


CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: April 15, 2025

To: The Honorable City Council
c/o City Clerk, Room 395
Attention: Honorable Heather Hutt, Chair, Transportation Committee

From: Laura Rubio-Cornejo, General Manager 
Department of Transportation

Subject: **AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING FROM THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS FOR THE JOINT STBG/CMAQ/CRP SOLICITATION
(CF 24-1055)**

SUMMARY

The City of Los Angeles submitted six grant applications to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) on February 16, 2024 to compete for the joint solicitation for the 2024 cycle of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funding. In October 2024, City Council authorized the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) and Bureau of Street Services (BSS) to accept grant funds awarded to three of the six projects and enter into the related project agreements. In February of 2025, LADOT, BSS, and Bureau of Engineering (BOE) were notified of additional awards for the remaining three projects and are requesting subsequent authorization to accept grant funds and enter into contractual agreements.

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. AUTHORIZE Los Angeles Department of Transportation to accept grant funds in an amount up to \$2,200,000 from the 2024 Joint STBG, CMAQ, CRP Solicitation for the Liechty Middle and Neighborhood Elementary Schools Safety Improvement Project;
2. AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Engineering to accept grant funds in an amount up to \$10,000,000 from the 2024 SCAG Joint STBG, CMAQ, CRP Solicitation for the SR-710 Valley Boulevard Multi-Modal Transportation Improvement Project;
3. AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Streets Services to accept grant funds in an amount up to \$4,000,000 for the Mission Mile Sepulveda Visioning for a Safe and Active Community Project; and
4. AUTHORIZE the General Manager, LADOT, or Director of the respective lead City Department, to execute any necessary funding agreements and contractual documents, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality, for accepting the grant funding.

BACKGROUND

On January 4, 2024, SCAG announced the joint solicitation for project nominations under the STBG, CMAQ, and CRP which has an estimated budget of \$147 million from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for the Los Angeles region. The STBG program allocates federal funds to preserve and improve the conditions and performance of highways, bridges, public roads, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and transit capital projects. CMAQ supports transportation projects with federal funds to reduce congestion and improve air quality for areas that do not meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and for areas now in compliance. The CRP, established by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, funds projects that decrease carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions that result from on-road, highway sources.

On January 10, 2024, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) announced a solicitation for STBG, CMAQ, and CRP project nominations for the Los Angeles County area. Metro, as the county transportation commission, solicited and received applications from subregional jurisdictions by February 16, 2024. On March 28, 2024, Metro staff advanced countywide applications to the Metro Board for approval and submitted applications for funding consideration to SCAG. On June 6, 2024, SCAG announced project awards, which included \$21,729,669 in awards for three of the City's six project applications. On February 28, 2025, Metro notified City staff of available funding for the remaining three projects that had been placed on SCAG's contingency list in 2024. These three projects and award amounts are listed in Attachment A.

DISCUSSION

For the Mission Mile: Sepulveda Visioning for a Safe and Active Community Project, BSS is accepting \$4 million of the original \$15 million request. The \$4 million will help fill a funding gap to complete the design phase of the project. BSS is not accepting the remaining \$11 million in contingency funding because the funds would need to be obligated by September 30, 2025, which does not align with the project's construction schedule. Instead, the Bureau will request construction funds through the 2025 STBG/CMAQ grant funding opportunity.

Next Steps

For the three recently awarded projects, LADOT, BOE, and BSS project managers will coordinate with Metro to add the projects into the Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) database to access programmed funding. Once the funds have been approved in the FTIP, the projects can move forward with the Caltrans obligation process. To initiate front funding for these reimbursable grants, LADOT will request appropriation increases through the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Transportation Grant Funding (TGF) Report. Project managers for awarded projects must obligate funds by September 30, 2025.

City staff are closely monitoring changes to federal funding policies and requirements. Should this program be impacted by future changes, staff will report back on those changes and resulting impacts.

Local Match Requirements

A non-federal local match of 11.47% is required for this program. The use of toll credits for these funding opportunities is subject to availability at the time the project is programmed in the FTIP. If toll credits are not deemed eligible by SCAG, the City will identify a cash match in lieu of toll credit funding. Attachment A outlines candidate projects and proposed local match funding sources.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should there be sufficient toll credits available as eligible local match, there will be no impact to the City's General Fund. In the case that toll credits are not available, the City will need to identify alternative sources to meet the required 11.47% local match. Attachment A identifies the local match funding source should toll credits not be available.

There is no immediate impact on special funds; however, for projects awarded grant funding, City agencies, in conjunction with the Office of the City Administrative Officer, will identify the recommended front funding appropriations from available and appropriate funding sources in that current fiscal year to deliver the projects (i.e., design, project management, construction and inspection). Funding in subsequent budget years will be determined by the Mayor and Council each year as part of the annual budget process.

LRC:DM:cr/rg

Attachment A: List of Submitted STBG/CMAQ/CRP Projects

Attachment A: List of Submitted STBG/CMAQ/CRP Projects

Project Name	Proposed Project Limits	Project Lead	Council Office	Requested Funding Amount	Awarded Funding Amount Aug 2024	Awarded Funding Amount Feb 2025	Local Match Amount	Local Match Funding Source
Expo Northvale Gap Closure Project	300ft West of Putney Rd. to Motor Ave. approximately 100 ft North of the I-10 freeway.	LADOT	5	\$13,279,500	\$13,279,500	---	\$1,943,409	TDA - Fund 207, Fund 540, Measure R, Fund 59c
Mid-City Low Stress Bicycle Enhancement Corridors Project	La Cienega Blvd. to La Brea Ave., 2nd St. to Willoughby Ave., Willoughby Ave. to Hollywood Blvd.	LADOT	5 & 13	\$1,810,419	\$1,810,419	---	\$483,629	Prop C (Salaries)
Western Our Way: Walk and Wheel Improvements Project	Western Ave. from Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd to Century Blvd. Denker and Gramercy Blvds from MLK Jr. to Century Blvd.	BSS	8	\$6,639,750	\$6,639,750	---	\$860,250	Prop C (Salaries)
Liechty MS and Neighboring Schools Project	0.25-mile within 10th St. ES, Gratts LAYS, Gratts EEC, and Liechty MS in Central Los Angeles	LADOT	1	\$2.2M	---	\$2.2M	\$285,000	Measure R PED set aside Fund 51Q
SR 710 Valley Blvd MultiModal Transportation Improvements Project	Valley Blvd. and Mission Rd. between the SR 710 terminus and Union Station.	BOE	14	\$10M	---	\$10M	\$1,147,000	Toll Credits*
Mission Mile: Sepulveda Visioning for a Safe and Active Community	Sepulveda Blvd. between Rinaldi St. and Rayen St., and Brand Blvd. between Sepulveda Blvd. and Memory Park Ave. in San Fernando Valley	BSS	7	\$15M	---	\$4M	\$458,800	ATP State funds

* None of the project's other sources of funding are eligible as a local match. If the City's toll credits are not available or available but not approved at the time the project is programmed in the FTIP, the City may need to identify other funds at that time or not accept the funding.