



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** December 6, 2011

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Transportation Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Approval Of An Amendment To The Metropolitan Transit District Agreement

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council:

- A. Approve an amendment to the Agreement with the Metropolitan Transit District (MTD), in the amount of \$205,000, for transit assistance, for the Coastal Express Limited commuter bus; and
- B. Increase appropriations and estimated revenues in the Streets Fund by \$205,000 to fund a pass-through payment to the MTD from mitigation funds paid to the City by Caltrans.

**DISCUSSION:**

On September 19, 2007, the City entered into a Cooperative Agreement with Caltrans and the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) for the Highway 101 Operational Improvements between Milpas Street and Cabrillo Boulevard. In this agreement, Caltrans is required to give the City funds to offset the impacts the freeway construction would have on transit service in the area. The Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) and SBCAG are proposing to use the funds to subsidize a new Coastal Express Limited commuter bus that connects Santa Barbara and Goleta to the Ventura area with four trips daily. This new transit service enhances the current Coastal Express Limited by providing a more direct route with fewer stops. The goal of the enhanced bus service is to reduce traffic congestion in the Highway 101 corridor, particularly while it is under construction over the next few years.

The Caltrans funds can only be used to enhance transit on the Highway 101 corridor to the south of the City and will be used to fund the new Coastal Express Limited commuter service. These funds will be passed through to MTD by amending the City's Transit Assistance Agreement with MTD.

**PREPARED BY:** Browning Allen, Transportation Manager/kts

**SUBMITTED BY:** Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office