

Board Report

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority
One Gateway Plaza
3rd Floor Board Room
Los Angeles, CA

File #: 2020-0726, File Type: Informational Report Agenda Number: 11.

REVISED

FINANCE, BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
JANUARY 20, 2021

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2021 (FY21) MID-YEAR BUDGET

ACTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION

CONSIDER:

- A. AMENDING the FY21 Budget by \$765 million from \$6.23 billion annual consolidated expenditures to \$6.99 billion to achieve goals and objectives set forth by the Board adopted Metro Vision 2028 strategic plan; and
- B. AMENDING an increase of 5 Non-Represented FTEs from FY21 Adopted Budget authorized levels: 3 for Equity and Race and 2 for Customer Experience

ISSUE

This report provides an update for revenues and expenses related to the FY21 Budget and request board approval to amend the FY21 Budget to the eligible Metro programs while maximizing the available financial resources. The increase to the FY21 Budget, during this mid-year update, is the result of our current economic conditions, reforecast of sales tax revenues, and effective cost control practices.

DISCUSSION

Revenue Reforecast Update

Staff have been closely monitoring Metro's revenues as they relate to, and deviate from, historical patterns. We have been tracking current social and economic trends for potential impacts to Metro's revenue sources. The FY21 Mid-Year reforecast resource summary by type is in the following table.

FY21 Reforecast Resources

		FY21	FY21		
	Resources (\$ in millions)	Budget	Reforecast	\$ Change	% Change
1	Sales Tax, TDA and STA	\$ 3,895.0	\$4,177.2	\$ 282.2	7.2%
2	CARES Act	569.6	569.6	-	0.0%
3	Passenger Fares	60.3	22.2	(38.1)	-63.2%
4	ExpressLanes, Advertising and Other Revenues	138.6	109.6	(29.0)	-20.9%
5	Grants and TIFIA	1,138.9	1,138.9	-	0.0%
6	Debt and Additional Debt Proceeds if necessary*	424.9	974.8	549.9	129.4%
	Total Resources	\$ 6,227.3	\$ 6,992.3	\$ 765.0	12.3%

^{*} Debt will be issued based on need, subject to Board Approval

NOTE: Totals may not add up because of rounding

To date, sales tax revenues have not declined as much as projected in the Adopted Budget. There was a significant bounce back in the Spring quarter, largely due to the broad economic stimulus of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act. The Federal legislation helped Metro two ways: First, directly through the transportation allocations in the law; Second, indirectly through individual and business stimulus payments and loans, which created additional sales tax receipts in Los Angeles (LA) County.

This recovery stalled over the summer. Actual sales tax receipts for the first quarter of FY21 are over budget but have stopped increasing. Looking forward, there are both positive and negative indicators for taxable sales. On the positive side, the consensus economic projection is for tepid and uneven but continued growth. The National Retail Federation projects holiday spending increased 4%-5% compared to 2019. Also, LA County's economy will receive a boost from the Supplemental stimulus package recently approved by Congress just as it did from the CARES Act (The direct transportation allocations are expected to be received in Q4 and will be programmed in the FY22 Budget).

On the negative side, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to ravage the county and efforts to combat it will have continuing economic impacts. While it is apparent a full economic recovery will take longer than originally expected, overall, we are cautiously optimistic that sales tax receipts will continue slightly above budgeted amounts, generating an additional \$282 million in sales tax revenues, or a 7.7% increase, above the FY21 Adopted Budget level.

The revenue picture is not as optimistic within Operations. The reduction in travel continues to have a negative impact on Metro's system-generated revenues which are projected to be even lower than Adopted Budget levels. Farebox revenues are only a fraction of prior year levels and have fallen much farther than ridership due to rear door boarding. The advertising contract has been temporarily modified to provide relief to the vendor by reducing their payments. ExpressLanes tolls, parking, and bikeshare revenues have all fallen due to reduced usage. These losses in operating-eligible funding sources will have to be covered by operating-eligible sales tax revenues, offsetting many of those gains. The table below shows the overall changes in terms of fund eligibility.

Mid-Year Changes in Sales Tax and Other Resources by Funding Eligi	bility
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					F	undi	ng Eligibilit	у			
				Fle	x Funding						
			Transit		ligible for		Transit		Other		I Funding
	Resources (\$ in millions)	Op:	s/SGR	Ops	s/SGR/TID	E)	(pansion	De	edicated	Ga	in/(Loss)
1	Sales Tax, TDA and STA	\$	14.7	\$	97.7	\$	43.2	\$	126.5	\$	282.2
	Passenger Fares		-		(38.1)		-		-		(38.1)
3	ExpressLanes, Advertising and Other Revenues*		(0.7)		(15.0)		-		(13.3)		(28.9)
	Total Additional FY21 Funding	\$	14.0	\$	44.6	\$	43.2	\$	113.2	\$	215.1
	Total Funding Eligible for Operations	\$	58	.6							

^{*} Other Revenues include Green Fund, HOV Fines, Transit Court, Parking, Bikeshare and Lease Revenues.

NOTE: Totals may not add up because of rounding

In total, \$215 million is projected to be available for the FY21 Budget. Out of \$67 million of combined operating income declines, consisting of -\$38.1 million from Passenger Fares and -\$28.9 from other revenues, \$53 million are operating-eligible revenues, primarily Passenger Fares and the Green Fund. These losses offset some of the sales tax gains, resulting in an increase of \$58.6 million in funding eligible for Operations. Proposed allocations of these funds will be discussed later in this report, but it is important to note that all additional funding that is eligible for Operations is allocated to Operations. Gains and losses in dedicated revenue sources like Regional Rail, General Planning and Programs, Congestion Management, and Subsidies fall into those specific programs.

Every eligible transit dollar has been made available to seize opportunities in increasing operating projects to further enhance the speed and efficiency from the NextGen implementation and initiate the Customer Experience plan.

Transit Expansion, Highway, and Regional Rail Projects

Metro is leveraging the additional \$43.2 million of Transit Expansion eligible funds and net savings of \$34.3 from refinancing existing debt to advance the drawdown of approved grants in current fiscal year. Metro's \$741.4 million cashflow increase will be funded with additional sales tax, advancement of FFGA and other grants, and debt proceeds within Board authorized Life of Project (LOP) budget. All new debt issuance will be in accordance with previously approved Board Approved policies and requires separate Board Action.

Table below depicts those projects with midyear cashflow adjustments for the remainder of FY21. These increases are within Board authorized LOP budget.

		FY2	11	Midyear	۸ ا	dopted	
	Projects with Midyear Adjustment	Adop		Increase	ı	Midyear	Activities
TF	ANS FORT ATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPME			mereade		andy cur	
	Trainsit Expension	'					
							■Project is 97% complete
1	Crers haw/LAX	5	73.0	\$ 15.2	5	88.2	•Focus ed on systems integration testing prior to putting it into revenue
							service
4	Regional Connector	1	36.0	82.8		218.8	•Project is 71% complete; revenue service dates ummer/fall 2022
1	negana camectar		50.0	02.0		210.0	•Focus ed on completed structural concrete and track work installation
							▶Project is 66% complete; revenue service date in summer of 2023
3	Westside Purple Line Section 1	1	70.7	144.4		315.1	•Focus on TBM tunnel drive completion – 8 of the 12 cross passages
							ex cavated, and concrete placements occurring at station sites
							Project is 39% complete; revenue service date in 2025
٩	Westside Purple Line Section 2	1	13.1	170.1		283.1	• Focus ed on final design completion; construction activities in Century City
							and Beverly Hills
						405.5	• Project is 19% complete; revenue service date in 2027
기	Westside Purple Line Section 3	2	13.2	213.3		426.5	• Focus on third party utility relocations, continue with final design on one
							contract, and prepare for tunneling operation
اء	District 20 Destriction in S. Toronto de		88.1	53.2		1417	Much of adopted budget spent on mobilization costs Additional funds for construction as staging area and preparatory work
٩	Division 20 Portal Widening & Turnback		00.1	55.2		141.5	finalizes
							NEPA environmental deared in Dec-20
7	East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor		12.8	18.1		30.9	Utility conflict investigation consisting of potholing and slot trenching
8	Eastside Extension Phase 2		2.9	1.5		4.4	•Allow for engineering and EIR work to be back on schedule
]					_		7 mar rai digineding and em trancia de da de marchedale
٩	Transit Expansion Subtotal	5 8	09.8	\$ 698.5	5	1,508.3	
10	Highway			ı			1
11	Soundwall Package 10	5	1.2	\$ 0.9	5	2.1	Caltrans expected to finish design by 0.3 and Metro to lead soundwall
							construction
12	Soundwall Package 11		11.3	12.0		23.3	Re-design due to differing site conditions from as-built drawings Continue with permeation grouting
13	SR-57/SR-60 Interchange Improvements		6.5	3.2		9.7	Advance project through design phase using the TCEP grant
14	SR-91 Improvements		6.7	2.0			Progress through environmental phase for shovel readiness.
15		_			5		*rrogress through environmental phase for shove freadiness.
	Highway Total GIONAL RAIL	÷ ·	25.7	\$ 18.1	Þ	43.8	
17	Link US	5	53.8	5 24.8	l c	78.6	•Right-of-way a equisitions anticipated in Q4
					Ė		-ingin-ur-way acquaitions anticipated III Q4
18	TID & Regional Rail Total	5 8	89.3	5 741.4	5	1,630.7	
19 Sa	vings From Debt Refinancing		509.2	(34.3)		475	
To	tal Project Adjustment in TID, Regional Rail and	5 1,3	90 F	5 707.1	5	2,105.6	
D≡	ebt Services	J 1,5	30.5	J 707.1	7	2,105.6	

NOTE: Totals may not add up because of rounding

Metro Transit Program Recommended Options

Applying all operating eligible funding of \$58.6 million to Bus/Rail Operations and State of Good Repair, Metro staff has recommended a list of prioritized initiatives to improve the customer experience, continue rollout of NextGen/Mobility on Demand, Capital State of Good Repair, staffing recruitment for Regional Connector, and implementation of other operational needs. Service-related criteria, as well as other criteria including Equity, Grant Funding Consideration, Project Readiness, Project Interdependency, and Safety/Reliability have been evaluated to implement the initiatives and to optimize the additional revenues.

		FY21 M	lid-Year
		Bud	lget
	Initiative (\$ in millions)	Adjus	tment
1	Customer Experience	\$	4.9
2	NextGen Infrastructure Study/Mobility on Demand		10.0
3	Capital State of Good Repair		24.3
4	Regional Connector Staffing		4.3
5	Other Operational Needs		15.1
	Total Initiatives	\$	58.6

NOTE: Totals may not add up because of rounding

- Customer Experience initiatives include real-time identification of customer impacts of passups, deployment of elevator attendants at various stations, reducing homelessness on the system by 50%, flexible dispatching of various people with expertise for quick problem response, advertising campaigns to increase TransitWatch use, Better Bus engagement tool/Metro.net website overhaul, and increasing customer experience surveys
- NextGen/Mobility on Demand initiatives relate to continued NextGen infrastructure studies and incorporating Mobility on Demand into Microtransit
- Capital State of Good Repair initiatives will re-establish scheduled fleet and infrastructure scheduling priorities that were delayed. Projects include new bus engine procurement, bus vehicle delivery, rail vehicle mid-life and component overhaul programs, and rail infrastructure improvements
- Regional Connector staffing recruitment will initiate maintenance training to gear up for the upcoming Rail Operations Date (ROD)
- Other Operational Needs include Bus/ Rail fleet maintenance campaigns, backfilling expenses to cover Purchased Transportation revenue service hour increases, and additional budget to complete the build out of lactation rooms at various facilities

Five (5) Non-Represented FTEs - Equity & Race and Customer Experience

Metro believes that access to opportunity should be at the center of decision-making around public investments and services. Accordingly, led by the Office of Equity and Race, Metro continues to take steps to operationalize and institutionalize equity under the four pillars of the Board-adopted Equity Platform. The Office of Equity and Race is requesting Board approval for three (3) Non-Represented FTEs to increase capacity to lead this work and improve efforts to expand access for historically and currently marginalized, underserved, and vulnerable communities, to contribute to a more inclusive and equitable LA County.

Agenda Number: 11.

Additionally, Metro seeks to improve mobility in LA County by doubling the number of people who travel by modes other than single occupancy vehicles in the next ten years. In order to achieve this goal, the Customer Experience department has requested Board approval for two (2) Non-Represented FTEs to improve the customer experience across all Metro products and services to deliver customers with an outstanding, reliable, safe, and comfortable journey.

EQUITY ASSESSMENT

Metro staff developed and applied the Metro Budget Equity Assessment Tool (MBEAT) to the budgetary requests in this board action to understand the potential benefits and burdens for historically and currently marginalized communities and determine how budgetary requests might support more equitable outcomes. Overall, application of the MBEAT highlighted budgetary requests with a wide range of benefits for marginalized and/or vulnerable communities, helped staff identify potential barriers or harms to address, and helped staff consider adjustments to improve access and reduce potential barriers or harms. It also highlighted a need for broader training to not only answer MBEAT questions, but to help staff think through how investment, projects, programs, and policies might cause harm or not benefit all as intended, given historic and current disparities and systemic inequities.

Please see the Mid-Year FY20-21 Budget Equity Assessment - Receive and File Report for a summary of highlights on the findings, new process and next steps.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Approval of this item will not impact safety.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The FY21 Proposed Mid-Year Budget at \$6.99 billion is balanced and appropriates the resources necessary to fund them. The proposed mid-year budget demonstrates Metro's ongoing commitment to meeting its capital and operating obligations, which is essential in receiving subsidies from the state and federal governments and to administer regional transportation funding to local cities and municipal operators.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommendation supports Metro Vision 2028 Strategic Goal # 5: Provide responsive, accountable, and trustworthy governance within the Metro organization.

NEXT STEPS

Upon Board amendment of the FY21 Budget, Metro will make funds available for the planned transit and transportation programs outlined in this document.

Metro staff will continue to monitor the financial situation considering the COVID-19 pandemic and

reassess resources, expenditures, and economic recovery which may result in returning to the Board for another amendment in FY21, if necessary.

With the allocation and application of the recently approved additional stimulus package yet to be determined by the federal government, Metro will assess the financial impact of the amount available for all transit agencies in the County and integrate the information into the FY22 Budget Development process.

Prepared by: Office of Management and Budget Team

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Perry Blake, Senior Executive Officer Finance, (213) 922-6171

Reviewed by: Nalini Ahuja, Chief Financial Officer, (213) 922-3088

Phillip A. Washington Chief Executive Officer

FY21 Mid-Year Budget

Finance, Budget & Audit Committee
January 20, 2021

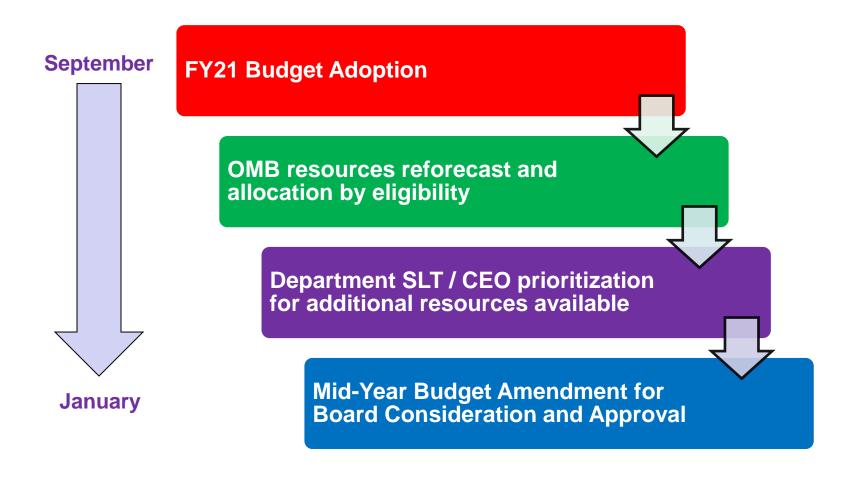


Meeting Agenda

- FY21 Mid-Year Budget Process
- Revenue Reforecast Update
- Transportation Infrastructure Development
- Metro Transit:
 - Operations & Maintenance
 - State of Good Repair
 - Customer Experience
- FTE increases for Customer Experience and Equity and Race
- Next Steps



FY21 Mid-Year Budget Development Process





FY21 Mid-Year Budget Summary

<u>Recommendation</u>: Requesting approval to AMEND the FY21 Budget by \$765M from \$6.23B to \$6.99B and AMEND 5 Non-Represented FTEs for Equity and Race and Customer Experience

Revenues

- Sales Tax Revenue forecasted to increase \$282.2M compared to FY21 Budget
- System-Generated Revenues (Fares, Toll Revenues) projected to decrease by -\$67.1M
- Recent federal stimulus package will be programmed for FY22 Budget when the allocation is approved by the Board

Expenses

- Transit Expansion, Highway, and Regional Rail projects increase to be funded by a combination
 of the projected sales tax increase, the advancement of FFGA and other grants, and the issuance
 of new debt if necessary.
- All Transit Operations-eligible funding allocated to Operations for Customer Experience initiatives, NextGen / Mobility on Demand initiatives, Capital State of Good Repair projects, Regional Connector staffing recruitment, and Other Operational Needs
 - Newly created Metro Budget Equity Assessment Tool (MBEAT) applied to the budgetary adjustments
 - Increase of 5 Non-Represented FTEs compared to FY21 Budget
 - 3 for Equity and Race
 - 2 for Customer Experience

If needed, additional updates will be brought to Board for approval based on the pace of recovery

Revenue Reforecast

FY21 Reforecast Resources

			_			
		FY21	FY21			
	Resources (\$ in millions)	Budget	Reforecast	\$ (Change	% Change
1	Sales Tax, TDA and STA	\$3,895.0	\$4,177.2	\$	282.2	7.2%
2	CARES Act	569.6	569.6		-	0.0%
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4	ExpressLanes, Advertising and Other Revenues	138.6	109.6		(29.0)	-20.9%
5	Grants and TIFIA	1,138.9	1,138.9		-	0.0%
6	Debt and Additional Debt Proceeds if necessary*	424.9	974.8		549.9	129.4%
	Total Resources	\$6,227.3	\$ 6,992.3	\$	765.0	12.3%

^{*} Debt will be issued based on need, subject to Board Approval

- Overall Resources is projected to be \$765M or 12.3% higher than FY21 Budget
- Sales Tax Revenues have not declined as much as originally projected, with a \$282.2M increase or +7.2%
 - Sales Tax receipts in Q1 FYH21 was higher than projected but coming down to budgeted levels in recent months
 - CARES impact had broad economic impact
- Operating Revenues (Fares, Expresslanes, Advertising and Other) is projected lower \$67.1M compared to FY21 Budget
- If necessary, \$549.9M additional debt proceeds available subject to Board Approval

Revenue by Funding Eligibility

Mid-Year Changes in Sales Tax and Other Resources by Funding Eligibility

					F	unc	ling Eligibilit	у			
	Resources (\$ in millions)	111/23/1210	ro Transit ps/SGR	E	x Funding igible for s/SGR/TID	E	Transit expansion	D	Other edicated	3899333993	I Funding
1	Sales Tax, TDA and STA	\$	14.7	\$	97.7	\$	43.2	\$	126.5	\$	282.2
2	Passenger Fares		-		(38.1)		-		-		(38.1)
3	ExpressLanes, Advertising and Other Revenues*		(0.7)		(15.0)		-		(13.3)		(28.9)
	Total Additional FY21 Funding	\$	14.0	\$	44.6	\$	43.2	\$	113.2	\$	215.1
	Total Funding Eligible for Operations	\$	58	3.6					-		

^{*} Other Revenues include Green Fund, HOV Fines, Transit Court, Parking, Bikeshare and Lease Revenues.

- Total Resources added \$215.1M must be allocated by funding eligibility into Programs
- All funding eligible for Operations have been allocated to Operations
 - Total increase for Metro Transit Operations is \$58.6M (\$14.0M Metro Transit specific + \$44.6M Flexible Funding Eligible)



Transportation Infrastructure Development – List of Projects with Midyear Adjustments

 Transit Infrastructure Development and Regional Rail cashflow increases of \$741.4M within Board authorized Life of Project (LOP) budget

(\$s in MMs)

	Project	FY21	Midyear	Adopted	Activities
	·	Adopted	Increase	+ Midyear	/ identilies
	TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMEN	NT (TID)			
	Transit Expansion		1		1
1	Crenshaw/LAX	\$ 73.0	\$ 15.2	\$ 88.2	• Project is 97% complete
		•			• Eocused on systems integration testing prior to putting it into revenue
2	Regional Connector	136.0	82.8	218.8	■Project is 71% complete; revenue service date summer/fall 2022
					• Eocused on completed structural concrete and track work installation
		_			● Project is 66% complete; revenue service date in summer of 2023
3	Westside Purple Line Section 1	170.7	144.4	315.1	• E ocus on TBM tunnel drive completion − 8 of the 12 cross passages
					excavated, and concrete placements occurring at station sites
					● Project is 39% complete; revenue service date in 2025
4	Westside Purple Line Section 2	113.1	170.1	283.1	
					and Beverly Hills
					• Project is 16% complete; revenue service date in 2027
5	Westside Purple Line Section 3	213.2	213.3	426.5	Eocus on third party utility relocations, continue with final design on one
					contract, and prepare for tunneling operation
6	Division 20 Portal Widening & Turnback	88.1	53.2	141.3	■Much of adopted budget spent on mobilization costs
٩	Division 20 Fortal Widefillig & Furnback	00.1	33.2	141.5	Additional funds for construction as staging area and preparatory work
7	East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor	12.8	18.1	30.9	●NEPA environmental cleared in Dec-20
1	East Sail Fernando Valley Transit Corridor	12.8	16.1	30.9	• Dtility conflict investigation consisting of potholing and slot trenching
8	Eastside Extension Phase 2	2.9	1.5	4.4	• Allow for engineering and EIR work to be back on schedule
9	Transit Expansion Subtotal	\$ 809.8	\$ 698.5	\$ 1,508.3	
10	Highway				
					● ②altrans expected to finish design by Q3 and Metro to lead soundwall
11	Soundwall Package 10	\$ 1.2	\$ 0.9	\$ 2.1	construction
					■ Be-design due to differing site conditions from as-built drawings
12	Soundwall Package 11	11.3	12.0	23.3	■ ② ontinue with permeation grouting
13	SR-57/SR-60 Interchange Improvements	6.5	3.2	9.7	Advance project through design phase using the TCEP grant
14	SR-91 Improvements	6.7	2.0	8.7	■Progress through environmental phase for shovel readiness. ■ Progress through environmental phase for shovel readiness.
15	Highway Total	\$ 25.7	\$ 18.1	\$ 43.8	
16	REGIONAL RAIL				
17	Link US	\$ 53.8	\$ 24.8	\$ 78.6	■Bight-of-way acquisitions anticipated in Q4 ■ Bight-of-way acquisitions anticipated in Q4 ■ Bight-of-way acquisitions anticipated in Q4 ■ Bight-of-way acquisitions anticipated in Q4
18	TID & Regional Rail Total		\$ 741.4	\$ 1,630.7	<u> </u>
L					

Metro Transit Program – Operations Proposed Allocations

All Transit Operations-eligible funding allocated to Operations for a total of \$58.6M

(\$s in MMs)

#	Initiative	FY21 Mid- Year Budget Adj	Description of Activity
1	Customer Experience	\$ 4.9	Pilot programs: elevator attendants, unarmed ambassadors to address homelessness, dispatching social service workers to address issues on the system, ads to increase TransitWatch use, a Better Bus website engagement tool, a new annual Customer Experience Survey, and a program that identifies customers impacted by a missed run or pass-up and offers them a free ride code for a taxi or rideshare service to get where they need to go
2	NextGen Infrastructure / Mobility on Demand	10.0	NextGen/Mobility on Demand initiatives relate to continued NextGen infrastructure studies and incorporating Mobility on Demand into Microtransit
3	Capital State of Good Repair	24.3	Capital State of Good Repair initiatives will re-establish scheduled fleet and infrastructure scheduling priorities that were delayed. Projects include new bus engine procurement, Bus vehicle delivery, rail vehicle mid-life and component overhaul programs, and Rail infrastructure improvements
4	Regional Connector Staffing	4.3	Regional Connector staffing recruitment will initiate maintenance training to gear up for the upcoming Rail Operations Date (ROD)
5	Other Operational Needs	15.1	Other Operational Needs include Bus and Rail fleet maintenance campaigns, backfilling expenses to cover Purchased Transportation revenue service hour rate increases, and additional budget to complete the build out of lactation rooms at various facilities
6	Total Initiatives	\$ 58.6	

Equity and Race and Customer Experience – FTE Increases

Office of Equity and Race (3 Non-Represented FTEs)

- (3) Non-Represented FTEs to staff new Equity and Race department
- Increase capacity to lead this work and improve efforts to expand access for historically and currently marginalized, underserved, and vulnerable communities, to contribute to a more inclusive and equitable Los Angeles County. Operationalize and institutionalize equity under the four pillars of the Board-adopted Equity Platform
- Metro staff developed and applied the Metro Budget Equity Assessment Tool (MBEAT) to the budgetary requests in this Board action

Customer Experience (2 Non-Represented FTEs)

- (2) Non-Represented FTEs to staff the new Customer Experience department
- This will support the annual Customer Experience Plans required by the Board, and expand the scope to include journey mapping, building a customer-first culture across the organization, and planning for the needs of out-of-town visitors as Metro prepares to welcome people from around the world for the 2028 Olympics.

Next Steps

- FB&A Committee on January 20, 2021
- Board Meeting on January 28, 2021
- Metro will make funds available for the planned transit and transportation programs upon Board Approval
- Metro staff will continue to monitor the financial situation which may result in returning to the Board for another amendment in FY21, if necessary
- Metro will assess the financial impact of recently approved additional stimulus package and program accordingly based on the timing of available information





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To date, sales tax revenues have not declined as much as projected in the Adopted Budget. There was a significant bounce back in the Spring quarter, largely due to the broad economic stimulus of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, also known as the CARES Act. The Federal legislation helped Metro two ways: First, directly through the transportation allocations in the law; Second, indirectly through individual and business stimulus payments and loans, which created additional sales tax receipts in Los Angeles (LA) County.

This recovery stalled over the summer. Actual sales tax receipts for the first quarter of FY21 are over budget but have stopped increasing. Looking forward, there are both positive and negative indicators for taxable sales. On the positive side, the consensus economic projection is for tepid and uneven but continued growth. The National Retail Federation projects holiday spending increased 4%-5% compared to 2019. Also, LA County's economy will receive a boost from the Supplemental stimulus package recently approved by Congress just as it did from the CARES Act (The direct transportation allocations are expected to be received in Q4 and will be programmed in the FY22 Budget).

On the negative side, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to ravage the county and efforts to combat it will have continuing economic impacts. While it is apparent a full economic recovery will take longer than originally expected, overall, we are cautiously optimistic that sales tax receipts will continue slightly above budgeted amounts, generating an additional \$282 million in sales tax revenues, or a 7.7% increase, above the FY21 Adopted Budget level.

The revenue picture is not as optimistic within Operations. The reduction in travel continues to have a negative impact on Metro's system-generated revenues which are projected to be even lower than Adopted Budget levels. Farebox revenues are only a fraction of prior year levels and have fallen much farther than ridership due to rear door boarding. The advertising contract has been temporarily modified to provide relief to the vendor by reducing their payments. ExpressLanes tolls, parking, and bikeshare revenues have all fallen due to reduced usage. These losses in operating-eligible funding sources will have to be covered by operating-eligible sales tax revenues, offsetting many of those gains. The table below shows the overall changes in terms of fund eligibility.

Mid-Year Changes in Sales Tax and Other Resources by Funding Eligibility

					F	undi	ng Eligibilit	у			
				Fle	x Funding						
			Transit		ligible for		Transit		Other		I Funding
	Resources (\$ in millions)	Op:	s/SGR	Ops	s/SGR/TID	E)	(pansion	De	edicated	Ga	in/(Loss)
1	Sales Tax, TDA and STA	\$	14.7	\$	97.7	\$	43.2	\$	126.5	\$	282.2
	Passenger Fares		-		(38.1)		-		-		(38.1)
3	ExpressLanes, Advertising and Other Revenues*		(0.7)		(15.0)		-		(13.3)		(28.9)
	Total Additional FY21 Funding	\$	14.0	\$	44.6	\$	43.2	\$	113.2	\$	215.1
	Total Funding Eligible for Operations	\$	58	.6							

^{*} Other Revenues include Green Fund, HOV Fines, Transit Court, Parking, Bikeshare and Lease Revenues.

NOTE: Totals may not add up because of rounding

In total, \$215 million is projected to be available for the FY21 Budget. Out of \$67 million of combined operating income declines, consisting of -\$38.1 million from Passenger Fares and -\$28.9 from other revenues, \$53 million are operating-eligible revenues, primarily Passenger Fares and the Green Fund. These losses offset some of the sales tax gains, resulting in an increase of \$58.6 million in funding eligible for Operations. Proposed allocations of these funds will be discussed later in this report, but it is important to note that all additional funding that is eligible for Operations is allocated to Operations. Gains and losses in dedicated revenue sources like Regional Rail, General Planning and Programs, Congestion Management, and Subsidies fall into those specific programs.

Every eligible transit dollar has been made available to seize opportunities in increasing operating projects to further enhance the speed and efficiency from the NextGen implementation and initiate the Customer Experience plan.

Transit Expansion, Highway, and Regional Rail Projects

Metro is leveraging the additional \$43.2 million of Transit Expansion eligible funds and net savings of \$34.3 from refinancing existing debt to advance the drawdown of approved grants in current fiscal year. Metro's \$741.4 million cashflow increase will be funded with additional sales tax, advancement of FFGA and other grants, and debt proceeds within Board authorized Life of Project (LOP) budget. All new debt issuance will be in accordance with previously approved Board Approved policies and requires separate Board Action.

Table below depicts those projects with midyear cashflow adjustments for the remainder of FY21. These increases are within Board authorized LOP budget.

Projects with Michigan Adjustment			Midyear			Activities
· · ·			Increase	+	Midyear	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	ит (т	TID)				
is tak capatas ii	l					Project is 97% complete
Crers haw/LAX	5	7 3.0	\$ 15.2	5	88.2	•Focus ed on systems integration testing prior to putting it into revenue
						service
Regional Connector		136.0	82.8		218.8	Project is 71% complete; revenue service dates ummer/fall 2022
	_					•Foos ed on completed structural concrete and track work installation
Marrie Barrie I and a single		4.70.7			705.0	•Project is 66% complete; revenue service date in summer of 2023
Westside Purple Line Section 1		170.7	144.4		315.1	•Focus on TBM tunnel drive completion — 8 of the 12 cross passages
	\vdash					excavated, and concrete placements occurring at station sites • Project is 39% complete; revenue service date in 2025
Westside Pumle Line Section 2		1171	1701		227.1	•Focus ed on final design completion; construction activities in Century City
Westside Purple Line Section 2		115.1	170.1	253.1		and Beverly Hilb
						■Project is 16% complete; revenue service date in 2027
Westside Purple Line Section 3		213.2	213.3		426.5	• Focus on third party utility relocations , continue with final design on one
·						contract, and prepare for tunneling operation
						Much of adopted budget spent on mobilization costs
Division 20 Portal Widening & Turnback		88.1	53.2		141.3	•Additional funds for construction as staging area and preparatory work
						finalizes
East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor		12.8	18.1		30.9	•NEPA environmental deared in Dec-20
						Utility conflict investigation consisting of potholing and slot trenching
Eastside Extension Phase 2	_	2.9	1.5	<u> </u>	4.4	•Allow for engineering and EIR work to be back on schedule
Transit Expansion Subtotal	5	809.8	\$ 698.5	5	1,508.3	
lig hway						
Spundscall Package 10	ļ .	12	5 09	ς.	2.1	•Caltrans expected to finish design by 0,3 and Metro to lead soundwall
Danidwan i ackage 10	<u> </u>		7 0.5	_		construction
Spundwall Package 11		11.3	12.0		23.3	•Re-design due to differing site conditions from as-built drawings
	_		7.0		0.7	• Continue with permeation grouting
	_					Advance project through design phase using the TCEP grant
·	_			_		Progress through environmental phase for shovel readiness.
	Þ	25.7	\$ 18.1	Þ	45.8	
Link US	ls	53.8	5 24.8	5	78.6	Right-of-way acquisitions anticipated in Q4
					1,630.7	
ines From Debt Refinancing		509.2	(34.3)		475	
Project Adjustment in TID, Regional Rail and						
	I C .	1,398.5	5 707.1	15	2,105.6	
	Transit Expansion Cress haw/LAX Regional Connector Westside Purple Line Section 1 Westside Purple Line Section 2 Westside Purple Line Section 3 Division 20 Portal Widening & Turnback East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Eastside Extension Phase 2 Transit Expansion Subtotal dig hway Soundwall Package 10 Soundwall Package 11 SR-57/SR-60 Interchange Improvements SR-91 Improvements Highway Total IONAL RAIL Link US TID & Regional Rail Total ings From Debt Refinancing	Projects with Midyear Adjustment Ac NSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT (I ira risit Expansion Crers haw/LAX Regional Connector Westside Purple LineSection 1 Westside Purple LineSection 2 Westside Purple LineSection 3 Division 20 Portal Widening & Turnback East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Eastside Extension Phase 2 Transit Expansion Subtotal 5 liighway Soundwall Package 10 SR-57/SR-60 Interchange Improvements SR-91 Improvements Highway Total 5 IONAL RAIL Link US TID & Regional Rail Total 5 ings From Debt Refinancing	NSFORT ATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT (TID)	Projects with Midyear Adjustment Adopted Increase NSFORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT (TID) 1 more and the properties of the project	Projects with Midyear Adjustment	Projects with Midyear Adjustment Adopted Increase + Midyear

NOTE: Totals may not add up because of rounding

Metro Transit Program Recommended Options

Applying all operating eligible funding of \$58.6 million to Bus/Rail Operations and State of Good Repair, Metro staff has recommended a list of prioritized initiatives to improve the customer experience, continue rollout of NextGen/Mobility on Demand, Capital State of Good Repair, staffing recruitment for Regional Connector, and implementation of other operational needs. Service-related criteria, as well as other criteria including Equity, Grant Funding Consideration, Project Readiness, Project Interdependency, and Safety/Reliability have been evaluated to implement the initiatives and to optimize the additional revenues.

		FY21 Mid-Yea	ar
		Budget	
	Initiative (\$ in millions)	Adjustment	
1	Customer Experience	\$ 4	.9
2	NextGen Infrastructure Study/Mobility on Demand	10	0.0
3	Capital State of Good Repair	24	4.3
4	Regional Connector Staffing	4	4.3
5	Other Operational Needs	15	5.1
	Total Initiatives	\$ 58	.6

NOTE: Totals may not add up because of rounding

- Customer Experience initiatives include real-time identification of customer impacts of passups, deployment of elevator attendants at various stations, reducing homelessness on the system by 50%, flexible dispatching of various people with expertise for quick problem response, advertising campaigns to increase TransitWatch use, Better Bus engagement tool/Metro.net website overhaul, and increasing customer experience surveys
- NextGen/Mobility on Demand initiatives relate to continued NextGen infrastructure studies and incorporating Mobility on Demand into Microtransit
- Capital State of Good Repair initiatives will re-establish scheduled fleet and infrastructure scheduling priorities that were delayed. Projects include new bus engine procurement, bus vehicle delivery, rail vehicle mid-life and component overhaul programs, and rail infrastructure improvements
- Regional Connector staffing recruitment will initiate maintenance training to gear up for the upcoming Rail Operations Date (ROD)
- Other Operational Needs include Bus/ Rail fleet maintenance campaigns, backfilling expenses to cover Purchased Transportation revenue service hour increases, and additional budget to complete the build out of lactation rooms at various facilities

Five (5) Non-Represented FTEs - Equity & Race and Customer Experience

Metro believes that access to opportunity should be at the center of decision-making around public investments and services. Accordingly, led by the Office of Equity and Race, Metro continues to take steps to operationalize and institutionalize equity under the four pillars of the Board-adopted Equity Platform. The Office of Equity and Race is requesting Board approval for three (3) Non-Represented FTEs to increase capacity to lead this work and improve efforts to expand access for historically and currently marginalized, underserved, and vulnerable communities, to contribute to a more inclusive and equitable LA County.

Agenda Number: 11.

Additionally, Metro seeks to improve mobility in LA County by doubling the number of people who travel by modes other than single occupancy vehicles in the next ten years. In order to achieve this goal, the Customer Experience department has requested Board approval for two (2) Non-Represented FTEs to improve the customer experience across all Metro products and services to deliver customers with an outstanding, reliable, safe, and comfortable journey.

EQUITY ASSESSMENT

Metro staff developed and applied the Metro Budget Equity Assessment Tool (MBEAT) to the budgetary requests in this board action to understand the potential benefits and burdens for historically and currently marginalized communities and determine how budgetary requests might support more equitable outcomes. Overall, application of the MBEAT highlighted budgetary requests with a wide range of benefits for marginalized and/or vulnerable communities, helped staff identify potential barriers or harms to address, and helped staff consider adjustments to improve access and reduce potential barriers or harms. It also highlighted a need for broader training to not only answer MBEAT questions, but to help staff think through how investment, projects, programs, and policies might cause harm or not benefit all as intended, given historic and current disparities and systemic inequities.

Please see the Mid-Year FY20-21 Budget Equity Assessment - Receive and File Report for a summary of highlights on the findings, new process and next steps.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Approval of this item will not impact safety.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The FY21 Proposed Mid-Year Budget at \$6.99 billion is balanced and appropriates the resources necessary to fund them. The proposed mid-year budget demonstrates Metro's ongoing commitment to meeting its capital and operating obligations, which is essential in receiving subsidies from the state and federal governments and to administer regional transportation funding to local cities and municipal operators.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The recommendation supports Metro Vision 2028 Strategic Goal # 5: Provide responsive, accountable, and trustworthy governance within the Metro organization.

NEXT STEPS

Upon Board amendment of the FY21 Budget, Metro will make funds available for the planned transit and transportation programs outlined in this document.

Metro staff will continue to monitor the financial situation considering the COVID-19 pandemic and

reassess resources, expenditures, and economic recovery which may result in returning to the Board for another amendment in FY21, if necessary.

With the allocation and application of the recently approved additional stimulus package yet to be determined by the federal government, Metro will assess the financial impact of the amount available for all transit agencies in the County and integrate the information into the FY22 Budget Development process.

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