



Metro

September 16, 2013

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

FROM: MARTHA WELBORNE, FAIA *WW*
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COUNTYWIDE PLANNING

SUBJECT: WILSHIRE BUS RAPID TRANSIT PROJECT

ISSUE

At the November 25, 2010 meeting, the Board authorized the CEO to enter into contract agreements with the City of Los Angeles for up to \$29,541,043 and Los Angeles County for up to \$1,968,957 for a total project cost of \$31,510,000. This is to notify the Board that based on newer project developments by the two agencies, an additional adjustment to the two contract amounts will be needed. The City's contract amount will be adjusted to \$27,161,855 and the County amount adjusted to \$4,173,145. The remaining \$175,000 was used for supplemental environmental analysis conducted. Total cost of the two contracts and the supplemental environmental work remain within the total project budget of \$31,510,000.

BACKGROUND

The Wilshire BRT project spans approximately 12.5 miles from just west of downtown Los Angeles at Valencia Street to the Santa Monica city line at Centinela Avenue. Of the 12.5 miles, a number of general improvements would occur on 9.9 miles of Wilshire Boulevard, including 7.7 miles of peak period curbside bus lanes. Total cost of the project is \$31,510,000, with a Federal share of \$23,317,000 and a local match of \$8,193,000.

A majority of the improvements proposed for the corridor are within the City of Los Angeles (9.1 miles). These improvements include: restriping and signing the curb lanes as peak period bus lanes where applicable; selective curb lane reconstruction/repaving; selective street widening; transit priority system enhancements/upgrades; and, implementation of traffic/construction mitigations. A portion of the project corridor is under the County of Los Angeles jurisdiction, between Veteran Avenue and Federal Avenue (0.8 miles). In this area, project activities would include; street widening

between Bonsall Avenue and Federal Avenue; restriping; extension of the eastbound left-turn pocket at Sepulveda Boulevard; and implementing construction mitigations.

In November 2010, the Board authorized the CEO to enter into contracts agreements with the City of Los Angeles for up to \$29,541,043 and Los Angeles County for up to \$1,968,957 for the Wilshire BRT project. Total cost of the two contracts was \$31,510,000. However, in December 2011, based on more recent detailed cost estimates performed by the two agencies, the agreement amounts for each were adjusted. In addition, \$175,000 was allocated for supplemental environmental work needed to study two additional alternatives as part of the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA). The City's contract amount was adjusted to \$28,161,855 and the County's amount adjusted to \$3,173,145. Total cost of the two contracts and the supplemental environmental work remained at \$31,510,000.

During final design, the County of Los Angeles needed to revise the design for the north side of Wilshire near San Vicente to retain sufficient right-turn storage from westbound Wilshire onto northbound San Vicente. This requires working with the Veterans Administration (VA) to obtain a long-term easement for the use of a small portion of VA property and the replacement of existing landscaping. These modifications would also retain the existing street geometrics with regards to the number of travel lanes on the north side and allow for the addition of a new peak period eastbound bus lane on the south side. This will add \$1 million to the County's project cost, increasing it from \$3,173,145 to \$4,173,145.

In order to stay within the budget limits, we need to shift \$1 million of the project's funds from the City to the County. This shift will come from project funds reserved for contingencies. The City has concurred with reducing its budget from \$28,161,855 to \$27,161,855. This revised amount still provides the City with sufficient funding to construct the project. Total funds allocated to the two agencies and the supplemental environmental work remains within the total project budget of \$31,510,000.

NEXT STEPS

Contract agreements with both the City and County of Los Angeles will be amended based on the revised project costs for each.