

Agenda Report

June 3, 2013

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 UPGRADE TO CLEAN FUEL CNG BUSES PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the purchase of these vehicles 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 grant funding from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and the implementation of the Pasadena Transit Upgrade to Clean Fuel CNG Buses Projects.

BACKGROUND:

This proposed project will provide funding to purchase six 32-foot Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses to replace six aging 30-foot El Dorado Transmark buses for the Pasadena Area Rapid Transit System (ARTS). The City is replacing six diesel-fueled buses which have exceeded their useful life cycles with compressed natural gas (CNG)-fueled buses which will improve service quality, help meet existing ridership demand, and keep the City in compliance with California Air Resources Board (CARB) heavy-duty vehicle fleet regulations. The purchase of these replacement buses will help minimize service interruptions due to vehicle reliability problems and provide more seamless travel for ARTS passengers.

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.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The proposed action is consistent with the following goals of the Strategic Plan: Improve, Maintain and Enhance Public Facilities and Infrastructure, Improve Mobility and Accessibility throughout the City, and Support and Promote the Quality of Life and Local Economy. This purchase of six CNG buses will enhance the ARTS by helping to minimize service interruptions due to the deteriorating condition of these six oldest vehicles that are remaining in the ARTS fleet and will replace diesel buses to help attain the City's goal to reduce particulate matter and smog-forming emissions, per the United Nations Urban Environmental Accords (UEA) Action 14.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed action to approve an agreement between the City of Pasadena and Metro for the Pasadena Transit Upgrade to Clean Fuel CNG Buses Project has been determined to be exempt from CEQA per Section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction. The proposed action is to authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with Metro to receive grant funds to purchase six 32-foot Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses to replace six aging 30-foot El Dorado Transmark buses for the ARTS. This replacement of aging diesel buses with CNG buses would not result in an expansion of service.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of this action will be \$2,520,000. Approval of this action will enable the City to obtain \$1,839,600 through the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to implement this project. Appropriate funding in the amount of \$1,839,600 from MTA Federal Flexible CMAQ funds to the Capital Improvement Program Project Account 301-773200-75051 *Purchase of Fixed-Route Transit Vehicles*. The City's required one time match of \$680,400 will be funded by utilization of existing budgeted appropriations in the Capital Improvement Program Project Account 301-773200-75051, *Purchase of Fixed-Route Transit Vehicles*.

The six new buses will replace six buses currently in ARTS service which have exceeded their useful life. The six replacement buses will be operated and maintained under the City's ARTS service contract with First Transit, Inc. Funding for the ARTS operation and vehicle maintenance is included in the FY 2014 Operating Budget, Fund 8114-209-775600.

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

Proposition A Los Angeles County Sales Tax	\$ 680,400
MTA - Federal Flexible CMAQ Funds	\$ 1,839,600
Total Sources	\$ 2,520,000

Respectfully submitted,




FREDERICK C. DOCK

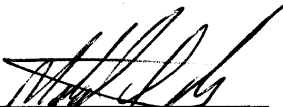
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Department of Transportation

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