

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND
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October 31, 2017

On July 5, 2017 the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) announcing that the competitive federal freight grant program initiated through the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act - the Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) - would be rebranded as the INFRA program. Additionally, USDOT announced that approximately \$700 million available in the FY 17 FASTLANE competition would be rolled over into the FY 18 INFRA cycle to create a one-time, \$1.5 billion-plus funding opportunity.

Los Angeles County is uniquely positioned to submit competitive projects for the INFRA grant competition that address major freight constraints, traffic chokepoints, and congested corridors on the County’s regional highway system. Los Angeles County is the largest county in the nation by population with 10.2 million residents – a population that would rank 8th among all states – and is home to the nation’s largest seaport complex – the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Over 40 percent of the nation’s containerized imports and about 30 percent of exports arrive at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and traverse Southern California’s infrastructure, providing needed goods to the state and nation, while creating local impacts to regional mobility and air quality.

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Metro, in partnership with Caltrans and local jurisdictions, has identified two project applications that will be competitive for INFRA funding to address these transportation challenges in Los Angeles County:

- **I-5 Golden State Chokepoint Relief Program** -- This program will provide capacity and safety improvements in the form of Truck Lanes and HOV Lanes on Interstate 5 in the Santa Clarita Valley. Additionally, road and bridge improvements will be implemented on The Old Road to provide highway capacity, resiliency and congestion relief for the local communities when accidents and other incidents impact Interstate 5 in this region.
- **Regional ExpressLanes Accelerator: I-105 HOT Lanes** – This project will implement High Occupancy Toll Lanes on Interstate 105 between Interstate 405 and Interstate 605, serving LAX, Hollywood Park, and cities in the South Bay and Gateway regions.

Caltrans will also submit an INFRA application, entitled America's Global Freight Gateway: Southern California Highway Strategy, on behalf of Metro, Southern California Association of Governments, Orange County Transportation Commission, and San Bernardino County Transportation Authority. This application will include three highway projects, including implementation of a highway improvement program at the intersection of State Routes (SR) 57 and 60 in the San Gabriel Valley:

- **SR 57/60 Confluence: Chokepoint Relief Program** –This program will address severe safety and congestion challenges along a two-mile segment where SR 57 and SR 60 merge in a dangerous, inefficient manner, causing numerous accidents and 662 hours of unnecessary peak-period travel delay or trucks each day. This year, the SR 57/60 interchange was again ranked as the sixth-worst freight chokepoint in the nation by the American Transportation Research Institute.

While the INFRA grant program is highly competitive, these projects – all of which are supported through the Measure M expenditure plan – will be highly competitive and provide opportunities for local sales tax dollars to leverage federal and state funding commitments in support of improving traffic congestion and impacts on the Los Angeles County highway system.

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WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors send a 5-signature letter to the United States Department of Transportation, with copies to the County's congressional delegation, in support of the following INFRA grant applications:

- **I-5 Golden State Chokepoint Relief Program**, will provide capacity and safety improvements in the form of Truck Lanes and HOV Lanes on Interstate 5 in the Santa Clarita Valley. Additionally, road and bridge improvements will be implemented on The Old Road to provide highway capacity, resiliency and congestion relief for the local communities when accidents and other incidents impact Interstate 5 in this region.
- **Regional ExpressLanes Accelerator: I-105 HOT Lanes**, will implement High Occupancy Toll Lanes on Interstate 105 between Interstate 405 and Interstate 605, serving LAX, Hollywood Park, and cities in the South Bay and Gateway regions.
- **SR 57/60 Confluence: Chokepoint Relief Program**: will address severe safety and congestion challenges along a two-mile segment where SR 57 and SR 60 merge in a dangerous, inefficient manner, causing numerous accidents and 662 hours of unnecessary peak-period travel delay or trucks each day. This year, the SR 57/60 interchange was again ranked as the sixth-worst freight chokepoint in the nation by the American Transportation Research Institute.

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