




ORANGELINE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Members of the Orangeline Development Authority

FROM: Art Gallucci, Interim Executive Director 

DATE: April 8, 2009

SUBJECT: **AN INFORMATION REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ORANGELINE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY REGARDING RECENT FUNDING REQUESTS SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD RELATING TO FEDERAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS FUNDING**

BACKGROUND

As the Board is well aware, President Obama recently signed an unprecedented \$800 billion economic stimulus package that will provide significant amounts of funding for a tremendous variety of projects. Included within this bill is a large allocation for transportation and infrastructure projects. Significant funding consideration will be given to projects that will provide long-term economic benefits both on a local and regional level. One of the major objectives within the economic stimulus package is its emphasis on quickly allocating the funds so that projects can begin immediately; thereby rapidly helping to stimulate the economy. Accordingly, Federal and State agencies charged with the oversight of various programs within the package are acting quickly to solicit proposals for eligible projects in an effort to determine funding levels.

In mid-March, the Executive Director of the Authority was made aware of an opportunity to submit a funding request in order to facilitate the design, engineering and environmental studies needed to initiate implementation and development of the Orangeline Maglev project. The request for proposals was initiated by the State of California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency (BTHA), who requested that counties from throughout the State work to develop an Economic Recovery Work Plan. Said Work Plans are intended to identify the most promising, impactful projects from throughout California and will help to present a consolidated consensus of the projects that will yield the greatest benefits to California. BTHA requested that submissions for the Work Plans be completed no later than April 1. In order to meet this deadline, the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), who is coordinating the Los Angeles County portion of the Work Plan, requested that all projects be submitted to their offices by March 20.

In an effort to guarantee that the goals and objectives of the Orangeline are met, and to ensure that the Orangeline project is included as a priority project within the Work Plan, the Executive Director submitted a \$200 million funding request on behalf of the Authority for the above-referenced design, engineering and environmental review work. The referenced submission was completed via an online questionnaire. Representatives of the LAEDC have indicated that they will be providing hard-copies

The Orangeline Development Authority is a joint powers agency formed to pursue deployment of the Orangeline High Speed Maglev system in Southern California. The Authority is composed of the following public agencies:

City of Artesia
City of Bell
City of Bellflower
City of Cerritos
City of Cudahy
City of Downey
City of Glendale
City of Huntington Park
City of Maywood
City of Palmdale
City of Paramount
City of Santa Clarita
City of South Gate
City of Vernon

Chairman

Bruce Barrows
Mayor Pro Tem
City of Cerritos

Vice Chairman

Marsha McLean
Councilmember
City of Santa Clarita

Treasurer

Mike McCormick
Councilmember
City of Vernon

General Counsel

Yvette M. Abich Garcia, Esq.
Colantuono & Levin, PC

Interim Executive Director

Art Gallucci
City Manager
City of Cerritos



ORANGELINE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

of all submissions once the Work Plan has been consolidated. These copies will be provided to the Board as soon as they are available.

CONCLUSION

The recently adopted economic stimulus package presents a tremendous opportunity for the Orangeline to pursue funding to support the project. Staff is seeking the Board's consensus to permit the Executive Director to pursue future funding opportunities on behalf of the Board in light of the very short submission timeframes of the various programs offering funding. Further, staff is seeking the Board's approval of the recently submitted funding request of \$200 million for design, engineering and environmental studies relating to the implementation and development of the Orangeline Maglev project that was submitted to the State of California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. Should the Board not be in favor of the subject funding request, staff will initiate steps to rescind the request.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board:

1. Authorize the Executive Director of the Orangeline Development Authority to seek funding opportunities on behalf of the Board, and;
2. Approve the recently submitted funding request of \$200 million for design, engineering and environmental studies relating to the implementation and development of the Orangeline Maglev project that was submitted to the State of California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

The Orangeline Development Authority is a joint powers agency formed to pursue deployment of the Orangeline High Speed Maglev system in Southern California. The Authority is composed of the following public agencies:

City of Artesia
City of Bell
City of Bellflower
City of Cerritos
City of Cudahy
City of Downey
City of Glendale
City of Huntington Park
City of Maywood
City of Palmdale
City of Paramount
City of Santa Clarita
City of South Gate
City of Vernon

Chairman

Bruce Barrows
Mayor Pro Tem
City of Cerritos

Vice Chairman

Marsha McLean
Councilmember
City of Santa Clarita

Treasurer

Mike McCormick
Councilmember
City of Vernon

General Counsel

Yvette M. Abich Garcia, Esq.
Colantuono & Levin, PC

Interim Executive Director

Art Gallucci
City Manager
City of Cerritos