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

Metro

Board Report

File #: 2023-0699, **File Type:** Oral Report / Presentation **Agenda Number:** 9.

MEASURE M INDEPENDENT TAXPAYERS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 6, 2023

SUBJECT: ORAL REPORT ON VISIONARY SEED FUNDING

ACTION: RECEIVE ORAL REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE oral report on Visionary Seed Fund Projects.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Presentation

Prepared by: Henry Phipps, Sr. Transportation Planner, (213) 922-3738
Shaun Miller, Sr. Director, Special Projects, (213) 922-4952

Reviewed by: Seleta Reynolds, Chief Innovation Officer, (213) 922-4098

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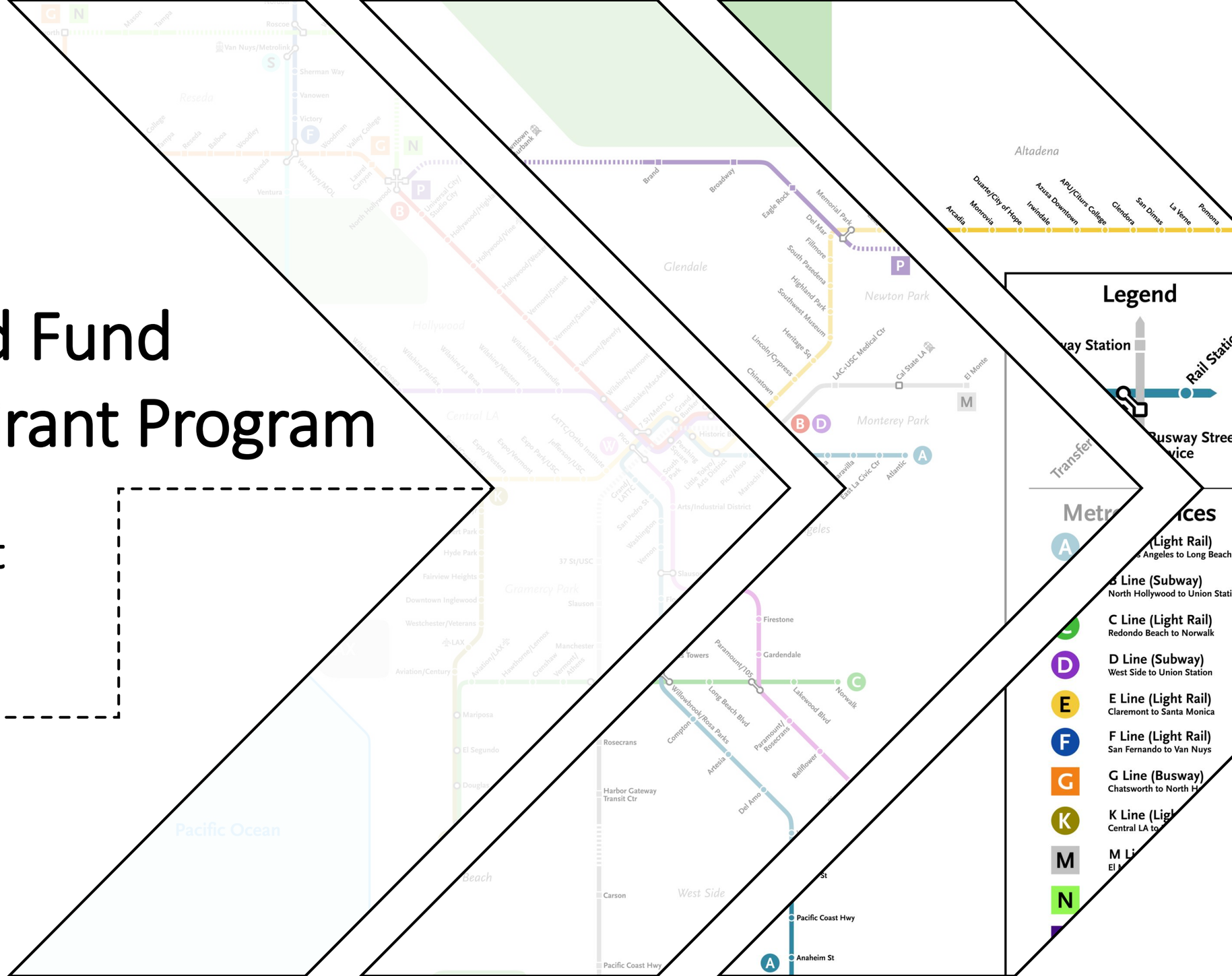
Visionary Seed Fund Competitive Grant Program

Measure M Oversight Committee
December 6, 2023



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Visionary Seed Fund (VSF) Background

- Measure M makes $20 million available over 40 years (FY2018-2057)
  - Multi-year Subregional Program
  - Measure M Final Guidelines makes $1.5 million available every three years through a competitive grant process and unused funds roll over
- Goal to “help spark and develop innovative mobility concepts for Los Angeles County.”
- Eligible applicants include Metro, Municipal Operators, and Local Operators

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Visionary Seed Fund (VSF) Background

- Hosted Innovation Forum and released NOFO in March
  - $3 million available for projects focused on ridership recovery
- Four applications from eligible applicants
  - Metro (2), Torrance Transit, and City of West Covina
- ~$5 million requested from eligible applicants
- Three project themes:
  - Microtransit (2)
  - Rail station / community activation
  - Safety / communications equipment replacement

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Awarded Projects

- Connect Torrance Microtransit
  - Microtransit service that delivers first-last mile connections to Old Town Torrance, Giordano Transit Center, and El Camino College and citywide service for targeted populations
  - $1 million awarded (full amount requested)

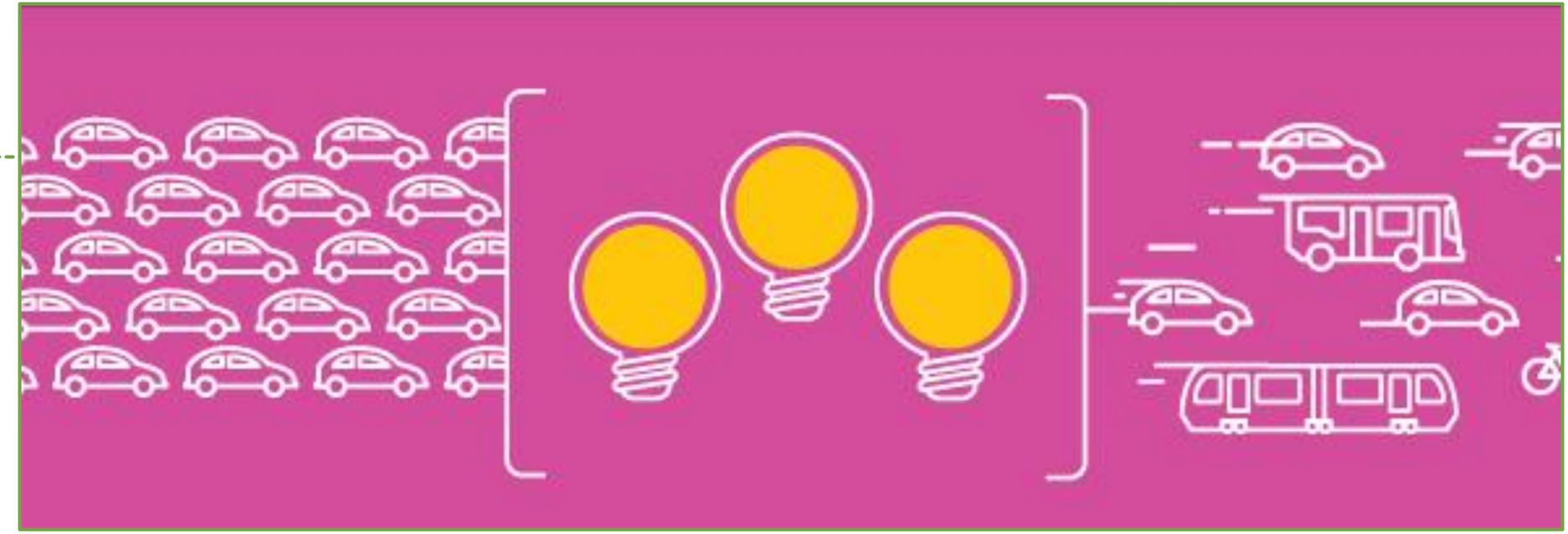
- West Covina On-Demand
  - Microtransit service to supplement city shuttle service as well as first-last mile connection to Metrolink
  - $659,090 awarded (full amount requested)

- Metro Transit Entrepreneurship Arts Mobility and Safety Uplift Network (TEAMSUN)
  - A multi-pronged approach to station intervention at Westlake/MacArthur Park, Leimert Park, and Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Stations that includes cultural tourism, micro-entrepreneurism, and support for local small businesses
  - $900,000 awarded (full amount requested)

Next Steps

- Staff negotiating with awardees to execute grant agreements
  - Working with award recipients to ensure their projects comply with VSF program requirements and Measure M Guidelines

- Staff will return to the Oversight Committee in 2024 to report on the progress of awarded projects



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