

SBCAG STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Transit and Intercity Rail Program Grant Awards

MEETING DATE: June 21, 2018

AGENDA ITEM: 6

STAFF CONTACT: Scott Spaulding

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive overview of the Cap & Trade Transit Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) awards.

DISCUSSION:

On April 26, the California Department of Transportation (CalSTA) announced grant awards under the 2018 TIRCP program. The five-year grant program offered \$2.4 billion in funding and the state received 46 applications with a total funding request of \$10.9 billion.

SBCAG submitted TIRCP applications for two projects, both of which were fully funded. The first project will expand Coastal Express bus service in support of the new peak hour Pacific Surfliner train service and includes:

- Dedicated express bus service that will “bracket” the current single rail trip
- Five battery-powered coaches (\$4.3 million)
- Creation of a permanent regional transit maintenance facility (\$3 million)
- Improvements to MTD’s Goleta Overpass facility to support local transit (\$1.5 million)
- Upgrades to the Gold Coast Transit District facility under construction in Oxnard to enable overnight charging of electric coaches (\$800,000)

The second project includes constructing a train station and expanding parking on a parcel purchased by the City adjacent to the current Goleta station (\$13 million).

LOSSAN, the member agency that manages the Pacific Surfliner service, received \$197 million for improvements north of Los Angeles for eight major projects, including three major projects in Santa Barbara County. Metrolink submitted a TIRCP application and was awarded \$764 million for rail improvements that includes projects in Ventura County that will result in increased capacity, greater reliability, and faster travel times for Pacific Surfliner service. One notable component of the Metrolink award was \$396 million to fully fund and construct “run through” tracks at LA Union Station, which will reduce travel time for through trips by an estimated 15-20 minutes. Staff will provide a visual overview of some of the project locations at the board meeting.

Attachments: None