



August 12, 2021

To: Transit Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: SB 1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) State of Good Repair Program Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2021-22 Funds

Overview

The SB 1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) State of Good Repair Program provides funding for transit capital, which is generated from the Transportation Improvement Fee. Programming recommendations are presented for fiscal year 2021-22 funds. These funds will help upgrade the Orange County Transportation Authority bus system, consistent with state program goals.

Recommendations

- A. Approve Resolution No. 2021-063 authorizing the use of fiscal year 2021-22 SB 1 State of Good Repair Program funding, which is estimated to provide approximately \$6.4 million, for the Transit Security and Operations Center Project.
- B. Authorize staff to make all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program, and execute any necessary agreements to facilitate the above recommendation.

Background

On April 28, 2017, Governor Brown signed SB 1, known as the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. The State of Good Repair (SGR) Program is a transit capital program funded from the SB 1 Transportation Improvement Fee (TIF), that is funded through vehicle registrations. It is estimated that the TIF will provide \$117.5 million statewide in SGR for fiscal year (FY) 2021-22. The Orange County Transportation Authority's (OCTA) share is currently estimated to be \$6.4 million. The State Controller's Office (SCO) will release a revised estimate for the FY 2021-22 SGR funds in August 2021, after this staff report is published. Actual revenues may differ based on the collection of funds through the TIF.

The specific goal of the SGR Program is to rehabilitate and modernize existing local transit systems, equipment, and facilities. Eligible projects include transit capital projects or services to maintain or repair a transit operator's existing transit vehicle fleet, or transit facilities that improve existing transit services and transit services that complement local efforts.

OCTA has received four cycles of SGR funding which have been used to support OC Bus fleet and facilities. The OCTA Board of Directors (Board) approved prior-year SGR funding for the following projects:

- Purchase ten zero-emission hydrogen fuel cell electric buses (\$5.6 million),
- Heating-ventilation unit replacements at the Anaheim Bus Base maintenance building (\$0.1 million),
- Purchase up to 17 iShuttle replacement buses (\$9.7 million),
- Replace up to five 40-foot compressed natural gas-powered buses with 40-foot zero-emission battery-electric buses (\$1.9 million),
- Power Generator Replacement Project at the Anaheim and Irvine Construction Circle Bus Bases (\$1.4 million),
- Facility modifications, upgrades, and replacement projects at the OCTA bus bases (\$5.3 million).

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) revises the SGR guidelines on an annual basis with the latest version approved in July 2021. Transit agencies will submit projects for Caltrans' confirmation of eligibility by September 1, 2021. Funds will be allocated quarterly by the SCO starting in November 2021.

Discussion

To access the SGR funds, OCTA is required to submit a Board-approved list of projects. Staff is requesting Board approval to use the FY 2021-22 SGR funds, currently estimated to be approximately \$6.4 million, for the Transit Security and Operations Center (TSOC) Project. This project includes replacing OCTA's control center facility, known as the Garden Grove Annex. The current facility cannot be retrofitted to achieve the continuous operations standards required of essential facilities in California. Planned uses of the TSOC include providing space and equipment for Central Communications (dispatch), Field Operations, Security and Emergency Preparedness, Transit Police Services, and OCTA operations support personnel. The TSOC will also support Orange County emergency operations. A detailed project fact sheet is provided in Attachment A.

OCTA has completed the environmental review and secured the necessary right of way for the project, and final design is underway. Staff recommends programming \$6.4 million of SGR funding to partially fund the construction phase of the project. Staff will return to the Board with a full funding plan for the construction phase once the final design estimate is finalized.

The use of SGR funding for the TSOC Project is consistent with Caltrans' SGR Program guidelines and also meets the program goals. The proposed action is also consistent with OCTA's Capital Programming Policies, approved by the Board in February 2019. As part of the SGR application process, OCTA is required to submit a Board-approved list of projects through a resolution (Attachment B). The action recommended in this report has been added to OCTA's Capital Funding Program (Attachment C).

Next Steps

With Board approval, staff will submit a request to Caltrans by September 1, 2021, for the use of \$6.4 million or the revised estimate/actual FY 2021-22 SGR funding to support the TSOC Project. Caltrans will finalize and submit the statewide list of FY 2021-22 projects to the SCO on October 1, 2021. It is anticipated that the SCO FY 2021-22 funds will begin being released to transit agencies on a quarterly basis, beginning November 2021.

Summary

Staff is recommending OCTA use FY 2021-22 SGR funds for the TSOC Project, which will provide space and equipment for Central Communications (dispatch), Field Operations, Security and Emergency Preparedness, Transit Police Services, and OCTA operations support personnel.

Attachments

- A. Transit Security and Operations Center Project, Fact Sheet
- B. Resolution 2021-063 of the Orange County Transportation Authority,
SB 1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) State of Good Repair Program,
Fiscal Year 2021-22
- C. Capital Funding Program Report

Prepared by:



Heidi Busslinger
Senior Transportation Funding Analyst,
Formula Funding Programs
(714) 560-5098

Approved by:



Kia Mortazavi
Executive Director, Planning
(714) 560-5741