



TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES
ACCESS FOR ALL PROGRAM FUND
ADMINISTRATOR FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Executive Management Committee

June 17, 2021



Metro

Recommendation

- **ADOPT a resolution authorizing Metro to serve as the Local Access Fund Administrator (LAFA) for Los Angeles County**
 - Of revenue generated by the Access for All Program of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).
 - From the fee that Senate Bill (SB) 1376 requires Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) to pay, as determined by the CPUC, for each trip originating in LA County.
 - To support on-demand wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) service in LA County.
- **AUTHORIZE the CEO or their designee to submit an application to pursue a designated status as the LAFA for Los Angeles County**

Issue

- **Senate Bill 1376 signed into California law in September 2018**
 - Requires the CPUC to establish a program to improve the accessibility of persons with disabilities to on-demand transportation services requested through online-enabled applications or platforms.
 - Applies to TNC service (e.g., Uber, Lyft, etc.) that the CPUC regulates.
- **The CPUC released the application for becoming a LAFA on April 2, 2021**
 - Requires submitting a Board resolution authorizing the agency to serve as the county's LAFA by July 9, 2021.
- **Board approval needed to complete the CPUC's application process**
 - Allows Metro to be the LAFA for Los Angeles County for each CPUC annual funding cycle (through 2027), or until it decides to not continue this role.

Background

- **Focus is on users who need a WAV capable of transporting their non-folding motorized wheelchairs, scooters or other mobility devices.**
- **Three CPUC “track” proceedings approved to date (fourth track pending).**
- **TNCs now pay a fee of \$0.10 (twice the minimum required by SB 1376) to the CPUC for each trip originating in each county statewide.**
- **LAFAs can use up to 15 percent of the amount the CPUC allocates to each county each year to cover their administrative expenses.**
- **TNCs can submit offset and/or exemption requests to the CPUC for approval.**
 - Reduce the amount available to LAFAs for “access providers” & administration.

Funding Availability for Los Angeles County

- **Approx. \$6.6 million for Los Angeles County for the 2021 Funding Year**
 - About 31 percent of the \$21.5 M available for all counties statewide.
 - Net of revenue collected July 2019 - June 2020 and CPUC approved TNC offsets.
- **Metro can use up to 15 percent of the amount the CPUC allocates to Los Angeles County each year to cover their administrative expenses.**
- **TNC offsets and/or exemptions may reduce the amount available to Metro for “access providers” & administration in future CPUC Funding Years.**
- **Revenue for future funding cycles contingent on:**
 - TNC demand post COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.
 - TNC offsets and/or exemptions approved by the CPUC for claims for expenses. and/or for meeting the levels of service specified in the CPUC’s rulemaking.

Next Steps

- **With Board approval of the recommendation, staff will complete the application process to become the LAFA for Los Angeles County**
 - Otherwise, will be assigned by the CPUC to Statewide Access Fund Administrator.
- **Contingent on approval of staffing and other needs for Metro to fulfill its LAFA responsibilities through the FY 2022 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment:**
 - Continue outreach & establish a task force to develop program guidelines.
 - Apprise the Board on the outcome of the CPUC's Track 4 and other proceedings.
 - Seek Board approval for Los Angeles County's Access for All Program Guidelines.
 - Procure "access providers" to implement WAV service.