


CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: April 2, 2026

To: The Honorable City Council
c/o City Clerk, Room 395
Attention: Heather Hutt, Chair, Transportation Committee

From: Laura Rubio-Cornejo, General Manager 
Department of Transportation

Subject: **AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
TRANSIT AND INTERCITY RAIL CAPITAL PROGRAM**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) requests authority to submit a grant application to the California State Transportation Agency's (CalSTA) Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP).

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. AUTHORIZE the General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, or her designee to apply for and accept funds for the TIRCP on behalf of the City to purchase 83 battery electric buses in the amount of up to \$105 million dollars.
2. AUTHORIZE the General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation or her designee to execute any necessary funding and contractual documents, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality, for accepting the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program funding.
3. ADOPT the attached TIRCP resolution.

BACKGROUND

The TIRCP was created to fund transformative capital improvements that will modernize California's intercity, commuter, urban rail systems, and bus and ferry transit systems, to significantly reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, vehicle miles traveled, and congestion. Taken as a whole, the increases in transit system ridership and integrations as well as the reduction in vehicle miles traveled, congestion and greenhouse gas emissions, will help deliver a healthier and safer transportation system for communities.

On November 9, 2017, the City Council directed LADOT to take numerous actions to ensure a transition to a 100 percent zero-emission transit bus fleet by 2030 or earlier per Council File (CF) 17-0739. On February 10, 2020, former Mayor Eric Garcetti issued Executive Directive No. 25, directing LADOT to achieve a 100% zero-emission transit bus fleet in time for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Furthermore, the Innovative Clean Transit Regulation issued by the California Air Resources Board mandates that all transit agencies in California must be 100% zero emission by 2040 and the regulation provides a timeline for phasing in zero emission bus procurements.

DISCUSSION

To achieve the City's transit electrification goals, LADOT is actively pursuing funding to replace all propane, compressed natural gas (CNG), and gasoline vehicles with battery-electric vehicles at the end of their useful life. LADOT proposes to apply for the TIRCP grant to purchase 83 battery electric buses to replace all remaining CNG buses that are currently fueled, maintained, and stored at the Mid-Cities and Downtown Bus Maintenance Yards with battery electric buses.

LADOT continues to make progress towards fully electrifying the DASH system. Most recently LADOT accomplished converting 54 percent of the fleet to battery electric buses, which include the 130 BYD battery electric buses LADOT purchased and received in the last two years. To operate all electric bus service across the Mid-Cities, Central, and Downtown service regions, LADOT would need to purchase 83 additional battery electric buses. The purchase of 83 battery electric buses would enable LADOT to retire remaining CNG-fueled buses and decommission the CNG fueling infrastructure at the Mid-Cities and Downtown Bus Maintenance Yards and complete 69 percent of the City's electrification goal for the entire DASH program.

To apply for and accept the TIRCP grant funds, if awarded, the City is required by CalSTA to include a City Council adopted resolution with the application. Attached is a resolution for City Council's consideration authorizing LADOT to apply for and accept funds from the TIRCP on behalf of the City.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There will be no impact to the General Fund. The TIRCP does not require a local match from applicants and LADOT is actively pursuing other grants from the Federal Transit Administration and South Coast Air Quality Management District for leveraged funding. The TIRCP grant is dispersed on a reimbursement basis and LADOT would need to allocate funding in a future budget for the front funds. LADOT would either request budget funds from Prop A Local Return Transit Fund or the Municipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles in a future budget.

LRC:KH:BL:ds/ew

Attachment

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION AND TO SIGN CERTAIN ASSURANCES FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA'S TRANSIT AND INTERCITY RAIL CAPITAL PROGRAM TO FUND THE PURCHASE OF ZERO-EMISSION BATTERY ELECTRIC BUSES

WHEREAS, per Council File (CF) 17-0739, the Los Angeles City Council directed Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to establish a goal and implementation steps to transition to a 100% zero emission bus fleet by 2030 or earlier; and

WHEREAS, per Executive Directive No. 25, former Mayor Eric Garcetti, directed LADOT to achieve a 100% zero-emission transit bus fleet in time for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games; and

WHEREAS, the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program became available to public transit agencies, provides funding to eligible applicant recipients modernize California's intercity, commuter, urban rail systems, and bus and ferry transit systems, to significantly reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, vehicle miles traveled, and congestion; and

WHEREAS, funds from the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program are administered through the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to apply, to sign required assurances and to administer the CalSTA funds with respect to applications for public transit agencies and private owners of transit.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council authorize the General Manager of the LADOT, or her designee to apply for and accept funds for the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program on behalf of the City to purchase 83 battery electric buses in the amount of up to \$105 million dollars.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council authorize the General Manager of the LADOT or her designee to execute any necessary funding and contractual documents, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality, for accepting the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program funding.