



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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REVISED
CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE
JANUARY 15, 2015

**SUBJECT: METRO BETTERMENTS FOR EXPO PHASE 2 AND Foothill
EXTENSION PHASE 2A**

ACTION: AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR METRO BETTERMENTS

RECOMMENDATION

Modify Funding Agreements between Expo and Foothill Construction Authorities to allow for an increase in Betterment funding for Expo Phase 2 in the amount of \$450,000 and Foothill Extension Phase 2A in the amount of \$3,000,000. This funding increase will be used for ADA improvements and for additional Metro Betterments that are enhancements to the requirements of the 2010 Metro Design Criteria used at the time of bid for these two projects.

ISSUE

A betterment is a change requested by Metro or any third party that will improve the level of service and/or capacity, capability, appearance, efficiency or function over that which was required by the Metro Design Criteria at the time the design-build contracts were advertised for bid.

Metro is proposing to install ADA Directional Guidance Tiles at each of the twelve Expo 2 and Foothill Stations and in the Foothill Maintenance and Operations Facility. Tactile Guidance has been implemented nationally and internationally and is highly recommended by the Brail Institute to increase the "safe, independent and efficient travels for individuals who are visually impaired..." (see attached Brail Braille Institute Letter).

Additional betterments for the Foothill Extension project will provide wayfinding and signage upgrades, additional wiring for computer hardware and software, wireless and smart board technology, furniture upgrades in the maintenance and operations facility, pedestrian crossing enhancements and improvements to the Old Santa Fe Depot (a historical building).

Metro is updating design criteria to include ADA Tactile Guidance Tiles and many of the additional enhancements as part of our standards for future projects.

DISCUSSION

Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Phase 2A: Modification of the Foothill Funding Agreement was approved by the Metro Board in January 2013 to allow for use of Metro holdback funds up to \$6 Million for betterments. As a result, betterments have been implemented on the Foothill Phase 2A project that will benefit safety, operations and maintenance. In addition to these improvements, Metro staff is proposing to install ADA Directional Guidance Tiles in each of the six Foothill Phase 2A stations and provide other enhancements that will require an increase in the betterment funding amount.

The Old Santa Fe Depot is a historical building that is currently fenced and sits adjacent to the Light Rail Tracks across from the Azusa Downtown Station. Additional funds are needed to bring the building up to seismic code, to remove asbestos, repair structural components and repair the interior and exterior so that the building is usable for office and storage space for Metro Wayside. The City of Azusa will share costs, and a portion of the space will be available for the City's use.

Exposition Light Rail Project Phase 2: In April 2014, the Metro Board approved a separate betterment project for Expo Phase 2 and funded with Expo Corridor funds in the amount of \$4 Million. Metro staff is proposing to install the ADA Directional Guidance Tile System in each of the six stations. This improvement will require modification of the Expo Funding Agreement so that Metro holdback funds can be used to fund the ADA guidance system. In addition, further Expo betterments are being considered and if agreed upon between Metro and Expo Construction Authority may require use of holdback funds as part of a future Board Action.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Directional assistance tiles will significantly enhance Metro ADA passenger's ability to safely navigate rail stations to elevators, platforms and train doorways. Improvements to the wayfinding, traffic signage and pedestrian crossing enhancements will provide for passenger safety in and around stations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Phase 2A: Funding needed in addition to the original \$6,000,000 required to provide ADA Guidance Tiles and additional betterments for wayfinding signage, wiring for computer hardware and software, wireless and smart board technology, furniture upgrades in the Maintenance and Operations Facility, pedestrian crossing enhancements and upgrades to the Santa Fe Depot is estimated to be \$3,000,000. The source of funds for this recommendation is project funds from the Metro holdback portion of the project budget. Project Number 860200 life of project budget will not be impacted.

Exposition Light Rail Phase 2: Funding from the Metro holdback needed in addition to the original \$4,000,000 to provide ADA Guidance Tiles is estimated to be \$450,000. The source of funds for this recommendation is project funds from the Metro holdback portion of the project budget. Project number 860301 life of project budget will not be impacted.

Since this is a multi-year project, the Executive Director of Engineering and Construction, Project Manager and Cost Center Manager will be responsible for budgeting for future fiscal year periods.

NEXT STEPS

Upon Board authorization, staff will provide direction to the Foothill Construction Authority and the Exposition Construction Authority to proceed with implementation of the Betterments upon completion of negotiations.

ATTACHMENT

A. Braille Institute Letter

Prepared by: Rick Meade, EO Engineering and Construction

Bryan Pennington

Bryan Pennington
Executive Director, Engineering and
Construction

Arthur T. Leahy

Arthur T. Leahy
Chief Executive Officer



*Empowering visually impaired
people to live fulfilling lives*

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July 18, 2013

Daniel Levy
ADA Compliance Manager
LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Once Gateway Plaza MS#99-21-5
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Levy,

Thank you for coming to Braille Institute, Los Angeles with Mr. Jess Segovia. We are excited to be a part of the planning process to make our LA Metro transportation system accessible for all travelers that are visually impaired. The issue of implementing tactile guidance markings at all Metro transit stations is significant to individuals that are visually impaired due to the fact that public transportation is their primary form of transportation.

We strongly feel the installation of tactile warning and directional bars at the Metro stations will significantly increase safe, independent and efficient travel for individuals who are visually impaired and use white long canes. Currently our students rely on incidental physical and tactile features in the environment to aid in their orientation and mobility. Such as decorative pavement markings as well as large cracks, fixed trash cans and pillars. These items are not reliable because they are not universally located in all facilities and each facility has a slightly different layout. Our students need to learn each station individually in order to independently travel safely within them. Our students typically need to memorize routes to and from loading platforms at each and every station. If our student became distracted, bumped into a pedestrian or forgot one step of the memorized route they may become disoriented. Therefore, installation of distinct and purposeful tactile directional markings at the stations would greatly reduce the anxiety of being disorientated and increase the confidence of our students to utilize the Metro Transportation System. If these tactile markings are universally implemented at all Metro facilities it will give our students the ability to use multiple stations versus the ones that are specifically learned.

If you have any further questions or need to confer with our orientation and mobility specialists please feel free to contact me.

Sharon Ziegler
Field Services Manager
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