

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: April 4, 2024

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

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



Subject: **AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS) LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP) AND ADOPT THE PROJECT RESOLUTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-24**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) requests authority to submit a project application for the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP). To encumber the grant funding allocated to LADOT, the City Council must also adopt the attached project resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

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

1. Adopt the attached LCTOP Project Resolution, as required by the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans).
2. Authorize the Department of Transportation General Manager to apply for, accept funds, and execute any necessary agreements for FY 2023-24 LCTOP grant funds from Caltrans in an amount up to \$1,788,979 for costs associated with the implementation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and equipment at the Commercial Street Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility, located at 454 East Commercial Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.
3. Authorize the funds to be deposited in Fund 385, account number to be determined, entitled "LCTOP Facility Upgrades for Electrification" and appropriate therein for the implementation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and equipment.

BACKGROUND

In 2014, the California legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 862 to provide operating and capital assistance for transit agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve mobility, with a priority on serving disadvantaged communities. This legislation established LCTOP as a noncompetitive, formulaic funding program. The State Controller's Office appropriates 5% of Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) to LCTOP annually. As a transit operator in Los Angeles County, the LADOT is eligible for an annual LCTOP allocation from Caltrans. The direct allocation of LCTOP funds is in contrast to most other grant funds that LADOT

Transit receives for capital projects and does not require LADOT to rely on Prop A for front funded expenditures to access the grant funds. The State Controller's Office determines LADOT's annual allocation by formula and identified \$1,788,979 in LCTOP funds available for LADOT in FY 2023-24 (Attachment 1).

DISCUSSION

Since the LCTOP program began in 2015, LADOT has secured LCTOP funds to procure zero-emission buses, to obtain bike racks for buses, to support fareless DASH service for students, and to install electric vehicle charging infrastructure. For FY 2023-24, LADOT will apply to use the LCTOP allocation to cover costs associated with the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and equipment at the Commercial Street Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility (Downtown Yard). Electrifying the Downtown Yard is a high priority for LADOT to successfully transition to and operate an all-electric bus fleet by 2030, as directed by the City Council. The Downtown Yard currently has 13 chargers to charge battery electric buses. LADOT is seeking to leverage a variety of funding sources including LCTOP to install an additional 22 chargers for a total of 35 chargers available to charge battery electric buses at the Downtown Yard. The electrification infrastructure will support the operation of battery electric buses that are planned to operate out of the Downtown Yard.

Official grant requests must be accompanied by the attached Council Resolution (Attachment 2). The resolution identifies the LCTOP project and allows LADOT to accept the LCTOP funding and execute any necessary agreements. The LCTOP application is due to Caltrans on April 26, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no impact to the City of Los Angeles General Fund since there is no match for this project.

LRC:JK:ds

Attachment 1: State Controller's Office FY 2023-24 LCTOP Funding Eligibility

Attachment 2: Resolution

Resolution

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE
CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES AND AUTHORIZED AGENT FORMS
FOR THE LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP)
FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT(S):
Commercial Street Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility Electrification Project
City of Los Angeles \$1,788,979

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation is an eligible project sponsor and may receive state funding from the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) for transit projects; and

WHEREAS, the statutes related to state-funded transit projects require a local or regional implementing agency to abide by various regulations; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 862 (2014) named the Department of Transportation (Department) as the administrative agency for the LCTOP; and

WHEREAS, the Department developed guidelines for the purpose of administering and distributing LCTOP funds to eligible project sponsors (local agencies); and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation wishes to delegate authorization to execute these documents and any amendments thereto to Laura Rubio-Cornejo, LADOT General Manager, Jay Kim, LADOT Assistant General Manager over Mobility Management Office, and David Somers over the Transit Grants, Budget, and Procurement Division; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation wishes to implement the following LCTOP project(s) listed below,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Los Angeles City Council that the fund recipient agrees to comply with all conditions and requirements set forth in the Certification and Assurances and the Authorized Agent documents and applicable statutes, regulations, and guidelines for all LCTOP funded transit projects.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Laura Rubio-Cornejo, LADOT General Manager, Jay Kim, LADOT Assistant General Manager over Mobility Management Office, and David Somers over the Transit Grants, Budget, and Procurement Division be authorized to execute all required documents of the LCTOP program and any Amendments thereto with the California Department of Transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Los Angeles that it hereby authorizes the submittal of the following project nomination(s) and allocation request(s) to the Department in FY 2023-2024 LCTOP funds:

(Continued to next page)

List project(s), including the following information:

Project Name: Commercial Street Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility Electrification Project

Amount of LCTOP funds requested: \$1,788,979

Short description of project: Installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure at LADOT Transit's Commercial Street transit operations and maintenance facility.

Benefit to a Priority Populations: Project will directly benefit priority populations within disadvantaged communities and low-income communities.

Amount to benefit Priority Populations: 100%