



# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

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MEETING DATE: JULY 15, 2014

ITEM NUMBER: \_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT: SAFE TRANSIT STOPS PROGRAM APPLICATIONS**

**DATE: JULY 3, 2014**

**FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT - TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIVISION**

**PRESENTATION BY: ERNESTO MUNOZ, PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: RAJA SETHURAMAN, TRANSPORTATION SERVICES  
MANAGER, 714-754-5032**

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the attached Resolution approving the submittal of a grant funding application for three (3) bus stop improvement projects under the Orange County Transportation Authority's (OCTA) Measure M2 Project W - Safe Transit Stops Program (Attachment 1).

## **BACKGROUND:**

In November 2006, the Orange County voters passed the Renewed Measure "M" Program, extending the half-cent sales tax for the next 30 years, beginning in the year 2011. Funds from this sales tax are proposed to fund a wide range of improvements to Orange County freeways, arterials, and transit systems.

Measure M2 includes Project W - Safe Transit Stops which provides funding for passenger amenities at the 100 busiest bus stops in Orange County, as determined by average daily weekday passenger boardings. The plan approved by OCTA's Board of Directors on September 10, 2012 identified \$5.5 million for Project W.

In order to provide Project W funds for the regional and local transit amenities, OCTA's proposed framework splits the program into two (2) categories, City-initiated bus stop improvements and OCTA-initiated improvements. From the total amount identified for Project W, 80 percent (up to \$950,000) will be allocated to the City-initiated improvements while 20 percent (up to \$240,000) will be allocated to OCTA-initiated improvements for the 2014-15 Fiscal Year.

## **ANALYSIS:**

OCTA will be shortlisting bus stops based on the ridership demand, improvements needed, and current age/conditions of the bus stops and amenities. The above criteria will be used to screen the applications for individual bus stop improvements and to develop a list of prioritized projects which will receive funding. With this current "Call for Projects," cities can compete and receive up to \$30,000 for the eligible transit amenities at each selected bus stop.

The complete and final submittal of applications in response to this “2014 Call for Projects” will need to meet certain minimum requirements to be eligible for Measure “M” grant funding under the Project W program. While the City has already met all these eligibility requirements, OCTA requires approval of the attached resolution prior to any consideration of the City’s application. The proposed projects for which preliminary applications were submitted are listed in the attached resolution (Attachment 1) and are briefly described in Attachment 2.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

One alternative considered is to not adopt the Resolution. This alternative would result in the City’s project applications being declined and render the City ineligible to compete for available grant funding.

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

If staff is successful in capturing funding for this project, design and implementation will be completed and fully funded with the Measure M grant within one year.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

The City Attorney has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

**CONCLUSION:**

The current County-wide “2014 Call for Projects” is the first opportunity for the City to compete for grant funding for implementation of certain improvements to transit amenities under the Project W Program which is part of the Measure “M2” Program. Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution for OCTA’s consideration of project applications under the Project W - Safe Transit Stops Program.

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**RAJA SETHURAMAN**  
Transportation Services Manager

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**ERNESTO MUNOZ**  
Public Services Director

ATTACHMENTS: 1 - [Resolution](#)  
2 - [Proposed Projects for Project W](#)

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