# **City of Garden Grove**

# INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Matthew J. Fertal From Keith G. Jones

Dept: City Manager Dept: Public Works

Subject: OCTA "GO LOCAL" PARTNERSHIP Date: December 11, 2007

WITH THE CITY OF SANTA ANA

# **OBJECTIVE**

For City Council to approve the entering into a partnership with the City of Santa Ana under the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) "Go Local" program, which offers grants of \$100,000 to each city interested in performing a study on a local transit connection to Metrolink stations.

## **BACKGROUND**

On August 14, 2006, the OCTA Board of Directors approved a new program for City-Initiated Transit Extensions to Metrolink known as "Go Local." The goal is to encourage local agencies to investigate and develop local projects to expand service connections to the existing Metrolink backbone in Orange County. To foster this process, the OCTA Board allocated up to \$100,000 to each Orange County city, to conduct feasibility studies and provide information that may lead to future transit projects in the County. Projects may extend through multiple agencies and OCTA has encouraged a cooperative process among nearby agencies to identify projects and partner in their development.

On January 9, 2007, the Council approved Go Local Cooperative Agreement No. 3-6-0782 between the OCTA and the City of Garden Grove to conduct a feasibility analysis for a potential transit line from Anaheim to Huntington Beach. This project was a joint partnership between the cities of Huntington Beach, Westminster, Stanton, Garden Grove and Anaheim. The proposed transit line route did not achieve unanimous agreement with all the affected communities. As a result, the original proposal cannot go forward and the proposed alternatives will more than likely not benefit Garden Grove.

Recently, the City of Santa Ana expressed interest in partnering with the City of Garden Grove to explore the use of the Pacific Electric right-of-way that runs between the two cities.

#### DISCUSSION

At the November 27, 2007, Garden Grove Council study session, representatives from the City of Santa Ana presented their Go Local project concept to Council. Santa Ana has proposed that the transit feeder alignment concepts derived from

their Santa Ana Transit Master Plan be studied. The transit feeder service alignments will connect the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center (SARTC) with the Civic Center and Downtown area, Main Place, Bowers Museum District and the South Coast Metro Area. In addition, options to extend this service to the SR-22 via the Pacific Electric (PE) right-of-way are to be studied. A transit feeder link along this route would greatly benefit Garden Grove's efforts to develop a future reuse of the Willowick property. Both cities recognize the potential benefits from this and, as a result, a spirit of cooperation has formed.

Public Works has spoken with OCTA staff as to the process for changing its partnership from the City of Huntington Beach to the City of Santa Ana. OCTA stated that Public Works would submit a new Project Concept outlining the proposed project between Santa Ana and Garden Grove. The new Project Concept does not require OCTA Board approval. In addition, we would need a partnership agreement between the two cities.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

OCTA has allocated up to \$100,000 for each Orange County agency to study alternatives. City participation funds are not required.

# **COMMUNITY VISION**

To maintain and improve the transportation system in the City in order to ensure safe, efficient flow of traffic.

# **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council:

- Authorize the Mayor to execute a Partnership Agreement with the City of Santa Ana in conjunction with the Orange County Transportation Authority Go Local program.
- Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to negotiate and execute any additional agreements between the City and OCTA and/or other partnering agencies in order to expedite the process.

KEITH G. JONES Public Works Director

Attachment: Project Map

Attachment: Partnership Agreement