



# Information Item

**Date: November 4, 2015**

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Martin Pastucha, Director of Public Works  
David Martin, Director of Planning and Community Development  
Ed King, Director of Transit Services

Subject: 2015 Metro Call for Projects Grant Fund Awards

## **Introduction**

On [January 13, 2015](#), Council authorized the submission of five applications to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) 2015 Call for Projects grant process. At that time, staff committed to providing an Information Item to notify Council in the event that one or more of the Call for Projects grant applications were selected for funding.

On September 24, 2015, the MTA Board approved a list of recommended 2015 Countywide Call for Projects that included four projects submitted by the City of Santa Monica. The total recommended grant amount for Santa Monica projects is \$4.7 million with a required \$1.2 million local match commitment. Staff has identified and reserved available Proposition C Local Return and Prop 1B Capital funds to meet the local match obligation.

## **Discussion**

In January 2015, staff submitted five Council-approved grant applications to MTA for consideration in the 2015 Call for Projects competitive grant program. On October 7, 2015, staff was notified that four projects were awarded funding. The fifth project application for \$3.2 million in grant funds to improve connections to the Bergamot Expo Light Rail Station was not funded. One of the awarded projects, Bus Replacements, was funded at a reduced level from the application.

All of the recommended funding amounts and local match commitments are escalated from 2015 dollars to implementation-year dollars based on an inflation rate determined by MTA, typically around 3% per year. The awarded grants applications will be administered by staff in the years noted below.

The City's grant awards are as follows:

1. 17th Street Improvements for Pedestrian Access and Lighting

<i>Modal Application:</i>	Pedestrian Improvements
<i>Application Project Total:</i>	\$1,795,500
<i>Revised Project Total:</i>	\$1,868,318
<i>Grant Amount Awarded:</i>	\$1,494,654
<i>Local Match Obligation:</i>	\$373,664
<i>Local Match Source:</i>	Prop C Local Return
<i>Proposed Funding Year:</i>	FY 2016-17 and FY 2017-18
<i>Project Description:</i>	This project would install pedestrian lighting on the west side of 17th St. between Wilshire Boulevard and Pico Boulevard (except on the I-10 bridge) and up to 18 curb extensions at nine intersections for access and safety. Funds are for both design and construction costs.

2. Santa Monica Expo and Localized Travel Planning Assistance

<i>Modal Application:</i>	Transportation Demand Management
<i>Application Project Total:</i>	\$450,000
<i>Revised Project Total:</i>	\$469,323
<i>Grant Amount Awarded:</i>	\$375,459
<i>Local Match Obligation:</i>	\$93,864
<i>Local Match Source:</i>	Prop C Local Return
<i>Proposed Funding Year:</i>	FY 2016-17 through FY 2018-19

*Project Description:* This project would fund targeted multi-modal travel planning assistance and incentives designed to reduce the need for single occupant vehicle (SOV) travel to and from Santa Monica. Trained travel advisors would provide in-person travel planning support and provide trial subsidies through targeted outreach events for groups that are currently not regulated by the City's trip reduction ordinance (i.e. residents, seniors, tourists, and shoppers). Travel advisors would be trained on the myriad new transportation options available in Santa Monica, including the growing variety of first and last mile connections, and would utilize the City's web platforms and wayfinding that will be available to support multi-modal trip planning.

3. Beach Bike Path Ramp Connection to Santa Monica Pier

<i>Modal Application:</i>	Bicycle Improvements
<i>Application Project Total:</i>	\$1,200,705
<i>Revised Project Total:</i>	\$1,311,595
<i>Grant Amount Awarded:</i>	\$1,049,276
<i>Local Match Obligation:</i>	\$262,319
<i>Local Match Source:</i>	Prop C Local Return
<i>Proposed Funding Year:</i>	FY 2016-17 (planning) and FY 2020-21 (construction)
<i>Project Description:</i>	This project would fund design and construction of a Beach Bike Path connection to the Santa Monica Pier. This would allow for continuity of bicycle traffic from the beach to Colorado and Ocean Avenues and would improve regional bicycle access to the Downtown Expo Station. Connectivity between the Beach Bike Path and the Downtown station is currently disjointed.

4. Bus Replacement

*Modal Application:* Transit Capital

*Application Project Total:* \$7,113,119

*Revised Project Total:* \$2,234,614

*Grant Amount Requested:* \$1,765,345

*Local Match Obligation:* \$469,269

*Local Match Source:* Prop 1B Capital

*Proposed Funding Year:* FY 2016-17

*Project Description:* This project would replace four existing 40-foot buses with four 40-foot clean fuel buses. The existing buses will have reached their useful life at the time of replacement. The replacement buses will be placed on BBB's regionally significant routes serving Pico Boulevard, Lincoln Boulevard, and the Freeway Express to Downtown Los Angeles. These routes will also provide connections to Metro Expo Phase 2 light rail stations in Santa Monica located at 26th St./Bergamot, 17th St./Santa Monica College, and Downtown Santa Monica. These stations will begin revenue service in 2016. The original funding request was down-scoped from 13 to four buses. The recommended funding amount is based on the 2015 cost of \$547,163 per each 40-foot clean fuel bus.

**Prepared By:** Sarah Johnson-Rios, Principal Administrative Analyst