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**JANUARY 15, 2014**

**TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**THROUGH: ARTHUR T. LEAHY** *by [signature]*  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**FROM: MARTHA WELBORNE, FAIA** *MWW*  
**CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER**

**SUBJECT: TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PLANNING GRANT**

### **ISSUE**

At the Board Staff briefing on January 9, 2014, an update on the status of the implementation and deliverables for the first three rounds of the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Grant Program was requested. This Board Box provides the requested information.

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **Background**

The TOD Planning Grant Program ("Program") spurs the adoption of local land use regulations to create a regulatory environment supportive of TOD around station areas and adjacent transit corridors. Between 2011-2013, the Board released three funding rounds and awarded \$15.2 million to 22 projects. An update on the status of each round is provided below, along with examples of projects funded by the Program.

#### **Status**

*Round 1:* Awards were approved by the Board in December 2011. In this initial round, four projects received approximately \$4.8 million in funding. All grantees have executed grant agreements, procured consultants, and conducted public outreach. Two of the four grantees have begun drafting deliverables and one grantee, the City of Duarte, has completed their project. The performance period for Round 1 is 24 months from the date of contract execution and is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2014.

*Round 2:* In June 2012, the Board awarded \$1 million to five projects. All grantees have executed grant agreements, procured consultants, engaged in public outreach, and begun drafting deliverables. The performance period for Round 2 is also 24 months

from the date of contract execution and is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2014.

*Round 3:* In February 2013, the Board approved approximately \$9.4 million in funding to 13 projects. Agreements have been executed with all but one grantee. Four grantees have already procured a consultant. Most of the remaining grantees are currently working on completing this task. Four grantees have also begun their community outreach. The performance period for Round 3 was extended to 36 months and is scheduled to be completed by early 2017.

By creating a regulatory environment supportive of TOD, the projects funded by the Program will, in the long term, increase the accessibility and utilization of public transit.

### Examples

*City of Duarte:* In November 2013, the Duarte City Council adopted the Duarte Station Specific Plan, the first of the Program's 22 projects to be completed. The Plan promotes mixed-use and high density in the area surrounding the future Gold Line Duarte station, as well as parking standards that take into account the area's proximity to transit. It also prescribes design guidelines to steer future development and create a sense of place that is associated with a vibrant transit village. Additional information can be found at <http://www.accessduarte.com>.

*City of Los Angeles:* The City of Los Angeles is creating Transit Neighborhood Plans for areas surrounding 10 transit stations along the Exposition and Crenshaw/LAX Light Rail lines. These plans will establish development regulations that better support transit ridership, such as allowing increased development intensity where appropriate and requiring pedestrian-oriented building design. Extensive public outreach has been conducted and a draft Streetscape Plan for Crenshaw Boulevard completed. Additional project information, including draft documents can be found at <http://www.latnp.org/>.

Attachment A displays images from both projects.

### NEXT STEPS

The Board will consider funding Round 4 of the Program at the January meeting. If approved, we will outreach to eligible applicants throughout February and March. We intend to release a call for applications in late March and will host an application workshop in early April. Applications will be due in late June with recommendations for grant awards to be considered by the Board in September 2014.

### ATTACHMENT

A. TOD Planning Grant Program Project Images

TOD Planning Grant Program Project Images

City of Duarte



*Illustration from the Duarte Station Specific Plan*

City of Los Angeles



*Rendering of Crenshaw and 59th St. from the Draft Crenshaw Blvd Streetscape Plan*