

MEMORANDUM



Public Works Department

Date: October 21, 2016

To: Tempe City Council

From: Shelly Seyler, Deputy Public Works Director – Transportation (480-350-8854)
Marge Zylla, Government Relations Officer (480-350-8922)

Thru: Don Bessler, Public Works Director (480-350-8205)
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Subject: Proposition 400 Update
November 3, 2016 City Manager’s Announcements

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to provide Council with information on the status of Proposition 400 efforts, projects qualified for freeway-funding in Proposition 400 and next steps.

BACKGROUND

In 1985, the voters of Maricopa County approved Proposition 300 to establish a one-half cent transportation sales tax for construction of a regional freeway system. The half-cent sales tax was approved for a period of 20 years, and was set to expire on December 31, 2005. The funds were used to further develop the regional freeway network and provide some basic transit services.

In 2004, voters approved Proposition 400, which continues the one-half cent sales tax until December 2025. The tax is used for construction of new freeways, widening of existing freeways and highways, improvements to the arterial street system, regional bus services and other special bus transportation services, and high capacity transit services such as light rail, bus rapid transit and express buses. Funding was allocated as follows:

- new construction of, or improvements to existing freeways and highways (56.2 percent)
- improvements to arterial streets (10.5 percent)
- transit (33.3 percent)

All projects funded from the approved sales tax are specified in the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Regional Transportation Plan. Tax revenues were lower anticipated largely due to the downturn of the economy and, as a result, not all initially identified projects in Prop 400 have been funded.

Below is a list of Tempe projects that were included in Prop 400 and the current status of each:

- Increased bus frequency:
 - Route 30 – University: Planned for 2020
 - Route 40 – Main: Funded/Complete
 - Route 48 – 48th/Rio Salado: Unfunded
 - Route 56 – Priest/56th: Unfunded
 - Route 61 – Southern: Funded/Complete
 - Route 72 – Rural/Scottsdale: Funded/Complete

- Route 81 – Hayden/McClintock: Funded/Complete
- Route 108 – Elliot: Unfunded
- Express 520: Funded/Complete
- Express 521: Funded/Complete
- Express 522: Funded/Complete
- Dial-a-Ride and Mobility: Funded/Complete
- Improved ADA Service: Funded/Complete
- Replacement Buses for Orbit: Funded/Complete
- Streetcar: Funded/In Design
- Bus Stop Improvements: Funded/Complete
- ASU Transit Center Rehab: Unfunded
- South Tempe Transit Center: Unfunded
- EVBOM Construction/Upgrades: Funded/Complete
- Scottsdale/Rural Link: Unfunded

As funding continues to fluctuate, projects currently being considered for Prop 400 are freeway-related. Below is a list of projects staff has identified that may qualify for this funding.

- Bicycle/pedestrian crossing at Western Canal/Baseline Road and I-10 (I-10 Near-Term Improvements, East Valley): \$7 million
- Art enhancements for Alameda Drive and I-10 pedestrian bridge (I-10 Near-Term Improvements, East Valley): \$500,000
- Bicycle/pedestrian underpass at Highline Canal and ADOT Retention Basin/Pit Park at Knox Road (I-10 Near-Term Improvements, East Valley): \$3.7 million
- Traffic interchange improvements at I-10 and Baseline Road: \$50 million

NEXT STEPS

The next step is to work with MAG to identify opportunities to include Tempe’s freeway-related projects in the Prop 400 funding plan. In addition, staff will present a project list and cost estimates to the City Council for consideration for a potential future regional transportation funding initiative (“Prop 500”).

ATTACHMENTS

PowerPoint