

TO: James L. App, City Manager
FROM: Jim Throop, Director of Administrative Services
SUBJECT: Letter of Support for SLOCOG FTA section 5304 grant application
DATE: March 15, 2011

NEEDS: For the City Council to approve a letter of support for a grant application by the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) to fund the San Luis Obispo Bus Rapid Transit study.

FACTS:

1. SLOCOG is seeking a FTA section 5304 planning grant for the purpose of studying "Regional Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Applications along the Highway 101 Corridor".
2. SLOCOG is seeking letters of support from local agencies for the grant application.
3. The City of El Paso de Robles could benefit from future BRT services through improved transit service to destinations served by the regional provider, and improved on-time service.
4. The awarding of an FTA section 5304 grant to SLOCOG will not divert funds from the City of Paso Robles.
5. Approval of the letter of support by the City Council is required.

ANALYSIS &

CONCLUSION: By approved the attached letter of support for the FTA 5304 planning grant, the city will aid in the potential awarding of the grant to SLOCOG, with possible long-term benefits to the City through improved regional transit services.

FISCAL

IMPACT: No Fiscal impact.

OPTIONS:

- A. Adopt Resolution No. 11-XXX approving the letter of support, or
- B. Amend, modify or reject the above option

RESOLUTION NO. 11-XX

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES
APPROVING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENTS (SLOCOG) APPLICATION FOR FTA SECTION 5304 PLANNING GRANT**

WHEREAS, SLOCOG is preparing to submit an FTA section 5304 planning grant application for the "Regional Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Applications along the Highway 101 Corridor" and

WHEREAS, SLOCOG is seeking letters of support for the grant application, and

WHEREAS, the awarding of the grant to SLOCOG, and the possible implementation of Bus Rapid Transit service in the north county would be of benefit to the City of El Paso de Robles,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles does hereby approve the letter of support for the SLOCOG Section 5304 grant application, "Regional Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Applications along the Highway 101 Corridor".

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Paso Robles this 15th day of March 2011 by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Duane Picanco, Mayor

ATTEST:

Caryn Jackson, Deputy City Clerk



CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES

"The Pass of the Oaks"

March 15th, 2011

Peter Rodgers
Administration Director
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments
1114 Marsh Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

RE: San Luis Obispo Bus Rapid Transit Study-\$62K Planning Grant Application

Dear Mr. Rodgers,

This letter states the strong support by the City of El Paso de Robles toward the Section 5304 transit planning grant prepared by the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG): the "Regional Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Applications along the Highway 101 corridor". In the North County, this project will refine concepts developed by the 2011 North County Transit Plan BRT-assessment, consistent with the 2010 North Corridor 101 Study express bus recommendations. The City operates three fixed-route bus services, that interface with the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) buses at the multi-modal North County Transportation Center in El Paso de Robles.

Key benefits of this planning study in North County will cover the following:

- ✓ *Enhanced Regional Transit Service:* BRT treatments will streamline the RTA bus service by reducing transit bus travel times, thus benefit local Paso Express riders connecting with regional buses and increase both local and regional ridership.
- ✓ *Improved On-Time Performance:* BRT treatments will shorten travel times on the line-haul leg of the trip and with greater schedule reliability improve timed-transfer connections at the North County Multi-Modal Transportation Center.
- ✓ *More Efficient Service Delivery:* BRT treatments will maximize the use of transit resources by reducing the revenue vehicle hours needed to link major activity centers in North County with employment centers in or near San Luis Obispo.
- ✓ *Deployment of Express Buses:* BRT treatments will support the implementation of the 2010 RTA Short Range Transit Plan, which includes more express runs at peak periods.

The City of Paso Robles encourages SLOCOG to apply for this grant. We look forward to participating in this effort, once Caltrans has awarded the new 5304 grant funding.

Sincerely,

Michael Seden-Hansen
Transit Services Coordinator
City of Paso Robles

Department of Administrative Services
821 Pine Street, Suite A • Paso Robles • California 93446
(805) 237-3999 FAX (805) 237-6565