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REVISED
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
APRIL 17, 2014

**SUBJECT: WILLOWBROOK/ROSA PARKS STATION MASTER PLAN
IMPLEMENTATION**

**ACTION: APPROVE PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING AND LOCAL MATCH
FUNDING**

RECOMMENDATION

- A. Approve \$4 million to complete the Preliminary Engineering (PE) to implement the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station Master Plan; and
- B. Commit up to \$16 million in local match funds for a Department of Transportation (DOT) Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Act (TIGER) VI grant application. The amount of local match needed will depend upon the size of the TIGER grant awarded.

ISSUE

In February 2011, the Board adopted the Rosa Parks Station Master Plan and Transit Oriented Development report. Through a series of successive Board actions in June 2013 and January 2014, the Board authorized the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to: (1) negotiate the integration of the Station with an adjacent land parcel owned by the Los Angeles County Community Development Corporation (CDC) including the potential purchase of part of the parcel, contingent upon funding; (2) utilize \$500,000 for the Metro facility and associated station improvements design refinements; (3) complete the appropriate environmental review for conceptual station facility improvements to support federal, state and/or local funding requirements; (4) commence survey and appraisal activities for budgetary purposes; and (5) develop a detailed Life-of-Project budget estimate with potential funding sources identified for said improvements including the acquisition of 1.25 acres of County CDC owned land. Work is either being initiated or underway on all of these elements.

The Department of Transportation has issued notification of funding availability for the TIGER VI grant application cycle. The implementation of the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks

Station Master Plan is a competitive candidate for this grant program. The ~~County of Los Angeles Regional Planning and Community Development Commission (CDC)~~ will be a co-applicants with Metro. The project has an estimated cost of \$53 million, of which \$37 million will be requested through the TIGER program with Metro providing the \$16 million (30%) in local match. Staff is also requesting an additional \$4 million for PE which is not an eligible TIGER expense, but will be needed to move the project forward, irrespective of receiving the TIGER grant. Board authorization is being requested for the \$20 million (PE and TIGER local match) so that a TIGER VI grant application can be submitted prior to the April 28, 2014 due date.

DISCUSSION

The Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station connects the Metro Blue and Green lines and functions as a major intermodal center. The Station provides the only transfer point between the two rail lines and has the fourth highest passenger boardings in the Metro Rail system. It is located in an economically disadvantaged distressed area of the County which is seeing revitalization through the County's redevelopment of the Martin Luther King Jr. Medical Campus Multi-Service Ambulatory Care Center (MKL-MAGA), formerly known as Martin Luther King Jr./Drew Medical Center and other projects.

The Master Plan proposes a reconfiguration of the station area including platform capacity expansion, a new southern entrance to improve pedestrian movement, limited retail amenities, integration with the adjacent shopping center and nearby uses and intermodal connections and shuttle operations to local destinations and employment centers such as the MKL-MAGA Martin Luther King Jr. Medical Campus.

The Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station improvements will connect transit riders from the Station to the health services, jobs and training available at the ~~MLK-MAAG~~ Martin Luther King Jr. Medical Campus and other adjacent areas. It is designed to increase passenger capacity, repair or replace aging station components, improve passenger flow, enhance safety and security as well as improve connections to the area's jobs and services.

TIGER VI Grant Application

The Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Master Plan has an estimated cost of \$53 million. For a competitive TIGER grant application, an overmatch of the required 20 percent is recommended. Therefore, staff is recommending that Metro commit a 30 percent (\$16 million) to the project. The Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station Master Plan Implementation project appears to be extremely competitive for these grant funds based on the stated evaluation criteria including State of Good Repair, economic competitiveness, quality of life, environmental sustainability and improving safety.

Staff has re-initiated discussions with the CDC and the leaseholder of the 1.25 acres of property that needs to be acquired for the project and will initiate the survey and appraisal for budgetary purposes. Staff is also working with the consultant, various

Metro Departments and the County to refine the station plan and project budget. Work on the environmental clearance will soon be initiated and should be completed well in advance of the deadline for encumbering obligating the TIGER funds, if the application is successful.

TIGER VI grant applications are due April 28, 2014 with notification of award in fall 2014. If awarded, grant funds must be encumbered obligated by September 30, 2016 and the project completed by September 2021.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Approval of this item would allow for PE to be completed and a competitive grant application to be submitted for the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station Improvement Plan. If successful, improvements would be implemented at the Station to address safety and security concerns for both our passengers and employees, improve access to jobs and health services and continue the area's economic revitalization.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Measure R 2 percent Rail Capital System Improvements (cash or bond), Proposition C 5 percent Transit Security or a combination depending upon their availability will be used for the PE and TIGER VI grant local match. At the time project funding is needed, staff will evaluate other funding sources that are not eligible for bus and rail operating costs such as the Long Range Transportation Plan State of Good Repair resources and Proposition C 25%. Since this is a multi-year project, it will be the responsibility of the cost center manager and the Chief Planning Officer to budget in future years.

Impact to Budget

These fund sources are not eligible for bus or rail operating expenditures.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

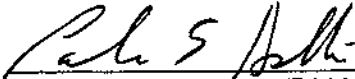
The Board could decide not to provide the \$20 million for this project's implementation, or could provide a reduced amount or could defer providing the local match and not submit a TIGER VI application until the project's scope is refined, the environmental clearance is complete and the land secured is from the CDC. ~~Neither~~ None of these alternatives is recommended. At this time, it is unknown whether TIGER grants will be available in the future. Through previous actions, the Board has directed staff to move forward with the project. Based on the TIGER VI grant requirements which require a local match, the project appears to be extremely competitive. Without these funds, staff cannot continue to ready the project or submit a TIGER VI grant application.


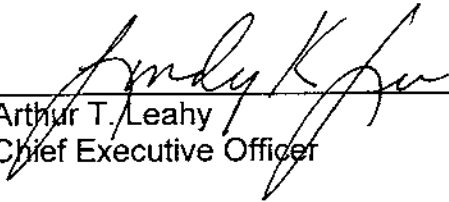
NEXT STEPS

Upon Board approval, staff will submit the grant application by the April 28, 2014 deadline. In cooperation with the County and CDC, staff will continue to work on the

station plan refinements, and initiate the survey and appraisal and start the environmental document. PE will be initiated at the appropriate time. At appropriate times in the project development process, staff will report to the Board.

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