

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Resolutions in Support of Application for FY 16-17 funding through the State Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP)

FROM: Jennifer Yeamans, Senior Grants, Project Management & Contract Specialist

DATE: March 6, 2017

Action Requested

The Finance and Administration Committee recommends Board approval of Resolution 14-2017 and Resolution 15-2017 in support of an allocation request to Caltrans for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP). These resolutions are a requirement to request allocations for this funding from Caltrans.

Background

Attachment 1 is a proposed Board resolution which would authorize the Executive Director to request allocations for specific projects. The resolution is a requirement of the FY 2016-17 LCTOP Guidelines issued by Caltrans in December 2016. Attachment 2 names the project LAVTA is submitting for funding consistent with program guidelines.

The LCTOP was established by California Senate Bill 862 to provide funding, on a formula basis, for operational or capital expansion projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve mobility, with a priority on serving disadvantaged communities. The grant funds are derived from California's Cap-and-Trade Program and are the result of quarterly auctions of emission credits for greenhouse gas emitters regulated under AB 32, California's Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. Auction proceeds, known as the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (Fund), are then reinvested in various projects to further reduce emissions. In FY2014-15, the initial year of the LCTOP, \$25 million was appropriated. In FY 2015-16, the fund grew to \$100 million. In FY 2016-17, the appropriation fell to \$35 million. There is a continuous appropriation of 5% of Cap and Trade auction proceeds into the LCTOP and other Cap and Trade programs. The auction proceeds are anticipated to vary over time as Cap and Trade revenues fluctuate.

LCTOP Guidelines

The program guidelines state that transit agencies receiving funds from the LCTOP shall submit expenditure proposals listing projects that meet all of the following criteria:

- Support new or expanded bus or rail services, or expanded intermodal transit facilities,
- Enhance or expand transit service to increase mode share,
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Project Eligibility Criteria

The LCTOP specifically requires documentation that each proposed project will achieve a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. All projects must be consistent with the project lead’s most recently adopted short-range transit plan, regional plan, or publicly-adopted plan. For project leads in a Metropolitan Planning Organization area, projects must also be consistent with the Sustainable Communities Strategy.

Discussion

Staff proposes to use the LCTOP funding to fund continuation of the Las Positas College Easy Pass program during the 2017-2018 academic year. This program has been successful in increasing access to Las Positas College for students, increasing ridership on the 30R, and connecting students with regional transit systems to increase transit mode share in accessing the campus. Presently the Easy Pass is available to approximately 9,000 students enrolled at Las Positas College.

Budget

The project budget is as follows:

Las Positas College Easy Pass	
Funds Source	Amount
LCTOP - Revenue-Based	\$22,964
LCTOP – Population Based	\$94,419
Total Budget	\$117,383

Applying the LCTOP funding to the Las Positas College Easy Pass program will meet the LCTOP program requirements by promoting transit mode share increase and greenhouse gas reductions, while increasing farebox revenue on the 30R serving Las Positas College by enabling the distribution of Easy Pass vouchers to count toward special transit fare revenue under the State Controller’s Office accounting guidelines for public transit agencies, according to Caltrans staff. No local match is required.

Recommendation

The Finance and Administration Committee recommends Board approval of Resolution 14-2017 and Resolution 15-2017 in support of an allocation request to Caltrans for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP). The Board resolutions attached will enable staff to apply for LCTOP funding to continue the Las Positas College Easy Pass Program.

Attachments:

1. Resolution 14-2017
2. Resolution 15-2017

Approved: _____

RESOLUTION 14-2017

**LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE
CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES AND AUTHORIZED AGENT FORMS
FOR THE LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP)**

WHEREAS, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority is an eligible project sponsor and may receive state funding from the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) for transit projects; and

WHEREAS, the statutes related to state-funded transit projects require a local or regional implementing agency to abide by various regulations; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 862 (2014) named the Department of Transportation (Department) as the administrative agency for the LCTOP; and

WHEREAS, the Department has developed guidelines for the purpose of administering and distributing LCTOP funds to eligible project sponsors (local agencies); and

WHEREAS, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority wishes to delegate authorization to execute these documents and any amendments thereto to Michael Tree, Executive Director.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority that the fund recipient agrees to comply with all conditions and requirements set forth in the Certification and Assurances and the Authorized Agent documents and applicable statutes, regulations and guidelines for all LCTOP funded transit projects.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Michael Tree, Executive Director, be authorized to execute all required documents of the LCTOP program and any Amendments thereto with the California Department of Transportation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY the governing board of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority on this 6th day of March 2017.

Steven Spedowfski, Chair

Attest:

Michael Tree, Executive Director

RESOLUTION #15-2017

**A RESOLUTION OF THE LIVERMORE AMADOR VALLEY TRANSIT
AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE
LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP) PROJECT:
LAS POSITAS COLLEGE EASY PASS FARE VOUCHER PROGRAM
USING \$117,303 IN LCTOP FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority is an eligible project sponsor and may receive state funding from the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) now or sometime in the future for transit projects; and

WHEREAS, the statutes related to state-funded transit projects require a local or regional implementing agency to abide by various regulations; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 862 (2014) named the Department of Transportation (Department) as the administrative agency for the LCTOP; and

WHEREAS, the Department has developed guidelines for the purpose of administering and distributing LCTOP funds to eligible project sponsors (local agencies); and

WHEREAS, the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority wishes to use LCTOP funds to purchase replacement buses and operate them as listed above,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority that the fund recipient agrees to comply with all conditions and requirements set forth in the applicable statutes, regulations and guidelines for all LCTOP funded transit projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority that it hereby authorizes the submittal of the following project, the "*Las Positas College Easy Pass Fare Voucher Program*" and further authorizes the submittal of a \$117,383 allocation request to the Department in FY 2016-17 for LCTOP funds.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY the governing board of the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority on this 6th day of March 2017.

Steven Spedowfski, Chair

Attest:

Michael Tree, Executive Director