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PLANNING & PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

April 14, 2004

**SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2004-05 FEDERAL TRANSIT
ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5310 PROGRAMMING
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**ACTION: ADOPTION OF FTA SECTION 5310 LOCAL SCORES
FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROJECTS**

RECOMMENDATION

- A. Approve the local scores for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 projects in Attachment 1 and authorize staff to include the applications recommended for funding in the 2004-05 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP);
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute the Resolution in Attachment 2 and transmit the Resolution and scoring recommendations to Caltrans.

ISSUE

The Section 5310 program annually provides funding for social service and public agencies for capital grants for transportation of senior citizens and persons with disabilities. The MTA, as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Los Angeles County, has responsibility for evaluating all Section 5310 grant applications from agencies in the county and forwarding the local priorities and scores to Caltrans. If approved by the Board, the local ranking and scores will be forwarded to Caltrans staff who will combine scores from other areas and develop a ranking of all projects in the state.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The process for scoring and for the distribution of Section 5310 funds is controlled by the California Transportation Commission. There is no opportunity for variation from one county to the next. Section 5310 funds are distributed to states based on population.

OPTIONS

The MTA is required under California Transportation Commission Resolution G-97-01 to score projects from their region and forward the adopted scores to Caltrans.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The FTA Section 5310 program is a Federal grant program that is not available for general MTA expenses. There is no local match required from the MTA. Each agency receiving funding provides the local match for its project(s). By providing funding for agencies transporting persons with disabilities, the recommended projects have the potential to reduce demand for Access Paratransit, the ADA paratransit service operated by Access Services.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The FTA Section 5310 program is a competitive capital grant program for private non-profit corporations and, under certain conditions, public agencies. Eligibility for these funds is limited to providers of services to the elderly and individuals with disabilities. The program is administered in California by Caltrans and consists of 80% Federal and 20% local funding. Approximately \$8 million of Section 5310 federal funds is expected to be available statewide. In Los Angeles County, 16 agencies applied, requesting a total of \$2.5 million for 53 vehicles plus related communications and computer equipment. The total number of applications and amounts requested have decreased in recent years due to budget issues affecting many eligible agencies.

Each year, the role of the MTA in this grant process is to establish a local review committee (LRC), score the applications, forward the scores to Caltrans, and program the requests into the RTIP. Representatives on the LRC are MTA staff and members of the Local Transit Systems Subcommittee and the Accessibility Advisory Committee; LRC members represent providers of services to seniors and persons with disabilities, users of transportation services, non-profit and for-profit transportation service providers and the MTA. The LRC used statewide criteria developed by Caltrans to score the applications. These criteria specify the scores possible in each of five categories: need for the requested equipment, client need for the agency's transportation services, agency's transportation effectiveness, agency's transportation management ability, and coordination of transportation-related activities with other agencies. Both the Local Transit Systems Subcommittee and the Accessibility Advisory Committee have reviewed the local scores and ranking of projects.

NEXT STEPS

Following adoption of the local scores, the priority listing with the scores is submitted to Caltrans, with the resolution in Attachment 2. The regional prioritized lists are due to the state May 7. After receiving local scores received from all Regional Transportation Planning Agencies in the state, Caltrans prepares a master list of projects and local scores, ranked on the basis of the local score for each project. The State Review Committee evaluates projects with a score above an identified minimum score (based on the project scores for all projects and the estimated federal funding for California in the next federal fiscal year). Following review of the draft state priority list, the California Transportation Commission adopts a priority list of all projects for which funding is expected to be available; this action is scheduled for the CTC's September meeting. On October 1 the state will forward the list of approved projects to the Federal Transit Administration. After adoption of the federal budget, Caltrans will begin the state procurement process for successful applicants.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Scoring Process and Local Applicant Scores
2. Resolution Certifying Project Consistency with Regional Transportation Plan

PREPARED BY: Rex Gephart, Director Ellen Blackman, Project Manager
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Countywide Planning and Development



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SCORING PROCESS AND APPLICANTS' SCORES

Caltrans has developed Statewide evaluation criteria for Section 5310 applications. The total amount of available points is 100. The number of projects that will be funded is dependent on the amount of funding available from the FTA, which is not known at this time but is expected to be \$8 million for California.

In November 2003, Caltrans distributed notices to approximately 1,500 Los Angeles County social service and public agencies about the Section 5310 application process. More than 100 Los Angeles agencies requested application packets, and 20 Los Angeles agencies attended a January workshop conducted by Caltrans and MTA staff explaining the application and evaluation processes. In addition, Access Services sponsored a workshop in December 2003 for potential applicants, at which MTA staff and Access Services staff provided detailed information about the application process to representatives from 25 agencies. In addition, staff of both MTA and Access Services, which is the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency (CTSA) for Los Angeles County, received inquiries from over 30 agencies regarding eligibility and coordination requirements. Sixteen non-profit and public agencies submitted applications to the MTA on February 5, 2004. The Local Transit Systems Subcommittee and Accessibility Advisory Committee each appointed two members to serve on the Local Review Committee (LRC). LRC members evaluated every project in the applications, and met with each applicant February 24 and February 26, 2004. Because meetings with applicants were held before the final application deadline, applicants had an opportunity to make changes and add information to their applications based on these sessions. Applicants provided revised applications to MTA by March 5, 2004, the same date they mailed applications to Caltrans Headquarters in Sacramento.

The recommended scores for the local projects are noted on the following pages. The projects are ranked from highest-priority to lowest, based on the scores. Following the priority listing is a list of the agencies submitting applications and each agency's total request.

RECOMMENDED LOCAL PROJECT SCORES IN PRIORITY ORDER

Attachment 1 (continued)

APPLICANT	EQUIPMENT REQUESTED	TOTAL SCORE	NEED FOR EQUIP	CLIENT NEED	EFFECTIVE	ABILITY	COORDINATE
East L A Remarkable Citizens Assoc (EL ARCA)	Expansion Medium Bus #1 with Radio	94	19	9	26	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (12563)	93	20	9	24	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (29600)	93	20	9	24	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (78993)	93	20	9	24	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (78999)	93	20	9	24	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (68287)	93	20	9	24	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (68291)	93	20	9	24	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (68293)	93	20	9	24	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (98183)	93	20	9	24	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (27138)	93	20	9	24	30	10
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (25179)	93	20	9	24	30	10

NOTE: Scores are based on detailed evaluation form based on funding criteria for projects. They include calculations based on miles, hours, and passenger trips; training programs; equipment maintenance; coordination with other agencies.

RECOMMENDED LOCAL PROJECT SCORES IN PRIORITY ORDER

Attachment 1 (continued)

APPLICANT	EQUIPMENT REQUESTED	TOTAL NEED		EFFECTIVE	ABILITY	COORDINATE
		SCORE	FOR EQUIP			
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (13182)	93	20	9	24	30
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (68299)	93	20	9	24	30
Access Services, Inc	Replacement Minivan (68295)	93	20	9	24	30
Villa Esperanza Services	Replacement Modified Van (40356)	93	20	10	23	30
Almanson Center / Institute for Redesign of Learning	Replacement Small Bus (replacing van 11213 with bus)	91	20	9	22	30
Almanson Center / Institute for Redesign of Learning	Replacement Small Bus (replacing van 06400 with bus)	91	20	9	22	30
Almanson Center / Institute for Redesign of Learning	Replacement Medium Bus (replacing van 34261 with bus)	91	20	9	22	30
Almanson Center / Institute for Redesign of Learning	Replacement Small Bus (replacing van 85517 with bus)	91	20	9	22	30
Villa Esperanza Services	Replacement Modified Van (51537)	91	18	10	23	30
Motion Picture & Television Fund	Replacement Minivan (52830)	90	20	10	22	28
Almanson Center / Institute for Redesign of Learning	Replacement Small Bus (replacing van 85516 with bus)	89	18	9	22	30

NOTE: Scores are based on detailed evaluation form based on funding criteria for projects. They include calculations based on miles, hours, and passenger trips; training programs; equipment maintenance; coordination with other agencies.

RECOMMENDED LOCAL PROJECT SCORES IN PRIORITY ORDER

Attachment 1 (continued)

APPLICANT	EQUIPMENT REQUESTED	TOTAL SCORE	NEED FOR EQUIP	CLIENT NEED	EFFECTIVE	ABILITY	COORDINATE
Pomona Valley Transportation Authority	3 Expansion Larger Buses	89	15	10	24	30	10
Motion Picture & Television Fund	Replacement Minivan (90331)	88	18	10	22	28	10
East L A Remarkable Citizens Assoc (EL ARCA)	4 Expansion Medium Buses and Radios	88	13	9	26	30	10
City of La Habra Heights and City of Whittier	Replacement Small Bus (replacing van 14397 with bus)	86	20	6	24	26	10
Santa Clarita Transit	4 Expansion Minivans	85	14	9	24	28	10
Asian Rehabilitation Services	Expansion Modified Van #1	79	15	8	23	23	10
Asian Rehabilitation Services	Expansion Modified Van #2	77	13	8	23	23	10
Logan, Marsh, Neal Care Foundation	Replacement Minivan (12944)	73	20	4	19	20	10
Logan, Marsh, Neal Care Foundation	Replacement Minivan (19061)	73	20	4	19	20	10
Logan, Marsh, Neal Care Foundation	Replacement Minivan (78705)	69	16	4	19	20	10
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science	Expansion Medium Bus	69	15	6	22	16	10

NOTE: Scores are based on detailed evaluation form based on funding criteria for projects. They include calculations based on miles, hours, and passenger trips; training programs; equipment maintenance; coordination with other agencies.

RECOMMENDED LOCAL PROJECT SCORES IN PRIORITY ORDER

Attachment 1 (continued)

APPLICANT	EQUIPMENT REQUESTED	TOTAL SCORE	NEED FOR EQUIP	CLIENT NEED	EFFECTIVE	ABILITY	COORDINATE
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science	Expansion Small Bus	69	15	6	22	16	10
Mary Lind Foundation	Replacement Small Bus (replacing van 74752 with bus)	68	14	9	12	25	8
Golden Acres Adult Day Health Care Center	Expansion Medium Bus	66	13	5	25	17	6
Golden Acres Adult Day Health Care Center	Expansion Small Bus	66	13	5	25	17	6
Modi Vivendi Residential Care	Expansion Modified Van	65	9	5	25	20	6
Logan, Marsh, Neal Care Foundation	Computer Hardware and Software	63	10	4	19	20	10
O P I C A Adult Day Care Center	Expansion Minivan	62	13	6	20	19	4
Logan, Marsh, Neal Care Foundation	Replacement Modified Van (17406)	61	8	4	19	20	10
Logan, Marsh, Neal Care Foundation	Expansion Modified Van	61	8	4	19	20	10
Modi Vivendi Residential Care	Computer Hardware and Software	61	5	5	25	20	6
Mary Lind Foundation	Replacement Large Bus (20109)	60	6	9	12	25	8

NOTE: Scores are based on detailed evaluation form based on funding criteria for projects. They include calculations based on miles, hours, and passenger trips; training programs; equipment maintenance; coordination with other agencies.

RECOMMENDED LOCAL PROJECT SCORES IN PRIORITY ORDER

APPLICANT	EQUIPMENT REQUESTED	TOTAL SCORE	NEED FOR EQUIP	CLIENT NEED	EFFECTIVE	ABILITY	COORDINATE
Golden Acres ADHC	Replacement Medium Bus (28509)	57	4	5	25	17	6
Antelope Valley Healthcare District	Expansion Modified Van #2	57	14	3	17	17	6
Antelope Valley Healthcare District	Expansion Modified Van #1	55	12	3	17	17	6
O P I C A Adult Day Care Center	Computer Hardware and Software	54	5	6	20	19	4
Antelope Valley Healthcare District	Base Station and 4 Mobile Radios	48	5	3	17	17	6

NOTE: Scores are based on detailed evaluation form based on funding criteria for projects. They include calculations based on miles, hours, and passenger trips; training programs; equipment maintenance; coordination with other agencies.

SECTION 5310 -- AGENCIES SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS -- 2004

Attachment 1 (continued)

AGENCY	REQUEST	DOLLARS REQUESTED	TOTAL AGENCY REQUEST
Access Services, Incorporated	13 Replacement Minivans	\$495,300	\$495,300
Almanson Center / Institute for Redesign of Learning	4 Replacement Small Buses Replacement Medium Bus	\$180,000 \$56,000	\$236,000
Antelope Valley Healthcare District	2 Expansion Modified Van Base Station and 4 Mobile Radios	\$96,000 \$9,700	\$105,700
Asian Rehabilitation Services	2 Expansion Modified Vans	\$96,000	\$96,000
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science	Expansion Small Bus Expansion Medium Bus	\$45,000 \$56,000	\$101,000
City of La Habra Heights and City of Whittier	Replacement Small Bus	\$45,000	\$45,000
East L A Remarkable Citizens Assoc (EL ARCA)	5 Expansion Medium Buses and Radios	\$287,500	\$287,500
Golden Acres Adult Day Health Care Center	Expansion Small Bus Expansion Medium Bus Replacement Medium Bus	\$45,000 \$56,000 \$56,000	\$157,000
Logan, Marsh, Neal Care Foundation	3 Replacement Minivans Replacement Modified Van Expansion Modified Van Computer Hardware and Software	\$123,000 \$48,000 \$48,000 \$950	\$219,950
Mary Lind Foundation	Replacement Small Bus Replacement Large Bus	\$45,000 \$60,000	\$105,000

SECTION 5310 -- AGENCIES SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS -- 2004

Attachment 1 (continued)

AGENCY	REQUEST	DOLLARS REQUESTED	TOTAL AGENCY REQUEST
Modi Vivendi Residential Care	Expansion Modified Van Computer Hardware and Software	\$48,000 \$5,704	\$53,704
Motion Picture & Television Fund	2 Replacement Minivans	\$82,000	\$82,000
O P I C A Adult Day Care Center	Expansion Minivan Computer Hardware and Software	\$41,000 \$1,750	\$42,750
Pomona Valley Transportation Authority	3 Expansion Larger Buses	\$249,000	\$249,000
Santa Clarita Transit	4 Expansion Minivans	\$164,000	\$164,000
Villa Esperanza Services	2 Replacement Modified Vans	\$96,000	\$96,000
TOTAL FINAL APPLICATIONS			\$2,535,904

**RESOLUTION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
CERTIFYING PROJECT CONSISTENCY
WITH REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Local Review Committee of Los Angeles County (“Committee”) is charged with reviewing applications for Federal funding under 49 U.S.C. Section 5310 for transportation services to meet the needs of seniors and persons with disabilities for whom public transportation services are otherwise unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has received requests for pieces of equipment from 16 agencies in Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has scored each such request; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (“MTA”), as the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (“RTPA”), endorses the scores of the requests as determined by the Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Section 5310 process, as interpreted in Federal Transit Administration Circular 9070.1C, Section 5, requires the RTPA to include in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program each request awarded Section 5310 funding by Caltrans and to certify by resolution that the locally evaluated projects are consistent with local area regional transportation plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, the MTA does hereby certify and resolve as follows:

Section 1. The MTA has determined that the locally evaluated projects approved by the MTA for Section 5310 funding (as described in Attachment 1) are consistent with the Los Angeles County regional transportation plan.

Section 2. Each of the projects awarded Section 5310 funding by Caltrans will be included in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) adopted for Los Angeles County.

