

# Agenda Report

June 14, 2021

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Department of Transportation  
**SUBJECT:** **ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CERTIFICATES AND ASSURANCES AND AUTHORIZED AGENT FORMS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM GRANT TO CALTRANS**

## **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 15061(b)(3) (General Rule); and
2. Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the Certifications and Assurances and Authorized Agent Forms required to submit a Low Carbon Transit Operations Program grant application to the California Department of Transportation.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Department of Transportation is now eligible to secure capital funding through a non-competitive Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) grant administered through the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). This grant program is part of the California Climate Investments, a state-wide initiative to use Cap-and-Trade dollars to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, strengthen the economy, and improve public health and the environment. These Cap-and-Trade funds are distributed based on public transit service provided by the City. The funding is anticipated to be annual but will fluctuate based on Cap-and-Trade funds available. Staff has prepared an application seeking \$55,354 from the LCTOP grant to fund the purchase of five solar powered, e-ink real-time BusFinders, and five bus stop benches located primarily in Northwest Pasadena. Funds from this grant program will be provided to the City upfront, in advance of the purchase of equipment. A resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a LCTOP application is required (Attachment A).

The \$55,354 in LCTOP grant funds are for the purchase of five real-time BusFinders that will provide real-time bus arrival information at five different bus stops. BusFinders provide an easy and seamless way of obtaining real-time bus arrival information at bus stops, which is helpful particularly for transit users without a phone or mobile internet access. Benches will allow passengers waiting for their ride to feel more comfortable without having to stand while waiting for the bus.

The BusFinders and benches will be installed at identified bus stops throughout the City of Pasadena with a majority located in a Disadvantaged Community census tract, as required by the grant and defined by California Senate Bill 535, or directly in or within ½ mile of a low-income community as defined by California Assembly Bill 1550. A map with the proposed BusFinder and bench locations can be found on Attachment B. The need for these BusFinders and benches has been identified in the Pasadena Short Range Transit Plan, in the Pasadena Street Design Guidelines, and Metro's Transfer Design guidelines.

#### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The proposed action is consistent with the following goals of the Strategic Plan: Improve, Maintain and Enhance Public Facilities and Infrastructure; Increase Conservation and Sustainability; and Improve Mobility and Accessibility throughout the City. The LCTOP grant will directly assist the Department of Transportation in implementing the following two objectives of the Mobility Element: to promote a livable community and encourage non-auto travel.

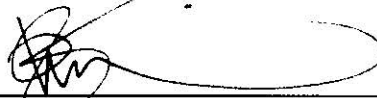
#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The purchase of the BusFinders and benches is exempt from the CEQA review pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15302, Class 2 replacement or reconstruction. Class 2 exempts from CEQA replacement or reconstruction activities that involve negligible or no expansion of capacity. These capital assets will not expand or make changes to existing transit service.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact in FY 2021. The \$55,534 in available funding for the LCTOP program is from the California Department of Transportation and does not require a local match. If the grant application and project is approved, funds are expected to be received in FY 2022 at which time the Department's operating budget will be amended through the City's quarterly budget cleanup process.

Respectfully submitted,



LAURA RUBIO-CORNEJO

Director

Department of Transportation

Prepared by:



Sebastián Andrés Hernández

Principal Planner

Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL

City Manager

Attachments: (2)

Attachment A – Resolution

Attachment B – Map of LCTOP Proposed BusFinder and Bench Locations