

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to an application for a 2014 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) planning grant application for the Downtown L.A. Streetcar project.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Huizar – Wesson):

1. AUTHORIZE and INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to work with Council District 14 and L.A. Streetcar Inc., to prepare a 2014 TIGER planning grant application for up to \$3 million for the Downtown L.A. Streetcar project, subject to the requirement that the LADOT receive \$1.1 million in Transfer of Floor Area Rights (TFAR) development funds that were recently recommended by the Public Benefit Payment Trust Fund Committee for the L.A. Streetcar project; and, INSTRUCT the LADOT to submit the grant application before its deadline.
2. AUTHORIZE and INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), City Administrative Office (CAO), and other City departments and agencies to assist with this grant application effort, as necessary.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted. Neither the CAO nor the CLA has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

On April 2, 2014, Council considered Motion (Huizar – Wesson) relative to seeking TIGER grant funds for the Downtown L.A. Streetcar project. Motion states this project is a strong candidate for a TIGER planning grant because it will create workforce opportunities for a wide range of workers, and catalyze economic development and tourism in an economically distressed area while connecting downtown neighborhoods, encouraging multi-modal mobility, increasing pedestrian and bicycle activity and walkability. TIGER funds will be awarded on a competitive basis, with priority given to projects that are expected to quickly create and preserve jobs and stimulate rapid increases in economic activity, particularly in economically distressed areas. Unlike the past few rounds of TIGER funding, which were limited to capital projects, the current TIGER program includes up to \$35 million for planning grants with a maximum single grant amount of \$3 million. Applications must be submitted by April 28, 2014. Council referred Motion to the Transportation Committee for consideration.

At its meeting held April 23, 2014, the Transportation Committee discussed this matter with representatives of LADOT and the Council Office for the 14th District. This matter had been previously discussed at the Committee's meeting held April 9, 2014, at which time concerns were expressed regarding long term financial obligations of accepting the TIGER grant. Department staff indicated that the CLA and the Council Office have identified \$1.1 million in TFAR funds that can be used to back fill funds set aside as a grant match from the City's Proposition R budget. The Council Office representative stated that the grant will not burden the City's General Fund or other funding sources. The Committee recommended that Council approve Motion to instruct LADOT to submit the application for TIGER grant funds for this project, subject to the approval of \$1.1 million in TFAR funds to be used as a grant application

program match.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
BONIN:	YES
KORETZ:	YES
LABONGE:	ABSENT
PARKS:	YES
KREKORIAN:	YES

JAW

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-