



May 18, 2020

To: Members of the Board of Directors
Donna DeMartino
From: Donna DeMartino, Managing Director
Subject: 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Grant Award Authorization

Overview

The California State Transportation Agency has awarded the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency \$38.7 million in 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program grant funding to advance much-needed capital improvements and planning studies on both the northern and southern ends of the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo rail corridor. Staff requests to allow the Managing Director to accept the grant funding, and to negotiate and execute all necessary grant-related agreements with the California Department of Transportation and California State Transportation Agency.

Recommendations

Authorize the Managing Director to accept \$38.7 million in 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program grant funds and to negotiate and execute all necessary agreements with the California Department of Transportation and California State Transportation Agency.

Background

On October 18, 2019, the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) issued a call for projects for the 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP). The TIRCP was created by Senate Bill (SB) 862 (Chapter 36, Statutes of 2014) and modified by SB 9 (Chapter 710, Statutes of 2015) to support transformative capital improvements that will modernize California's intercity, commuter, urban rail systems, and bus and ferry systems, while significantly reducing emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG), vehicle miles traveled, and traffic congestion.

The Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency (Agency) worked with member and partner agencies to submit an application requesting a total of nearly \$80 million in grant funding by the January 16, 2020 application deadline. CalSTA received 45 applications from rail and transit agencies throughout the state requesting a total of \$2.5 billion in 2020 TIRCP funding.

On April 21, 2020, CalSTA announced its recommendation to award \$500 million in 2020 TIRCP funding to 17 projects statewide. The \$500 million in TIRCP funding is provided through a combination of SB 1 revenues, as well as proceeds from the state's Cap and Trade program. The application submitted by the LOSSAN Agency received funding through the 2020 TIRCP, totaling \$38.7 million.

Discussion

The LOSSAN Agency's \$38.7 million grant award includes \$10.3 million to complete construction for Phase 1 of the Central Coast Layover Facility and \$28.4 million for the design and construction for Phase 1 of the San Diego County Maintenance and Layover Facility.

The Central Coast Layover Facility will expand the capacity and capabilities of the layover facility in San Luis Obispo by relocating and constructing a new facility to advance service expansion and enhancement goals for the Pacific Surfliner. This project is currently undergoing preliminary engineering and environmental clearance.

The San Diego County Layover and Maintenance Facility will be a dedicated maintenance, support and storage location for the Pacific Surfliner service at the southern end of the LOSSAN rail corridor. This new facility will allow for the fleet of equipment operating on the Pacific Surfliner to have a dedicated maintenance and storage facility and allow for direct oversight of maintenance and overhaul programs, improving fleet utilization. This new facility will also support the service expansion and enhancement goals for the Pacific Surfliner.

The 2020 TIRCP grant funds awarded to the projects listed above will be supplemented with other sources of state funding, including Proposition 1B and State Transportation Improvement Program funds. In addition, while the LOSSAN Agency's request for funding to acquire or overhaul equipment for use on the Pacific Surfliner service was not funded through the 2020 TIRCP awards, CalSTA has indicated that as part of the overall scope of the program submitted, state funding from the public transportation account will be used going forward to fund enhancements to the Pacific Surfliner equipment.

Cumulatively, these projects are expected to result in more frequent service, increased ridership, improved equipment utilization and reliability, and a better overall passenger experience. The goal of the program is to make passenger rail a more attractive and viable travel alternative on the LOSSAN rail corridor that will help to reduce congestion and GHG emissions on parallel highways, particularly Interstate 5 and U.S. 101.

Two of the LOSSAN Agency's member agencies were also successful in receiving 2020 TIRCP grants for projects that will enhance connectivity with the LOSSAN rail corridor and Pacific Surfliner service, including:

- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) – In partnership with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority, Metro will be adding targeted capacity-increasing infrastructure and service to the Antelope Valley Line and assessing the feasibility of various alternate propulsion services to use on this line through a pilot program: \$107 million
- San Diego Association of Governments – construction of additional capacity projects for the Orange and Green Line light-rail operations and funding to advance the Del Mar Bluffs Stabilization Project: \$12.1 million

Next Steps

Staff is seeking Board of Directors' approval to formally accept the 2020 TIRCP grant award, in the amount of \$38.7 million, and to execute all necessary grant-related agreements with the California Department of Transportation and CalSTA. Staff will incorporate any expected project expenditures and associated TIRCP grant revenues in the draft FY2020-21 budget that will be presented to the Board for approval in June 2020. The Board previously approved Resolution No. 2019-L005 authorizing the Managing Director to accept transit, rail, intercity rail, and urban commuter funds that are allocated to the LOSSAN Agency by the California Transportation Commission.

In the coming weeks, staff will continue working with LOSSAN member agencies and host railroads on the necessary steps for moving forward in delivering and implementing these projects.

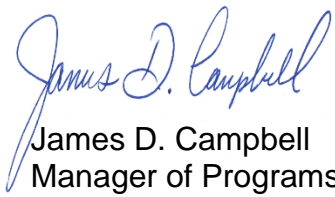
Summary

On April 21, 2020, the California State Transportation Agency awarded the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency \$38.7 million in 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program grant funds to support capital improvements on both the northern and southern ends of the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo rail corridor. Staff requests authorization to accept the grant funds and enter into all necessary grant-related agreements with California State Transportation Agency and the California Department of Transportation.

Attachment

None.

Prepared by:



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