



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE

June 18, 2019

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

46 June 18, 2019

CELIA ZAVALA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**TRANSPORTATION CORE SERVICE AREA
TRANSIT PASS SUBSIDY PROGRAM
FOR FISCAL YEARS 2019-20 THROUGH 2023-24
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approve funding for the continuation of the Transit Pass Subsidy Program to subsidize monthly transit passes to eligible residents in the unincorporated Los Angeles County areas for Fiscal Years 2019-20 through 2023-24.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that this activity is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this Board letter and in the record.
2. Approve continuation of the Transit Pass Subsidy Program to provide monthly subsidized transit passes for eligible unincorporated Los Angeles County area residents for five years commencing on July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2024, at an estimated cost of \$7,500,000.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Works or his designee to negotiate and execute an annual agreement with Metro to continue the Transit Pass Subsidy Program for Fiscal Years 2019-20 through 2023-24.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will find that they are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and will authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute an annual agreement, in a form approved by County Counsel, with Metro to subsidize transit passes for eligible unincorporated County area residents for Fiscal Years 2019-20 through 2023-24.

Since 1985 the Board has approved agreements with Metro or its predecessor agencies for the Program. The Program provides subsidized monthly transit passes to eligible seniors, persons with disabilities, and students residing in all unincorporated County areas. The Program also provides subsidized Metro and EZ transit passes for the general public residing in the unincorporated County areas of the First, Second, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts. The Program permits the sale of Metro and EZ transit passes as shown in the enclosed Table 2.

The Program also calls for Metro to review an applicant's address to certify eligibility to participate in the Program and to document which Supervisorial District the applicant resides in. Each eligible applicant receives a certification that must be renewed annually from Metro. Metro will issue each eligible applicant a 12-month purchase card to ensure that only one pass per person per month is purchased.

The agreement will permit Metro to provide subsidized monthly transit passes for eligible unincorporated County area residents and administer the Program at an estimated annual cost to the County of \$1,500,000.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The County Strategic Plan directs the provision of Strategy II.3, Make Environmental Sustainability our Daily Reality, Objective II.3.5, Support a Clean, Flexible, and Integrated Multi-Modal Transportation System that Improves Mobility.

The Program reduces monthly transit pass costs for eligible seniors, persons with disabilities, students, and the general public, thereby encouraging access to public transit systems, reducing traffic congestion, and improving air quality.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County's General Fund.

The estimated annual cost of the Program for each Supervisorial District is shown in the enclosed Table 1. The actual costs and future year projections will be reported annually through each District's Transit Operations Fund Status Report. The estimated cost for each Fiscal Year is \$1,500,000. The necessary funds are available in each Supervisorial District's Proposition A Local Return Transit Operations Fund Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget and will be included in future fiscal years through the annual budget process.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Program encourages the use of public transit and provides eligible unincorporated County area residents the financial assistance to meet their transit needs.

The agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel prior to execution by the Director of Public Works or his designee. The County's payment to Metro will be based on the actual cost incurred by Metro.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The recommended actions are exempt from CEQA. Approval of the Transit Pass Subsidy Program and authorization to execute an annual agreement with Metro to subsidize transit passes are exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 21080(b)(8) of the California Public Resources Code and Section 15273(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines and based upon the written findings incorporated in the record setting forth the basis of the exemption with specificity. This exemption provides for the establishment, modification, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, and other charges by public agencies.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This action will provide reduced monthly transit pass rates, encourage transit use, and provide improved access to multiple municipal transit systems.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works, Transportation Planning and Programs Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Pestrella". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Pestrella".

MARK PESTRELLA
Director

MP:DBM:yr

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office (Chia-Ann Yen)
County Counsel (Rosa Linda Cruz)
Executive Office

TRANSIT PASS SUBSIDY PROGRAM

TABLE 1

Estimated Annual Costs

District	Subsidy/Certifications	LACMTA Administration	Totals
1	\$1,190,000	\$189,000	\$1,379,000
2	\$62,000	\$10,000	\$72,000
3	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$5,000
4	\$16,000	\$3,000	\$19,000
5	\$22,000	\$3,000	\$25,000
Total	\$1,294,000	\$206,000	\$1,500,000

Note: The actual costs and future year projections will be reported through each District's Proposition A Local Return Transit Operations Fund Status Report.

TABLE 2

Pass Subsidy

Pass Category	Regular Cost	County Subsidy	Cost to Eligible County Residents
Metro Senior/Disabled	\$14	\$6	\$8
Metro Student (K-12)	\$24	\$8	\$16
Metro College/Vocational	\$36	\$11	\$25
Metro 30-Day*	\$75	\$14	\$61
EZ Transit Senior/Disabled	\$35	\$14	\$21
EZ Transit*	\$84	\$14	\$70

*County subsidies for the Metro 30-Day and EZ Transit passes are only available to eligible residents in Supervisorial Districts 1, 2, 4 and 5.