

Revised Agenda Item No. 27

Board of Directors Meeting

September 6, 2017

10:30 AM

Location

San Bernardino County Transportation Authority
First Floor Lobby Board Room
1170 W. 3rd Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion - Transit

27. Southern California Regional Rail Authority Budget Amendment Allocation for Fiscal Year 2017/2018 for Los Angeles Rams Train Service

That the Board of Directors, acting in its capacity as the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA):

A. Approve an increase in the Southern California Regional Rail Authority Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Operating Assistance allocation in the amount of \$20,000, to be funded with Valley Local Transportation Funds, for a new total Operating Assistance allocation for Fiscal Year 2017/2018 of \$14,979,772;

B. Authorize a budget amendment to the SBCTA Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget in the amount of \$20,000 to Task 0314 Transit Operations to be funded with Local Transportation Funds for a new task total of \$16,482,798.

C. Approve the use of up to \$9 million Local Transportation Funds (LTF) unallocated Valley area apportionment balance by Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) to assist with cash flow until reimbursements occur from SBCTA's Fiscal Year 2017/2018 operating subsidy allocation of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5337 funds.

This item has been revised to include Recommendation C and language in the background.

Minute Action

AGENDA ITEM: 27

Date: September 6, 2017

Subject:

Southern California Regional Rail Authority Budget Amendment Allocation for Fiscal Year 2017/2018 for Los Angeles Rams Train Service

Recommendation:

That the Board of Directors, acting in its capacity as the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA):

A. Approve an increase in the Southern California Regional Rail Authority Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Operating Assistance allocation in the amount of \$20,000, to be funded with Valley Local Transportation Funds, for a new total Operating Assistance allocation for Fiscal Year 2017/2018 of \$14,979,772;

B. Authorize a budget amendment to the SBCTA Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget in the amount of \$20,000 to Task 0314 Transit Operations to be funded with Local Transportation Funds for a new task total of \$16,482,798.

C. Approve the use of up to \$9 million Local Transportation Funds (LTF) unallocated Valley area apportionment balance by Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) to assist with cash flow until reimbursements occur from SBCTA's Fiscal Year 2017/2018 operating subsidy allocation of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5337 funds.

Background:

The Los Angeles Rams football team will continue to hold their home games at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum for the 2017 and 2018 seasons while their permanent stadium in Inglewood is being constructed. The Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) is proposing to provide additional Metrolink commuter rail service to the seven (7) Rams home games. This service would be similar to the service provided last year to the Rams home games during the 2016 season, which resulted in a ridership increase of 150% on the Metrolink San Bernardino Line when compared to non-game Sunday service.

Due to limited parking spaces and high parking rates around the Coliseum, staff believes additional Metrolink trains providing service to the Los Angeles Union Station (LAUS), facilitating connections to Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) light-rail system with service directly to the Coliseum will again provide an opportunity to not only serve fans but also expose potential daily riders to the Metrolink service.

While some regularly scheduled trains inbound and outbound from LAUS may align well with the timing of Rams games, options can be limited. Metrolink is proposing to run special Football Train service to supplement the normal Sunday schedule. These additional trains will be

Entity: San Bernardino County Transportation Authority

specifically designed to fill in the gaps of regular service, offering transport to and from LAUS at times not yet covered by the regular Sunday schedule. Football Trains will operate on the Antelope Valley, San Bernardino, Orange County, and 91/Perris Valley Lines. All stations along each line will be served.

The current Metrolink San Bernardino Line Sunday schedule has seven round trips throughout the day. The existing Metrolink train #357, on the San Bernardino Line arrives at LAUS at 11:30 a.m. This train is in a good slot for riders to transfer to Metro's light-rail system to arrive at the Rams games prior to kickoff; however, there is no Metrolink service in the 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. timeframe to take riders back to their origin, with the only remaining return train departing at 9 p.m. The addition of Football Train round trip service would provide additional seat capacity and the needed return trip service at a reasonable time so that riders can get home. The Football Train program proposes to provide the additional inbound service option to arrive at LAUS around 10:00 a.m., with a return trip departing LAUS at approximately 6:15 p.m.

SCRRA staff is currently pursuing a grant to fund the additional costs to operate the Football Train for both the 2017 and 2018 Rams seasons from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC). Depending on the success of the grant application, SCRRA has requested the Member Agencies receiving additional services as part of the Football Train program provide the additional funding needed to cover the operational costs.

The total cost to add the Football Trains along the San Bernardino Line for seven (7) games is estimated at \$48,223. The San Bernardino Line service would be funded approximately 60% by Metro and 40% by SBCTA per the existing operating shares, resulting in an estimated cost of \$19,376 to SBCTA. Service would consist of one additional round trip between the Metrolink San Bernardino Station and LAUS. Staff is recommending participation in the Football Train program with a contribution to Metrolink's Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Operating Budget in the amount of \$20,000.

In addition, the requested budget allocation includes funding for outreach and advertising for the Football Train program to ensure Rams fans and other potential customers would be aware of this service. SBCTA staff will assist in the marketing effort by pushing social media information about the new service.

The Fiscal Year 2017/2018 SCRRA Operating Assistance allocation includes funding of \$9 million from FTA Section 5337 funds. However, the FTA Section 5337 funds are received as a reimbursement that can take months to process, meaning reimbursements may not be received until April 2018 or later. SCRRA staff anticipates this delay in reimbursement could create cash flow problems for the agency. Therefore, SBCTA staff is recommending approval to use LTF unallocated funds to meet SBCTA's subsidy obligations to SCRRA until federal reimbursement is received by SCRRA. SCRRA has agreed to credit the full amount of any LTF received as cash flow assistance toward the Fiscal Year 2018/2019 subsidy request; therefore, SBCTA's overall subsidy will not increase as a result of using LTF until FTA reimbursements are received. The LTF unallocated amount would be a maximum of \$9 million, equal to the amount of the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 subsidy allocation from FTA Section 5337 funds. Approval of the use of LTF unallocated Valley area apportionment balance is consistent with the SBCTA Fiscal Year 2017/2018 budget.

This item has not been reviewed by the Transit Committee due to the proposed Football Train program recently being proposed by SCRRA staff and the need for the Football Train service to be available for the first Rams home game on September 10, 2017.

Financial Impact:

This item is not consistent with the SBCTA adopted budget and a budget amendment is requested in Recommendation B.

Reviewed By:

This item has not received prior policy committee or technical advisory committee review. This item is being taken directly to the SBCTA Board due to time constraints.

Responsible Staff:

Carrie Schindler, Director of Transit and Rail

Approved
Board of Directors
Date: September 6, 2017

Witnessed By: