minor amendment to extend the completion date of Phase 1 was approved April 2002.

Status of Conditions: No conditions set for this project under Resolution TA-01-09

Discussion/Issues: No issues. Department and Commission staff recommends LACMTA make a presentation on the outcome of the MIS once it is completed.

A concurrent action for the Commission to allocate \$18,000,000 of TCR funds in under Reference No. 2.6e.(1).