

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to a grant award from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for the implementation of Los Angeles Department of Transportation's (LADOT) Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP) in South Los Angeles.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE the LADOT, to accept on behalf of the City, a \$7,077,770.53 grant award from CARB, including authorization to execute a grant agreement with CARB, and potential future grant amendments, to carry out the STEP grant for a performance period effective from the date of execution of the CARB agreement through March 31, 2025.
2. AUTHORIZE the Controller to establish an appropriation account within Transportation Grant Fund No. 655, Department No. 94 in the amount of \$7,077,770.53 to implement the CARB STEP.
3. AUTHORIZE the LADOT to negotiate and execute:
  - a. A memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), not to exceed \$756,770, to implement a mobility wallet as part of the STEP grant agreement.
  - b. An agreement with Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI), not to exceed \$1,600,000, to procure electric micromobility devices for a community based micromobility pilot.
  - c. An agreement with EVgo, not to exceed \$125,000, derived from the CARB STEP funds to install electric charging infrastructure.
  - d. An MOU with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to provide funding in the form of electric vehicle rebates for at least \$605,000.
  - e. An agreement with the South Los Angeles Transit Empowerment Zone (SLATE-Z), not to exceed \$393,298.53, to conduct and coordinate community engagement activities related to the grant.
  - f. An agreement with Los Angeles Trade Technical College (LATTC), not to exceed \$258,504.40 to provide workforce development training and to implement a Youth Ambassador community engagement program.
  - g. An agreement with CicLAvia, not to exceed \$175,000, to provide open street events that will serve as testing and onboarding platforms for STEP

as well as venues for data collection, community feedback, and outreach and recruitment.

- h. An agreement with Mobility Development Partners (MDP), not to exceed \$258,347, exemption from the Charter Section 1022 Determination, for a performance period effective from May 15, 2021 through March 30, 2025, subject to the compliance with City contracting requirements and approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The LADOT reports acceptance of the \$7,077,770.53 for the STEP grant award from CARB will provide funds to support the City's efforts to continue the nation's biggest EV Carsharing program and provide access to transportation options in disadvantaged community in South LA. Grant funds will be used for development of mobility wallet, installation of electric chargers, providing electric bikes, providing training and workforce development, and community based organizations' steering committee expenses. Upon execution of the grant agreement, the City anticipates total reimbursement of \$7,077,770.53 million until the completion date of March 31, 2025, performance period. Matching and in-kind resources of at least \$3,984,261 million will be available to implement the STEP Pilot Project. The LADOT continues to seek state and federal support for associated initiatives. The recommendations above are in compliance with City financial policies in that grant revenues and anticipated budgeted City funds are available for, to support this program. Further information on these commitments is outlined in the grant application.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

## SUMMARY

In a report to Council dated April 28, 2021, LADOT states that the Department received a preliminary grant award from CARB under the STEP grant program in the amount of \$7,077,770.53 on November 6, 2020. LADOT seeks authority to accept the grant and to execute agreements with various implementation partners to execute the funded CARB STEP grant program.

LADOT reports that STEP is a new CARB funding program that takes a community-based approach to overcoming barriers to clean transportation and mobility options. It aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase access to clean transportation, and address community transportation needs by funding planning, clean transportation, and land use projects. The program pilot area is in South Los Angeles, bounded by 10 Freeway to the north, South Alameda Street to the east, Crenshaw Boulevard to the west, and Florence Avenue to the south.

The STEP program includes the following projects:

- An expansion of BlueLA carshare services into South Los Angeles.

- The creation of a network of approximately 50 public Level 2 chargers throughout the project area.
- On-demand free (electric) shuttle service to the heart of South Los Angeles between Vermont and Central Avenues.
- LADOT Quick Build Street Safety Improvements including quick-build traffic calming, wayfinding, and active mobility infrastructure.
- Street enhancements to facilitate safe and comfortable pedestrian and bicycle connections between the future Rail to Rail Active Transportation Corridor and the Crenshaw / Los Angeles International Airport Fairview Heights Station.
- Metro mobility wallet for low-income, student, senior, and disabled riders.
- Los Angeles CleanTech Incubator Electric Micro-Mobility depot providing access to 250 shared electric bikes.
- LATTC and LACI Workforce Development providing local technical training, internship opportunities, and direct employment.
- SLATE-Z and Ciclavia stakeholder and community engagement for area residents to serve an advisory role on the project.

At its meeting held May 4, 2021, the Transportation Committee discussed this matter with LADOT staff. Committee members praised the wide array of transit and environmental justice policy goals addressed by the program. It was suggested that the Department attempt to expand the program to Watts and to Harbor Gateway communities. Committee recommended that Council approve LADOT'S recommendations to accept the grant award and to execute the related contracts and agreements to implement the STEP program.

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
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BONIN:	YES
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KORETZ:	YES
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BUSCAINO:	YES
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Respectfully Submitted,

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

**- NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS -**