

13-0002-563

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before, a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, implementation of MAP-21, "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century," the federal surface transportation funding program signed into law by President Obama on July 6, 2012, will create the best possible return on federal transportation investments through local job growth and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the nation is in the midst of a "streetcar revolution" that will revitalize urban areas, attract housing, generate economic development, reduce energy consumption and respond to the changing demographics of America's metropolitan areas; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles is currently undertaking the funding and development of a modern streetcar system in Downtown that will catalyze economic redevelopment, community revitalization and provide an environmentally-friendly, clean, efficient, and effective urban circulation, vastly improving walkability and livability in the area by connecting transit and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, federal streetcar funding is being sought through the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Small Starts Program; and

WHEREAS, the FTA recently published guidance for the six measures that will be used to evaluate and rate Small Starts projects; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, which works to coordinate federal housing, transportation, water, and other infrastructure investments to make neighborhoods more prosperous, is concerned that the six measures overall do not reflect the inherent differences in the project cost, scale and federal funding in streetcar projects and are specifically geared toward large transit investments that traditionally focus on the commute-based trip rather than streetcars; and

WHEREAS, the measures also fail to account for the limited federal investment in streetcar projects compared to the investment made by local governments and private sector project partners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2013-2014 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Small Starts Program funding evaluation criteria that are consistent with the goals represented by the Partnership for Sustainable Communities to enhance the opportunities for streetcar projects.

PRESENTED BY: Jose Huizar
JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY: Harvey Wong

APR 16 2013

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