

Agenda Report

August 31, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL AGREEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE RECEIPT OF GRANT FUNDING FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PASADENA TRANSIT REPLACEMENT AND ADDED CAPACITY OF CNG BUSES

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15302, replacement of existing transit facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all agreements associated with the receipt of \$1,055,950 in reimbursable grant funding from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) for the implementation of the Pasadena Transit Replacement and Added Capacity of CNG Buses Project in Fiscal Year 2017.

BACKGROUND:

This proposed project will provide funding to purchase four 32-foot Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses to replace two aging 30-foot CNG low floor buses and two aging 25-foot cutaway CNG buses for the Pasadena Area Rapid Transit System (ARTS). The projected delivery of these vehicles is in Fiscal Year 2017. The City is replacing these four buses which have either exceeded their useful life cycles or will meet their useful life by Fiscal Year 2017 with 32-foot low floor buses. The purchase of these replacement buses will help minimize service interruptions due to vehicle reliability problems, improve service quality and help meet existing ridership demand. In addition, replacement of two of the 25-foot cutaway vehicles will provide additional ridership capacity.

The replacement buses will be 32-foot CNG El Dorado E-Z Rider II BRT buses that are low-floor, heavy-duty transit buses with the capacity to seat 27 passengers and up to three wheelchairs.

Staff anticipates returning for Council consideration to purchase these four buses later this fiscal year for funds that will be expended in Fiscal Year 2017. As a participating member of the California Association of Coordinated Transportation (CalACT), the City is eligible to use the CalACT/Morongo Basin Transit Authority (MBTA) Vehicle and Materials Purchasing Cooperative (Cooperative), for the purchase of these transit vehicles. MBTA, a member of CalACT, formed the Cooperative, which developed the bid documents and product specifications for a competitive price-based procurement process for several classes of transit vehicles to be used by participating governmental agencies. The selection process the Cooperative followed meets federal requirements as well as the City's purchasing requirements.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The proposed action supports the following City Council Strategic Plan goals:

- Maintain fiscal responsibility and stability
- Improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure
- Increase conservation and sustainability
- Improve mobility and accessibility throughout the City

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed action consists of replacing two 30-foot CNG low floor buses and two aging 25-foot cutaway CNG buses with four 32-foot Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses. The proposed new bus fleet would have substantially the same purpose and capacity of the existing fleet. Pursuant to the State CEQA Guidelines Section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction (Class 2), projects consisting of the replacement of existing facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity are categorically exempt from CEQA.


FISCAL IMPACT:

Approval of this action will enable the City to obtain \$1,055,950 in reimbursable grant through the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the implementation of the Pasadena Transit Replacement and Added Capacity of CNG Buses Project in Fiscal Year 2017. The City's required one-time match of \$834,050 has been programmed in the Capital Improvement Program, with proposed funding from Proposition C Local Return Fund 209, for City Council consideration in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget review and adoption process.

The following table presents a summary of the proposed source of funds that will be used.

Proposition C Local Return Fund 209	\$ 834,050
MTA - Federal Flexible CMAQ Funds	\$ 1,055,950
Total Sources	\$ 1,890,000

Respectfully submitted,



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