



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2006

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: OCTA "GO LOCAL" PROGRAM

DATE: NOVEMBER 21, 2006

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT - TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: PETER NAGHAVI, TRANSPORTATION SERVICES MANAGER

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: PETER NAGHAVI, TRANSPORTATION SERVICES MANAGER - (714) 754-5182

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve Cooperative Agreement C-6-0808 between the City of Costa Mesa and the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) for the "Go Local" Program (Attachment 1). Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the agreement; and
2. Approve Cooperative Agreement with the City of Santa Ana designating that City as the lead agency representing the City of Costa Mesa for the Orange County Transportation Authority "Go Local" Program (Attachment 2). Authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the agreement.

BACKGROUND:

On February 14, 2006, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors approved a four-step process for Orange County cities to develop their own transit vision to bring Metrolink access to their communities. The intent of this locally initiated program is to make the usage of Metrolink more convenient to more users.

The four steps are:

- OCTA will provide a grant in the amount of \$100,000 to each City to develop a local transit vision and to conduct initial planning. Cities are eligible to receive \$100,000 upon execution of a cooperative agreement with OCTA and submittal of an acceptable project concept. Cities should complete this task by the end of 2007;
- OCTA will make available an additional \$30 million in early 2008 to further develop the most promising projects in the County on a competitive basis;
- Upon availability of renewed Measure M funds, OCTA will move projects to implementation; and
- Provide resources transforming existing Metrolink stations to major multi-modal transportation centers.

Funds provided as part of Step One can be used on the following tasks:

- Assessment of travel needs or local travel patterns to extend the reach of Metrolink;
- Transit shuttle planning or implementation which connects to Metrolink;
- Supporting transit-friendly land use planning in the vicinity of Metrolink stations; and
- Evaluation of specific rights-of-way for use as a transit corridor connection to Metrolink.

The above program is intended to make Metrolink accessible to areas that are currently not served. As such, OCTA intends that cities without Metrolink stations, such as Costa Mesa, partner with other cities that have Metrolink stations, such as Santa Ana. The participating cities will jointly work on projects that enhance access to Metrolink stations to other areas, and will submit their proposed Metrolink connection projects by the end of 2007. OCTA will then, through a competitive evaluation process, select several high ranking projects for further development and implementation.

In response to the above initiative, the City of Costa Mesa has held meetings with the Cities of Santa Ana and Irvine to determine the feasibility of a partnership project. The City of Irvine decided to use their "Step 1" funds to develop other transit projects within their jurisdiction. However, the City of Santa Ana is interested in working with the City of Costa Mesa in the development of an efficient transit service connection between their Metrolink station and Costa Mesa.

At the September 12, 2006, study session, staff presented an overview of the OCTA "Go Local" program. City Council provided several comments which will be considered as part of the study.

ANALYSIS:

In order to initiate the "Go Local" project, the City will need to enter into cooperative agreements with both OCTA and the City of Santa Ana. The agreement with OCTA will define the roles and responsibilities of each agency and authorizes the City of Costa Mesa to invoice \$100,000 towards the "Go Local" program. The agreement with the City of Santa Ana designates the City of Santa Ana as the lead agency representing the City of Costa Mesa for the "Go Local" program, and transfers the administration of the City of Costa Mesa's \$100,000 grant to the City of Santa Ana. The agreement also defines the roles and responsibilities of each agency in the conduct of the "Go Local" study.

The transit study is expected to be initiated in January 2007 with scheduled completion by December 2007. Staff will be providing updates to the City Council during the course of the study.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

The City Council may elect to not approve the cooperative agreements. This will result in the City forfeiting \$100,000 initial grant funding to explore transit connection options and future grant funding opportunities for implementation of transit improvements.

FISCAL REVIEW:

There is no fiscal impact to the City with this item. OCTA is providing the \$100,000 funding for the study. The City will be transferring that funding over to the City of Santa Ana through the cooperative agreement. No City funding is anticipated for the initial study.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney has reviewed the Cooperative Agreements with the City of Santa Ana and OCTA. All comments have been incorporated. The agreements have been approved as to form.

CONCLUSION:

OCTA has initiated a new locally initiated transit program called "Go Local", which is intended to make Metrolink service more accessible to more users. As part of this effort, OCTA is providing grants to each participating City in the amount of \$100,000 to develop a transit vision that extends the connection of Metrolink into their community. The City of Costa Mesa is working with the City of Santa Ana in developing a project concept plan that provides a transit service from the existing Santa Ana Metrolink station into the City of Costa Mesa. City Council approval of the attached cooperative agreements is requested to enable to City of Costa Mesa to receive funding from OCTA and to initiate the study with the City of Santa Ana.

PETER NAGHAVI

Transportation Services Manager

WILLIAM J. MORRIS

Director of Public Services

Attachments:

1. [Cooperative Agreement with OCTA](#)
2. [Cooperative Agreement with the City of Santa Ana](#)

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