Interoffice Memo

Date: March 20, 2015

To: Distribution

From: Wil Ridder, Executive Officer
Strategic Financial Planning and Programming

Subject: Letters of Support for Local Agencies’ Active Transportation Program (ATP) Application

OPPORTUNITY

The Active Transportation Program (ATP) is a competitive funding opportunity for projects that encourage increased active modes of transportation such as bicycling and walking. In Cycle 1 of the ATP, Los Angeles County project sponsors were awarded a total of approximately $113 million from the statewide and Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) regional competitions.

The guidelines and application for Cycle 2 of the ATP will be released on March 26, 2015. Cycle 2 will program funds for Fiscal Years (FY) 2017, 2018, and 2019. Some minor funding may also be available in FY 2016. The estimated funding for Cycle 2 is approximately $359 million. Of this amount, approximately $180 million will be available through the statewide competition, and approximately $40 million will be available to Los Angeles County projects through the SCAG competition. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) adoption of the statewide competition is scheduled for October 22, 2015. The SCAG regional program will be adopted by Metro on October 22, 2015 and by the CTC on December 9-10, 2015.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Caltrans will be hosting free full-day ATP training workshops in each District to assist project sponsors in completing the Cycle 2 application. Metro encourages Los Angeles County project sponsors to attend the District 7 workshop on April 15, 2015 or the Caltrans HQ webinar at the end of March. There will also be free full-day workshops in each District to assist smaller agencies and disadvantaged communities in developing high quality ATP projects. The District 7 workshop will be on March 31, 2015. More information on workshop schedules, topics, and registration information can be found on the Caltrans website:

http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/ATP/workshops-training-cycle2-2.htm

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

The Cycle 2 application recommends that project sponsors attach letters of support from impacted communities, organizations, and stakeholders in the project area. As the regional transportation planning agency for Los Angeles County, Metro is committed to promoting sustainable transportation in the County, and so maintains active transportation as one of its top priorities. The ATP seeks projects that increase the proportion and safety of bicycling and walking.
trips, help achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals, enhance public safety and health, and ensure benefits to disadvantaged communities. Such projects are also consistent with Metro’s goals and we would welcome the opportunity to provide letters of support for Los Angeles County projects seeking ATP funds.

**NEXT STEPS**

If your agency would like a letter of support from Metro for a project being applied in Cycle 2 of the ATP, please email Shelly Quan with the name and a brief description of the project by April 23, 2015. Metro will provide the completed letter of support in electronic form by May 8, 2015.

If you have any questions, please contact Shelly Quan at (213) 922-3075 or quans@metro.net.

**DISTRIBUTION**

Directors, Managers, and/or Staff of Los Angeles County agencies responsible for preparing and submitting grant applications.