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Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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**PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE
MAY 16, 2012**

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL AGREEMENT(S)

**ACTION: EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT(S) WITH THE CALIFORNIA
HIGHWAY PATROL TO PROVIDE SUPPORT SERVICES TO
MTA**

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute an agreement(s) with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to provide services in support of the Metro Freeway Service Patrol (FSP), Big Rig Service Patrol, and ExpressLanes programs during FY13 in an amount not to exceed \$1,190,000.

ISSUE

The MTA in partnership with the CHP and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) operates and manages a variety of freeway programs designed to assist the motorists and improved mobility throughout the region. These programs include FSP, Big Rig Service Patrol, and the soon to start ExpressLanes project. CHP's role in support of all three programs is to provide dispatch, field enforcement, inspections, operator training/certification services and incident management support. An annual funding agreement(s) with CHP is needed to ensure that MTA is able to obtain the appropriate level of services from CHP.

DISCUSSION

Freeway and Big Rig Service Patrol

CHP receives an annual funding allocation from the State to cover the cost of supporting the FSP and Big Rig programs; however, as it has been historically; state funding is not sufficient to meet the needs of the both programs in Los Angeles County. Therefore, it is necessary for MTA to augment the state funding to ensure that we maintain an effective level of CHP support to properly manage and operate the current FSP and Big Rig programs.

For FY13, staff negotiated with the CHP to maintain the contribution level for support services at \$990,000 for these two programs. This level of support is consistent with the amount provided during FY12 and is sufficient to support the current FSP and Big Rig programs. Included in this allocation is funding to support existing FSP and Big Rig operations, as well as the continued support for the 405 Widening Project, for which FSP provides additional services.

For FY13, CHP will be providing the following:

FSP

| Position | Quantity |
|--|-----------------|
| Officers | 4 |
| Associate Governmental Program Analyst | 1 |

Overtime Hours to support:

- FSP Supervision
- 405 Widening Project Supervision/Dispatch
- Express Lanes Supervision/Dispatch

CHP support is important to maintaining the overall effectiveness of the FSP and Big Rig programs. CHP's role in field supervision, dispatching and training helps to ensure the overall quality of the programs and services provided to the motoring public. Listed below are a few of the activities, performed by CHP staff dedicated to the FSP program in calendar year 2011:

| Activity | Quantity |
|--|-----------------|
| Cursory Inspection (Driver & Vehicle Spot Inspection) | 1,572 |
| Staging Area Inspection (Start of Shift Inspection) | 713 |
| Annual Vehicle Inspection (Annual Vehicle Compliance & Safety Inspection) | 398 |
| In-Field Contact & Interviews with Drivers | 6,922 |
| Complaint Investigations | 103 |
| Total Fines Levied & Recovered from Contractors Due to CHP Activity | \$119,825 |

ExpressLanes

Beginning in October 2012, MTA is scheduled to begin operation of the Metro ExpressLanes project along the I-110 freeway and in February 2013 begin operating along the I-10 freeway. These fee based lanes are designed to allow motorists to travel and maintain a minimum speed through the respective corridors during peak commuting periods. In support of the implementation of the ExpressLanes project, MTA will be operating a dedicated tow operation designed to efficiently and effectively respond and resolve incidents on the ExpressLanes. Similar to the FSP program, these

tow vehicles will be responsible for supporting the prompt and efficient removal of incidents along the ExpressLanes and CHP will be responsible for field supervision, driver training/certification and inspections. Despite these similarities, the ExpressLanes tow service will be a dedicated, separate and distinct service from the FSP Program, primarily due to the operational requirements and capabilities. As a result, support services will be needed from CHP to specifically support the ExpressLanes tow operations.

Staff is currently working with CHP to incorporate the ExpressLanes support requirements into the FSP and Big Rig support agreement; however, there has been some concerns raised regarding the use of the FSP/Big Rig agreement for the ExpressLanes. If it is determined that we are unable to use the FSP/Big Rig agreement in support of the ExpressLanes services, a separate agreement will be drafted; however, there will be no change to the level of services to be provided nor the overall value of the agreement. CHP has estimated cost of support at \$200,000 for FY13 based on the current start up schedule.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

The FSP Program provides a vital service to assist motorists with disabled vehicles on the freeways of Los Angeles County. During FSP operating hours, drivers provide specific services to motorists with disabled vehicles to get them safely back on the road or tow them to a designated safe location off of the freeway. As a vital partner to the FSP program, the CHP provides important support to the program in form of Driver training, Field Supervision of FSP drivers, and dispatching. Without this additional funding, it would not be possible for CHP to maintain the current level of support and for the FSP program to continue to provide current service levels on L.A. County freeways. The FSP Program completes approximately 300,000 assist annually. This recommendation will ensure that FSP continues to provide this service to motorists and ensures that motorists are removed from a dangerous environment in an expedition and effective manner.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding of \$1,190,000 for this agreement is included in the proposed FY13 budget under cost center 3352, Freeway Service Patrol, Project 300070, Freeway Service Patrol and line 50320, Contract Services. The total budget for CHP support over and above the statewide funding allocation in FY11 was \$990,000. CHP is expected to expend the full amount of the FY12 MOU.

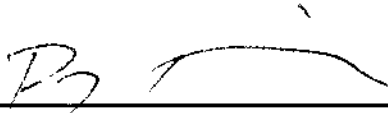
IMPACT TO ENTERPRISE FUND BUS AND RAIL OPERATING BUDGET

There is no impact to the Bus and Rail Enterprise Fund. The Metro Freeway Service Patrol and Big Rig Service Patrol are funded through a combination of Proposition C-25%, State, SAFE and AQMD Grant funds.

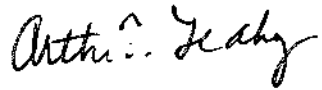
ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Board may decide to not approve the execution of this agreement. This alternative is not recommended, as it would decrease the amount of resources provided by the CHP in support of FSP, which would negatively impact the operation and effectiveness of the FSP program.

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