



June 11, 2020

To: Transit Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Darrell E. Johnson", is written over the name in the "From:" field.

Subject: Cooperative Agreement with the City of Fullerton for the Fullerton Transportation Center Stair Replacement Project

Overview

The Orange County Transportation Authority proposes to enter into a cooperative agreement with the City of Fullerton to define roles, responsibilities, and funding for the Fullerton Transportation Center Stair Replacement Project.

Recommendations

- A. Authorize the use of \$1,295,000 in Federal Transit Administration Section 5337 State of Good Repair Program funds for the Fullerton Transportation Center Stair Replacement Project.
- B. Authorize staff to process all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and execute or amend all necessary agreements to facilitate the above actions.
- C. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-0-2266 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the City of Fullerton to define roles, responsibilities, and funding for the Fullerton Transportation Center Stair Replacement Project.

Discussion

An existing pedestrian overhead bridge facilitates the transfer of passengers between the eastbound and westbound station platforms at the Fullerton Transportation Center (FTC) Metrolink Station. The bridge is connected to the platforms by a set of elevators and staircases on each end. The staircases are structural steel systems with concrete infill within landings and stair treads. The staircases were inspected by a structural engineer and were determined to be unsafe and not in a state of good repair. Significant corrosion of the metal

staircase risers and stair pans has occurred from exposure to the environment and weather over time. The FTC Metrolink Station is served by both Amtrak and Metrolink passenger trains with as many 2,400 daily boardings and alightings. The staircases are important facilities to ensure efficient passenger movement at the station, particularly during peak periods.

In November 2019, the City of Fullerton (City) requested funding from the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) for replacement of the stairs at the FTC Metrolink Station. Although maintenance of the stairs is the responsibility of the City, OCTA's participation in the FTC Stair Replacement Project (Project) will protect the investment already made at the FTC and OCTA's ongoing investment in the Metrolink system.

On April 1, 2020 the City completed the plans, specifications, and estimates for replacement of the stair system's pans, landings, and risers. OCTA proposes to enter into a cooperative agreement with the City to determine the roles and responsibilities for the replacement of the FTC pedestrian bridge staircases.

OCTA will allocate funding and be the lead agency for the construction phase of the Project, including construction management. The City will provide engineered and approved plans ready to be permitted, as well as all required City inspections and right-of-way. The City will also maintain the stairs after completion of the Project.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act provides transportation funding for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015-16 through FFY 2019-20. Under the FAST Act, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) makes federal formula funds available through four major funding programs, including the Section 5337 State of Good Repair Program (Section 5337). OCTA anticipates receiving \$18,782,528 in FTA Section 5337 funds for FFY 2019-20. Funds are split between rail and bus projects based on the formula used to calculate the revenues.

On October 14, 2019, the OCTA Board of Directors (Board) approved the FFY 2019-20 FTA Section 5337 funds for Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) rehabilitation projects. While the Project is not led by SCRRA, it does support the funding program's purpose and the Board-approved Capital Programming Policies (CPP) of utilizing Section 5337 funds to maintain facilities and keep the commuter rail system in a state of good repair. Section 5337 funding levels provide adequate funding for SCRRA rehabilitation projects in addition to replacing the staircases at the FTC.

Staff is requesting approval from the Board to program \$1,295,000 in FFY 2019-20 FTA Section 5337 funds for the construction phase of the Project.

The use of Section 5337 funds for commuter rail rehabilitation projects is consistent with the Board-approved CPP. These construction funds will complement the City funds of \$35,000 for the design phase and will provide full funding, in the amount of \$1,330,000, for the Project. Attachment A provides the updated Capital Funding Plan, which includes funding information for OCTA capital projects as well as the recommended funding changes.

Summary

Staff requests approval from the Board of Directors to program \$1,295,000 in Federal Transit Administration Section 5337 State of Good Repair Program funds for the Fullerton Transportation Center Stair Replacement Project. Staff requests authorization to process all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and for executing or amending all necessary funding agreements to reprogram the funds. Staff also requests authorization for the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-0-2266 with the City of Fullerton to define roles, responsibilities, and funding for the replacement of the stairs at the Fullerton Transportation Center and to program funds for the construction phase of the project.

Attachment

- A. Capital Funding Program Report

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