

Council Meeting of
May 13, 2008

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Transit – Authorize the acceptance of Proposition 1B Security Funds for new camera system.

Expenditure: \$115,470

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation of the Transit Director that Council approve a Resolution authorizing the Transit Department to receive Proposition 1B Security Funds.

FUNDING: The Transit Department is eligible in Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-08 for \$115,470 from the State under the Proposition 1B Security funds for Transit, as identified by the State Controller of California.

BACKGROUND:

State Proposition 1B - the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006 - authorizes the state to sell approximately \$20 billion of general obligation bonds to fund transportation projects "to relieve congestion, improve the movement of goods, improve air quality, and enhance the safety and security of the transportation system."

Under the last requirement of this bond, city and county transportation agencies are eligible for funding assistance to "enhance protection against a security threat or improve disaster response capabilities on transit systems." Administered by the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), the Transit Department submitted a grant application on April 11, 2008 in the amount of \$115,470 (Torrance's maximum allocation for this Fiscal Year) for the purchasing of enhancements for the existing camera surveillance system for Transit's bus fleet. On May 1, 2008, Transit received notification that our grant application had been approved (Attachment A). In order to receive these funds, the attached resolution (Attachment B), which authorizes the Transit Director to receive and utilize these funds, must be signed and returned to the OHS two weeks after receiving the award letter.

ANALYSIS:

Transit is planning to enhance and upgrade the security camera system on all of our buses that serve our fixed routes and rapid lines in a two phase project. This enhancement increases the overall number of security cameras on a bus from seven (7)

to nine (9). The enhanced camera system will allow for better on-board (digital) visual recording/storage and improved reviewing/monitoring capabilities.

Phase One will take place during this first grant cycle, with the purchase and installation of the camera equipment occurring during FY 2008-09. The funding under this grant (\$115,470) will allow Transit to upgrade and enhance the camera system for approximately half of our fleet (about 20-25 buses). Phase Two (enhancing cameras on the remaining buses in our fleet) will not occur until funding can be secured during the second year of this grant. Depending upon the funding amount awarded then, Transit should be able to complete the second phase of the project and close out the overall project by December 31, 2010.

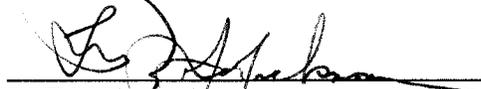
Passenger safety as well as the safety of our Bus Operators is paramount. The upgrading of our security camera system and increasing the number of onboard cameras will allow Transit to enhance the physical safety and security of our vehicles, patrons and employees. Camera systems not only allow for the capture and recording of activities on the buses, but, can also serve as deterrence against acts of vandalism, petty theft and violence.

Respectfully submitted,



Kim Turner
Transit Director

CONCUR:



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments:

- A) Award Letter
- B) Resolution No. 2008 - _____

MAY 01 2008



OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

April 22, 2008

Kim Turner
Executive Director
City of Torrance – Torrance Transit System
20500 Madrona Avenue
Torrance, California 90503

Dear Ms. Turner:

Subject: Conditional Notification of Project Award
FY 2007-2008 California Transit Security Grant Program (CTSGP)
Grant # 6061-0002, OES ID # 037-80000
Project Performance Period: Ends March 31, 2011

The Governor's Office of Homeland Security (OHS) has approved the City of Torrance – Torrance Transit System funding in the amount of \$115,470.00 for projects:

A. Board Security Camera Enhancements

Following the acceptance of your conditional award, you must complete and upload the grant assurances, governing body resolution, authorized agent form, and the Financial Management Forms Workbook onto the Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) Secure Portal at <https://www.odp.esportals.com/index.cfm> no later than two weeks after receiving this letter. Refer to the Proposition 1B Transit guidance for the documents that OHS requires a wet signature copy sent by postal mail. Your semi-annual performance reports must be prepared and submitted to OHS via the ODP Secure Portal on June 30th and December 31st, for the duration of the project performance period, or until all activities are completed and the project is formally closed. Failure to submit performance reports could result in the reduction of project funds, termination, or suspension.

The eligible recipient of this award is subject to all policies and provisions set by OHS. Any project funds received in excess of current needs, approved amounts, or those found owed as a result of a final review or audit, must be refunded to the State within 30 days upon receipt of an invoice from OHS.

For further assistance, please contact OHS, Transit Security Grant Unit (TSGU), Program Representative, Robert Nelson at (916) 322-2680 or robert.nelson@ohs.ca.gov or the Grant Management Section at (916) 324-8908.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Matthew Bettenhausen".

MATTHEW BETTENHAUSEN
Director

GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER • DIRECTOR MATT BETTENHAUSEN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
(916) 324-8908 • FAX (916) 323-9633

ATTACHMENT B

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-____

A RESOLUTION BY THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE TRANSIT DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS FOR THE CALIFORNIA TRANSIT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006, approved by voters as California State Proposition 1B on November 7, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security is the State Administrative Agency for the California Transit Security Grant Program funded under Proposition 1B with general obligation bonds for transit system safety, security and disaster response projects; and

WHEREAS, the State Controller of California identified Torrance Transit System as an eligible transit operator; and

WHEREAS, the City of Torrance is the Administrative Entity of the Torrance Transit System;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HEREBY designates the Transit Director to apply for and execute all documents necessary to obtain state financial assistance provided by the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security.

Introduced, approved and adopted this 13th day of May, 2008.

Mayor Frank Scotto

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JOHN FELLOWS III, City Attorney

ATTEST:

by _____
Ronald T. Pohl, Assistant City Attorney

Sue Herbers
City Clerk

