



City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: March 5, 2024

TO: Dean Albro, City Manager

FROM: Richard Fernbaugh, Transit/Airport Administrator
r_fernbaugh@ci.lompoc.ca.us

SUBJECT: Approval of Application for Federal Transit Administration 5307 Funds for City of Lompoc Transit and Recommendation to Santa Barbara County Association of Governments to Approve Funding

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council:

- 1) Approve the attached Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5307 application for funding City of Lompoc Transit (COLT) operating and capital expenses for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2024-25 through 2026-27; and.
- 2) Direct Staff to forward the City Council's approval and recommendation to the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG).

Background/Discussion:

SBCAG, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Santa Barbara County, is responsible for conducting a call for projects for FTA 5307 Urbanized Area funding. The funding is allocated by SBCAG to operate transit services and construct capital projects in the County's three urbanized areas (UZA) of Lompoc, Santa Barbara, and Santa Maria. SBCAG is required to adopt procedures that will be used to select projects for FTA 5307 funding.

The SBCAG Board adopted project selection procedures for FTA 5307 funding and authorized a call for projects for FYs 2024-25 through 2026-27. The adopted procedures require each of the transit operators to issue a call for projects for their respective UZA, in addition to a countywide call issued by SBCAG, then screen, score and recommend to SBCAG which projects in their UZA should be funded.

Each year, the FTA distributes 5307 transit operating and capital assistance funds to urbanized areas. The funds are apportioned on the basis of population and population density. Caltrans Division of Mass Transit is the federally designated recipient of FTA 5307 funding for small, urbanized areas in California like Santa Barbara County.

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Projects that are funded with FTA 5307 funds are selected by SBCAG as the MPO for Santa Barbara County. The projects are selected in consultation with the State and transit operators. Any public agency with public transit capital and operating funding needs within, to/from, or between urbanized area(s) in Santa Barbara County may apply for FTA 5307 funding. Eligible projects include capital improvements and operations. Generally, in Santa Barbara County, 5307 funds are programmed to projects in three-year cycles and are used within the corresponding urbanized area.

SBCAG, as the MPO for Santa Barbara County, authorized a call for projects on December 14, 2023, that resulted in one application received for the City of Lompoc UZA by the deadline of February 15, 2024. The sole application was from COLT to subsidize transit operation and capital expenses.

Fiscal Impact:

SBCAG staff provided estimates of the FTA 5307 apportionments for the Lompoc UZA for FYs 2024-25 to 2026-27 for the 2023 call for project cycle, and those estimates are presented in the table below.

Urbanized Area	FY 24/25	FY 25/26	FY 26/27	Totals
Lompoc	\$1,763,907	\$1,763,907	\$1,763,907	\$5,297,721

The appropriation of FTA 5307 funds are essential to COLT's ability to provide quality transit services, maintain the transit fleet and construct capital improvements for the residents of the Lompoc Valley.

Conclusion:

By forwarding a recommendation of approval of the COLT FTA 5307 application to SBCAG, the City will be taking the required next step to secure this needed funding source for transit operations in the Lompoc UZA.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Fernbaugh, Transit/Airport Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY MANAGER:

Michael W. Luther, P.E., Public Works Director

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APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Dean Albro, City Manager

Attachment: City of Lompoc FTA 5307 Application for FYs 2024-25 through 2026-27