

Communication from Public

Name: Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
Date Submitted: 05/27/2023 05:53 AM
Council File No: 20-1536-S4
Comments for Public Posting: The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) respectfully requests that an audit of the STAP program revenues and expenditures be conducted by the City Controller and City Administrative Officer. Please see the attached letter, reflecting the adopted position of WRAC in this regard. Thank you.
Christina Spitz, WRAC Vice-Chair



Westside
Regional
Alliance of
Councils

westsidecouncils.com

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Brentwood Community Council
Del Rey Neighborhood Council
Mar Vista Community Council
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa
North Westwood Neighborhood Council
Pacific Palisades Community Council

Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

May 26, 2023

Hon. Karen Bass, Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Hon. Kenneth Mejia, Controller, City of Los Angeles
Matt Szabo, City Administrative Officer, City of Los Angeles
Hon. John S. Lee, CD 12, Chair, City Council Public Works Committee (PWC)
Hon. Bob Blumenfield, CD 3, and Hon. Nithya Raman, CD 4, members, PWC
Hon. Traci Park, Councilwoman, CD 11
Hon. Katy Yaroslavsky, CD 5
Hon. Heather Hutt, Councilwoman, CD 10

Via email to all addressees and submission to the City Clerk online filing portal in CF 20-1536-S4

Re: **CF 20-1536-S4 – Request for Audit by the City Controller and CAO of STAP Revenues and Expenditures**

Honorable City officials:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is a coalition of all fourteen neighborhood and community councils on the Westside of Los Angeles, located in CDs 5 and 11 and portions of CDs 4 and 10.

WRAC's member Councils have long expressed concern about transparency, preservation of community character, environmental impacts and public safety related to the STAP process. See prior WRAC position letter submitted in CF 22-1154: https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/WRAC-STAP-2_4.pdf.

Now, WRAC's member Councils are concerned about the STAP "rollout" and about serious questions that have been raised regarding the program's management and the revenues and costs associated with STAP.¹ As a result, more than a majority of WRAC member councils (9 councils) have adopted the following motion, which is an adopted position of WRAC:

"The _____ CC/NC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, is concerned about the current status and management of the STAP program under the new contractor Tranzito-Vector and requests an audit of the program by the City Controller and Chief Administration Officer's (CAO) office of the revenues and expenditures for this new STAP program."

The language of the above motion has been approved by the following WRAC member councils: Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, Brentwood Community Council, Del Rey Neighborhood Council, Mar Vista Community Council, Neighborhood Council Westchester-Playa, Pacific Palisades Community Council, Westside Neighborhood Council, Westwood Community Council and Westwood Neighborhood Council.

No member councils have opposed the WRAC motion or submitted a minority letter to accompany this position.

¹ See, e.g.: <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/UN4LA-to-Controller-2-2-23-2.pdf>; <https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/los-angeles/26476-wanna-buy-a-transit-shelter-only-125-000-each>.

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For these reasons, WRAC respectfully urges City Controller Mejia and CAO Szabo to conduct an audit of the revenues and expenditures for the new STAP program. Alternatively, we request that the PWC – if necessary in the committee’s oversight role pursuant to the motion in CF 20-1536-SR – direct the City Controller and CAO to conduct such an audit.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robin Greenberg

Robin Greenberg
Chair
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils

cc (via email):

Randall Winston, Deputy Mayor of Infrastructure
Devang Panchal, Director of Auditing, City Controller’s Office
Yolanda Chavez, Assistant City Administrative Officer
Ben Ceja, Assistant City Administrative Officer
Kathy Lettieri, Public Works Deputy, CD 12
Hon. Ron Galperin, Special Advisor, CD 3, and immediate past City Controller
Mehmet Berker, Senior Deputy, Transportation, Infrastructure & Public Space, CD 4
Jeff Khau, Planning & Transportation Deputy, CD 11
Jarrett Thompson, Transportation & Sr. Field Deputy, CD 5