

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER


Date: August 07, 2023

CAO File No. 0220-06116-0000

Council File No. None

Council District: All

To: The City Council

From: *for* Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer 

Subject: **AUTHORITY TO APPLY FOR THE PROMOTING RESILIENT OPERATIONS FOR TRANSFORMATIVE, EFFICIENT, AND COST-SAVING TRANSPORTATION (PROTECT) PROGRAM GRANT**

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council, subject to approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the General Manager of the Los Angeles World Airport (LAWA), or designee, to prepare a grant application for the proposal outlined in the Attachment 1; and,
2. Instruct the General Manager of the LAWA, or designee, to report back if the City is awarded the grant, to request authority to accept the grant award, and to identify front funding.

SUMMARY

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) establishes the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Discretionary Grant Program to help make surface transportation more resilient to natural hazards, including climate change, sea level rise, flooding, extreme weather events, and other natural disasters through support of planning activities, resilience improvements, community resilience and evacuation routes, and at-risk coastal infrastructure.

The PROTECT Grant Program includes both the formula and competitive grants and is administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). This report addresses the Program's competitive grant funding. Total funding available under this grant program for 2022 and 2023 is \$848 million. The application due date is August 18, 2023.

This Office has received one project proposal:

LAWA - Automated People Mover (APM) Resiliency Planning Project (will apply for a planning grant).

Eligible Entities

Below are the eligible entities for the PROTECT grant:

- A State (including, D.C. and Puerto Rico) or political subdivision of a State;
- A metropolitan planning organization;
- A unit of local government;
- A special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function, including a port authority;
- An Indian tribe;
- A Federal land management agency that applies jointly with a State or group of States; and,
- A multi-State or multi-jurisdictional group of entities consisting of any eligible entities listed above.

Cost Sharing or Matching Fund Requirements

The following table shows the cost sharing requirements based on the grant type:

Grant Type	Funding Share
Planning Grants	Federal share 100%
Resilience Improvement, Community Resilience and Evacuation Route, and At-Risk Coastal Grants	Maximum 80% Federal share*; 20% non-Federal Other Federal funds can be used for the non-Federal share. If the applicant is an Indian tribe, the federal share may be up to 100%.

*Resilience Improvement Plan may increase federal share

Note: Other Federal funds may still require a non-Federal match.

The above table is extracted from the PROTECT Grant Program Webinar.

Since LAWA’s project will be applying under the Planning Grant type, there is no matching fund requirement.

Merit Criteria (Attachment 2)

Below are the merit criteria for the Planning Grant Type:

- Program Alignment;
- Public Engagement, Partnerships and Collaboration;
- Schedule and Budget; and,
- Innovation.

This Office met with the LAWA to discuss and evaluate whether the grant proposal met the merit criteria of the grant. The Project meets the purposes, eligibility, and the merit criteria, and the proposed project is likely to score high.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the report recommendations will not result in a General Fund impact.

FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT

The recommendation in this report complies with the City's Financial Policies.

MWS:JSL:06230154

ATTACHMENT 1 - PROPOSED GRANT PROJECT

Grant Administrator: U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
 Name of Grant: Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation Program (PROTECT)
 Minimum Award for the Planning Grant Type: \$100,000.
 NOFO Release Date: April 21, 2023
 Due date: August 18, 2023

Lead Department	Project Name	Project Description	Total Project (Budget)	Total Grant Request	Planned Completion Date
LAWA	Automated People Mover (APM) Resiliency Planning Project	The goal of the plan is to utilize resilience planning, technical capacity building, evacuation planning and preparation for the Automated People Mover (APM) and other impacted ground transportation assets at LAX airport. The APM Resiliency Planning Project is to create a plan for the continued operation, or rapid recovery, of the APM at LAX airport. The APM is an electric train system on a 12.25 mile elevated guideway with passenger stations located within the central terminal area of LAX airport and additional stations located at intermodal transportation facilities, airport parking garages, and a consolidated rental car facility. With an anticipated use of approximately 30 million passengers per year, it is estimated that the APM will result in 117,000 fewer vehicle miles traveled per day.	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	October 2024

ATTACHMENT 2 - PROJECT MERIT CRITERIA

Merit Criteria	Name of Project
	Automated People Mover (APM) Resiliency Planning Project
Program Alignment	<p>The project is to develop a resiliency plan for the Automated People Mover (APM), which is an electric train system on a 2.25 mile elevated guideway with passenger stations located within the central terminal area of LAX airport and additional stations located at intermodal transportation facilities, airport parking garages, and a consolidated rental car facility. With an anticipated use of approximately 30 million passengers per year, it is estimated that the APM will result in 117,000 fewer vehicle miles traveled per day. The project clearly aligns to the grant's purposes of developing a resilience improvement plan to reduce damage and disruption to the transportation system and improve the safety of the travelling public.</p>
Public Engagement, Partnerships and Collaboration	<p>The project will benefit the disadvantaged residential neighborhoods in the vicinity of the LAX airport. These neighborhoods on average have a LA Equity Index of 4.5 and are greatly impacted by the airport's operations. The resiliency plan for the APM is to minimize the impacts on the nearby neighborhoods by quickly moving travelers around the LAX airport facilities and reducing traffic congestion.</p>
Schedule and Budget	<p>A budget with a detailed breakdown of the cost, milestones and deliverables will be established for the project to monitor the project budget and project delivery.</p>
Innovation	<p>The project will coordinate with the City Emergency Management Department or other departments providing public safety services to create a plan for the continued operation and rapid recovery of the APM at LAX airport. The plan will utilize innovative and collaborative approaches to risk reduction and evacuation preparation planning.</p>