



**DATE:** NOVEMBER 10, 2016

**TO:** TRANSPORTATION OPERATORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**FROM:** PETER DE HAAN, PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR  
JUDITH JOHNDUFF, PROGRAMMING ANALYST

**SUBJECT:** PROPOSITION 1B TRANSIT SAFETY, SECURITY & DISASTER RESPONSE FUND PROJECT APPROVAL

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the following projects for Proposition 1B Transit Safety, Security & Disaster Response funding:

- \$1,324,772 for improvements to bridges and culverts along the Metrolink Rail Line in Ventura County, and
- \$280,000 for Safety and Security Improvements at the Ventura County Transportation Commission Offices.

**BACKGROUND:**

This is the final year of Proposition 1B Transit Safety, Security & Disaster Response funding. The program has allocated \$1 billion of bond funds statewide for security related transit capital projects since 2006. As with all bond measures the funds were authorized by the voters on a one-time basis and after 11 years these funds are being depleted. A list of eligible projects for the Proposition 1B Transit Security Program is included in the attachment.

Over the life the program, starting in Fiscal Year 2006/07 through the current Fiscal Year 2016/17, Ventura County has been apportioned \$7,034,357. The Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC) is the designated agency responsible for nominating Proposition 1B Transit Security projects for funding. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of the funds were allocated to local transit agencies for projects such as security cameras on buses (\$1,120,416) and for transit office and transit operation center security features (\$731,736).

Forty-three percent (43%) of the funds approved thus far have been for Metrolink projects, with the largest being \$709,972, which VCTC provided towards its share of the Positive Train Control (PTC) system design. These funds helped to advance the PTC project which enabled Metrolink to meet the federally-mandated implementation deadline.

The table below summarizes the amounts allocated by agency.

**DISTRIBUTION OF PROP 1B TRANSIT SECURITY FUNDS**  
(Includes funds recommended for approval in this item.)

<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>Amount Allocated</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Total Allocated</b>
Area Agency on Aging	\$10,000		\$10,000
Camarillo	\$40,000		\$40,000
East County Transit Authority	\$40,000		\$40,000
Fillmore	\$15,000		\$15,000
Gold Coast Transit	\$798,172		\$798,172
Metrolink	\$2,335,365	\$1,324,772	\$3,660,137
Moorpark	\$100,000		\$100,000
Ojai	\$25,000		\$25,000
Oxnard	\$100,000		\$100,000
San Buenaventura	\$110,000		\$110,000
Simi Valley	\$280,000		\$280,000
Thousand Oaks	\$766,604		\$766,604
Valley Express	\$188,500		\$188,500
VCTC	\$470,944	\$280,000	\$750,944
Multiple Agency Countywide	\$150,000		\$150,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,429,585</b>	<b>\$1,604,772</b>	<b>7,034,357</b>

**DISCUSSION**

Ventura County’s final allocation of Proposition 1B Transit Security funding is \$528,859 for Fiscal Year 16/17, bringing the total amount of funding currently available for projects in Ventura County to \$1,604,772. Of the total amount, \$414,840 is carryover from FY14/15 and \$661,073 is carryover from FY 15/16. Fiscal Year 14/15 funding balances need to be applied for immediately or the funds will be lost.

Two projects with countywide benefits have been identified for the remaining funds: 1) Metrolink rail line improvements and 2) safety and security improvements at the new VCTC offices.

**1) Metrolink Rail Line Improvements:** In late September, VCTC staff was informed by the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) of an urgent need for system-wide track and bridge rehabilitation work, which if not repaired in the next 18 – 36 months, could result in safety risks necessitating “slow orders” on the system. This issue was then presented to the SCRRA Board of

Directors at its September 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. VCTC's share in the required cost was presented as being \$5,424,483. Of this amount, SCRRRA's estimate for the rehabilitation work includes \$1,324,772 specifically for Ventura County rail bridges and culverts and would include:

- Stronger concrete headways to support the slopes at end of the culverts and bridges,
- Additional concrete aprons built into the culverts and bridges to prevent erosion, and
- Adding handrails to help evacuation in case of a security or safety threat.

Based on preliminary discussions with the Office of Emergency Services, these improvements would be eligible for Proposition 1B funding since the improvements would provide structures more impervious to damage and also provide train evacuation features.

Due to the countywide benefit of these proposed improvements, staff recommends that they be given priority for Proposition 1B Transit Security funds. If no other funds can be identified for the required improvements VCTC may need to consider taking LTF or STA funds off the top of the County's allocation to avoid the issuance of slow orders that would negatively impact Metrolink, Amtrak, and freight trains.

- 2) Safety and Security Improvements at Ventura County Transportation Commission Offices:** The architects working on renovating the Ventura County Transportation Commission's new offices in Camarillo have identified needed safety and security improvements including a security alarm system, a fire sprinkler system, new lighting and security cameras in the parking lot and a shatterproof-bullet resistant window at the new ticket sales office, with a total estimated cost of \$280,000. These items are eligible for Proposition 1B Security Funds. As was noted earlier, \$731,736 of Proposition 1B funds have been provided for safety and security improvements at various transit offices and operations centers, and a need will now exist to use a relatively small amount of the overall \$7 million program for similar improvements at the new VCTC facility. For this reason and because the new VCTC facility will also provide a countywide benefit, staff is recommending that this project also be given priority for Proposition 1B Transit Security funds.

The total funds requested for these two projects are \$1,604,772. Therefore, staff recommends approval of the following projects for Proposition 1B Transit Safety, Security & Disaster Response funding:

- \$1,324,772 for Improvements to bridges and culverts along the Metrolink Rail Line in Ventura County, and
- \$280,000 for Safety and Security Improvements at the Ventura County Transportation Commission Offices.