



Metro

Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

213.922.2000 Tel
metro.net

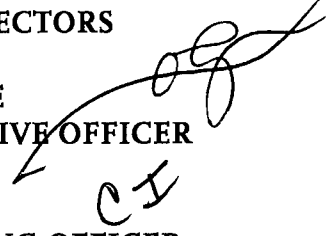
August 17, 2006

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ROGER SNOBLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: CAROL INGE
CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF CTC-RELATED MEETINGS HELD
IN SAN DIEGO ON JULY 19 AND 20, 2006



ISSUE

Countywide Planning and Development staff participated in the regular monthly meetings of the California Transportation Commission (CTC), the Self-Help Counties Coalition (SHCC), and the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPA), which were held on July 19 and 20, 2006 in San Diego. The following summarizes the key topics and issues addressed at these meetings.

DISCUSSION

1. CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (CTC)

\$4.2 Billion in CTC Allocation Capacity for Fiscal Year (FY) 2006-07

Caltrans staff presented the CTC's 2006-07 fiscal year allocation capacity for the following categories:

- \$1.89 billion for the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP)
- \$1.29 billion for the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
 - \$990 million for State Highway Account (SHA)
 - \$330 million for the Public Transportation Account (PTA), and
- \$990 million for the Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP).

An additional \$850 million could be available, if the Tribal Gaming Bonds proceeds are realized. With the \$850 million, as much as \$5.0 billion total in transportation allocation capacity would be available.

CTC Approves \$36.6 Million in Locally Administered STIP Allocation Requests for Los Angeles County

The CTC approved the following STIP requests:

- \$32,571,000 in STIP Rail/Transit funds for Metro’s 50 Light Rail Transit Vehicle Acquisition;
- \$3,885,000 in Planning, Programming and Monitoring funds for Metro to develop projects and administer state transportation funding for Los Angeles County’s regional needs; and
- \$110,000 in STIP Transportation Enhancements (TE) funds to design and construct a 2.7-mile portion of the Exposition Right-of-Way bike path in West Los Angeles.

Status of Construction Contract Award for Local Assistance STIP Projects per FY 2005-06 Allocation Criteria

CTC staff presented a status update on Local Assistance STIP projects. They identified and reviewed those sponsors and their projects, for which allocations were given, but have not yet been awarded under the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Allocation Plan. The agencies in Los Angeles County are listed as follows:

Agency	Project	PPNO	Allocation Date	Award Deadline	Allocation Amount	Project Status
City of Los Angeles	Historic Watts Train Station Museum	07-3174	18-Aug-05	31-Aug-06	\$105,000	Project expected to be awarded by extended deadline.
City of Los Angeles	Cultural Cres. Blue Line Entrance	07-3435	15-Dec-05	31-Dec-06	\$303,000	Project expected to be awarded by extended deadline.
City of San Gabriel	San Gabriel Boulevard Master Plan of Improvements	07-3434	3-Nov-05	31-May-07	\$297,000	City is submitting request to proceed with construction authorization immediately.

Status of Construction Contract Award for Traffic Congestion Relief Program Projects per FY 2005-06 Allocation Criteria

CTC staff presented a status update on TCRP projects. They identified and reviewed those sponsors and their projects, for which allocations were given, but have not yet been awarded under the Fiscal Year 2005-06 Allocation Plan. The agencies in Los Angeles County are listed as follows:

Agency	Project	TCRP #	Allocation Date	Award Deadline	Allocation Amount	Project Status
City of Los Angeles	Hollywood Intermodal Transportation Center	49.1	9-28-05	Sep-2006	\$2.5 million	Project expected to be awarded by extended deadline.
Alameda Corridor East-Construction Authority	Alameda Corridor East Sunset Ave Grade Separation	54.1	9-28-05	Sep-2006	\$47.720 million	Project advertised on May 30, 2006, with bid opening expected July 18, 2006

CTC Approves TCRP Application Amendment for Exposition Light Rail Transit Project

The CTC approved resolution TAA-06-42 to increase the initial scope of work for the Exposition Light Rail Transit Project. The scope increase includes the construction of a 5.5-mile Class I and Class II bikeway. The approval also acknowledges funding source changes from federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement funds to STIP-Public Transportation Account (PTA) funds.

Monthly Report on Local Assistance STIP Projects Previously Voted but Not Awarded

The following STIP Transportation Enhancement projects for Los Angeles County projects are subject to the 12-month award deadlines:

- City of Los Angeles Angel’s Flight Rehabilitation \$292,000 (award by 30-April-07), and
- City of Torrance Landscape Medians and Parkways \$808,000 (award by 31-May-07).

Next CTC Meeting

There is no scheduled CTC meeting for August. The next meeting will be held in Santa Barbara on September 13-14, 2006.

2. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCIES (RTPAs)

Representatives from the RTPAs met and discussed the continuing issues described in the following summaries.

Governor’s Strategic Growth Plan and the State Transportation Infrastructure Bonds

The GoCalifornia-Statewide Mobility Plan and the Statewide Goods Movement Action Plan are integral elements of the Governor’s Strategic Growth Plan. The Strategic Growth Plan includes funding to be provided in the form of General Obligation Bonds. The Legislature

approved the inclusion of Infrastructure Bond proposals 1A-1E for the November 2006 ballot. The 2006 ballot propositions will read as follows:

- 1A - Senate Constitutional Amendment No. 7 of the 2005-2006 Regular Session;
- 1B - The Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006;
- 1C - The Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006;
- 1D - The Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006; and
- 1E - The Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond Act of 2006.

Propositions 1A, 1B and parts of 1C pertain to transportation. Proposition 1A is a constitutional amendment to stop the diversion of the sales taxes on motor vehicle fuel from the Transportation Investment Fund (TIF) to the General Fund. Proposition 1B is the \$19.925 billion Transportation Bond and Proposition 1 C has specific programs for transit oriented development.

The CTC has established five working committees or groups to address issues regarding the funding tiers of the State Transportation Infrastructure Bond. RTPAs, including Metro, have been requested to participate in these committees. Countywide Planning staff has participated in the first round of committee meetings linked to the statutory distribution methods included in selected state transportation infrastructure bond programs. Countywide Planning staff will continue to participate in all of these meetings to ensure that Los Angeles County funding interests are fairly and satisfactorily addressed. The five committees are as follows:

Corridor Mobility Improvement

- Will examine existing STIP Guidelines as potential foundation for guidelines and criteria to be used in evaluating nominated projects for this funding. Need to develop guidelines quickly and produce draft documents by October 2006. First meeting held on July 14, 2006.

Performance Measures

- Will dovetail with guidelines and criteria developed for the Corridor Mobility Improvement funding. Will try to rely mostly on the adopted 2006 STIP performance criteria measures developed by the regions. However, State intends to go beyond STIP measures to cover more programs. First Meeting July 27, 2006.

State-Local Partnership Program

- Will develop guidelines and criteria from previous program initially. Previous program was not very favorable to Los Angeles County. Countywide Planning staff will work to ensure a more equitable process. No meeting dates yet established.

Trade Corridor Infrastructure, Security and Air Quality Improvements

- Will develop criteria that maximize the ability for ports and trade corridor improvements to leverage federal funds for those projects of interest. No meeting dates established yet.

Public-Private Partnerships

- Will develop guidelines and criteria on maximizing the potential of public-private partnerships to leverage bonds and expedite projects. No meeting dates as yet established.

Obligation Authority

Caltrans staff presented information on Federal FY 2005 Local Assistance Delivery formula obligation authority funds by county. State and federal representatives raised concern that the RTPAs are not meeting their Local Assistance obligation authority targets, which could result in a reduced program for the next federal fiscal year.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Rulemaking on Regional Transportation Plans

The FHWA will require Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to develop a more extensive public participation plan with new requirements that target specific stakeholders that have historically had little participation in developing the plans. These have included public transit labor organizations, the freight industry and environmental land management agencies, to name a few.

3. SELF-HELP COUNTIES COALITION

The Self-Help Counties Coalition (SHCC) met and discussed the proposed state transportation infrastructure bonds. The SHCC members agreed to develop an implementation criteria task force to provide input and recommended specific metrics to the state infrastructure bond categories. These metrics would be used to influence outcomes favorable to the SHCC members, as they will be most likely to leverage their local sales tax measure funds with the bonds to accelerate the backlog of existing projects.

4. LOCAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

The California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities conducted a workshop to provide an overview on a proposed statewide local streets and roads needs partnership project. The project goal is to gather information on the statewide local streets and roads needs both on and off pavement, and provide credible data to gain support from California policymakers and citizens to increase funding for the local transportation network.

This program is voluntary and not all of the RTPAs have agreed to participate. Countywide Planning staff believes that the initial template, which the Metropolitan Transportation Commission has provided, is onerous to distribute and collect from the 89 jurisdictions in Los Angeles County. Metro already has started a similar survey that will provide basic needs assessment data, which should suffice for this initial round of data gathering.

NEXT STEPS

Countywide Planning staff will continue to work closely with Business Transportation and Housing and CTC staff on the Strategic Growth Plan policy guidelines and distribution criteria for Proposition 1B and the transit-oriented development portion of Proposition 1C funds.