

Communication from Public

Name: Zahirah Mann

Date Submitted: 02/15/2022 11:25 AM

Council File No: 22-0162

Comments for Public Posting: February 15, 2022 The Honorable Mike Bonin, Chair The Honorable Joe Buscaino The Honorable Paul Koretz
Transportation Committee City Hall, Room 395 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 Via Public Comment SUPPORT: Council File No. 22-0162, Universal Basic Mobility Program
Dear Chair Bonin and City Council: On behalf of the South Los Angeles Transit Empowerment Zone (SLATE-Z), we write to express our support of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation's (LADOT) recommendation to access \$4 million to support the implementation of the Universal Basic Mobility program. SLATE-Z is the backbone entity that manages the cross-sector collective impact partnership of organizations that comprise the federally-designated South Los Angeles Promise Zone, which is home to nearly 198,000 residents in parts of Vernon Central, South Park, Florence, Exposition Park, Vermont Square, Leimert Park, and Baldwin Hills/Crenshaw. SLATE-Z is a place-based initiative and collective impact partnership whose mission is to revitalize South Los Angeles by moving residents to economic opportunity. The name "Transit Empowerment Zone" was chosen out of a desire to capitalize on opportunities that ongoing public transit expansion brings for neighborhood revitalization. In August 2020, LADOT worked in partnership with SLATE-Z to submit a grant application to pilot Universal Basic Mobility options in South Los Angeles. Under the California Air Resources Board Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (CARB STEP), CARB awarded \$14 million to deliver the project. Expanding on this work, in April 2021, LADOT developed and submitted a multi-faceted grant application to the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) requesting over \$40 million in infrastructure improvements for South Los Angeles. LADOT received a partial award of \$18 million to advance its Universal Basic Mobility workstream to ensure South Los Angeles has dignified, reliable, and safe transportation that serves their needs. As an outreach and implementation partner in the CARB STEP efforts, SLATE-Z sees LADOT's recommendation to access \$4 million to implement the Universal Basic Mobility pilot program as a way to increase access to mobility services for South Los Angeles residents. Sincerely, Zahirah Mann President and CEO SLATE-Z



February 15, 2022

The Honorable Mike Bonin, Chair
The Honorable Joe Buscaino
The Honorable Paul Koretz

Transportation Committee
City Hall, Room 395
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Via Public Comment

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¹ US Department of Transportation FY 2021 NFRA Proposed Project Selections. See:
<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/financing/infra-grants/infra-2021-fact-sheets>



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "ZM", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Zahirah Mann
President and CEO
SLATE-Z