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TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ARTHUR T. LEAHY *AL*
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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

SUBJECT: FIRST/LAST MILE STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

ISSUE

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors adopted the First/Last Mile Strategic Plan (Plan) at the April 2014 Board Meeting. The Metro Board also adopted a series of motions to further direct staff regarding implementation of the Plan.

DISCUSSION

In this report, staff has prepared updates regarding the following items: status of pilot stations; Director Yaroslavsky's motion to include North Hollywood and Universal City/Studio City Stations in the pilot station program; and submittal of an Active Transportation Program application to conduct first/last mile planning along the Metro Blue Line.

Pilot Stations

At the November 2013 Board meeting, Directors Fasana, O'Connor, and Bonin introduced a motion (Item #7) directing staff to identify two stations on the Expo Line Phase 2 and Gold Line Foothill Extension Phase 2A respectively.

Staff reported back to the Board in April 2014 identifying four pilot stations. Staff recommended, and the Board adopted, the following stations: Expo/Bundy Station, 17th Street/Santa Monica City College Station, Arcadia Station, and Duarte Station. These stations were selected because the respective city had either a successful Call for Projects application, or the city had submitted a

Call for Projects application, but was not selected. Once these stations were selected, staff worked closely with each respective city's staff to amend existing Call for Projects applications to reflect the improvements identified in the Plan.

As part of the recommendation, staff identified the Active Transportation Program (ATP)¹ as the primary source of funds for these pilot stations. Per Item #8 from the April 2014 Board Meeting, Metro staff provided grant writing assistance for the applications. Metro and city staff completed and submitted the applications to Caltrans for ATP Cycle 1.

North Hollywood and Universal City/Studio City Stations

At the April 2014 Planning and Programming Committee meeting, Director Yaroslavsky introduced a motion to include North Hollywood and Universal City/Studio City Stations as part of the pilot station program. This motion was approved along with staff recommendation to adopt the Plan and seek ATP funding for the pilot stations.

North Hollywood and Universal City/Studio City Stations do not have Call for Projects applications which could be converted to ATP applications. However, as part of the First/Last Mile Strategic Plan, the North Hollywood Station was included as a case study site. As a result, Metro staff will refine the project elements discussed in the case study with City of Los Angeles staff and submit an ATP application for Cycle 2.

For the Universal City/Studio City station, Metro staff will conduct first/last mile planning as described in the plan to identify needed improvements in collaboration with the appropriate agencies.

Metro Blue Line First/Last Mile Plan ATP Application

In November 2013, Directors O'Connor and DuBois amended the motion regarding first/last mile improvements to include existing Metro Rail and Bus lines as well as those under construction. In response, staff prepared and submitted an ATP application to seek funding for first/last mile planning around all 22 Metro Blue Line stations. The proposed planning work will utilize the planning guidelines described in the Plan to recommend and prioritize improvements for Blue Line stations. The deadline for Cycle 1 ATP applications was May 21, 2014. Metro staff expects to receive a response regarding funding from Caltrans by August 8, 2014 and from SCAG by September 30, 2014.

¹ The Active Transportation Program (ATP) is a new funding source from the state which is dedicated to funding bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and planning activities.

NEXT STEPS

As noted above, Metro staff expects to receive the result of the ATP process by August 8, 2014. If the pilot projects are successful, Metro staff will continue to support each respective city's staff in implementation.

For the North Hollywood and Universal City/Studio City Stations, Metro staff will conduct the required fieldwork in early June 2014. We will compile the results and work with each affected jurisdiction and stakeholders to develop feasible projects for submission in the ATP Cycle 2.

If Metro is successful in the ATP Cycle 1 for the Metro Blue Line First/Last Mile Plan, Metro staff will seek to begin work immediately once funds are available. If Metro is not successful, we can resubmit the application for the ATP Cycle 2.