



City of Arts & Innovation

Mobility & Infrastructure Committee

TO: MOBILITY & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE **DATE: JULY 9, 2020**
FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **WARD: 2**
SUBJECT: RTA VINE STREET MOBILITY HUB

ISSUE:

Receive a status update on the planned Vine Street Mobility Hub to be constructed by the Riverside Transit Agency.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Mobility & Infrastructure Committee:

1. Receive a presentation from the Riverside Transit Agency regarding the planned Vine Street Mobility Hub; and
2. Provide feedback to RTA regarding the planned facility.

BACKGROUND:

The Riverside Downtown Terminal outgrew its capacity due to the growing number of passengers and increased bus activity in Riverside. Additionally, the City of Riverside identified the downtown terminal as a prime location for their new library. In January 2017, a new Downtown Riverside Operating Plan (Plan) was put into place and the Downtown Terminal was permanently closed. This new Plan allowed for new or enhanced modern bus stops that served streamlined, on-street transfers between routes in downtown Riverside. The Plan currently directs most terminating routes to the new, temporary layover stops along Vine Street. However, there is a need for a permanent facility to support the Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) expansion plans, alleviate congestion in downtown, provide layover amenities for coach operators and passengers and facilitate the implementation of a timed transfer system.

RTA has currently commissioned a conceptual plan for its planned Vine Street Mobility Hub. The conceptual plan will be a comprehensive document that outlines the look and feel of the Mobility Hub, with renderings of the design, color schematics, layout and elevation of the

project. This plan will serve as the driving force that the architects and engineers will use to bring the project to life in the next phase. The project site is located on land across from the Riverside-Downtown Metrolink Station on Vine Street. RTA has constructed an interim on-street layover facility at Vine Street to accommodate the buses laying over between trips. In FY19, RTA obtained ownership of the City-owned parcel and in FY20 began moving forward with the project.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Riverside's (City) General Plan 2025 identified Vine Street as one of the preferred locations for a new mobility hub due to its proximity to the Metrolink station, major employment centers, county and city government centers, University of California, Riverside (UCR), Riverside Community College (RCC), Riverside Convention Center, multiple entertainment venues and urban housing complexes within the downtown core area. Thus, the Mobility Hub will function as a multi-modal transportation hub that supports connectivity between multiple transit agencies such as the RTA and SunLine Transit Agency in Riverside County; Omnitrans, the public transit provider in San Bernardino County; and Metrolink, the commuter rail service provider for Southern California.

Additionally, the City of Riverside completed a Marketplace District Vision Plan in partnership with the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) in July 2019. This plan identified the area where RTA owns land as a future Transit Oriented District (TOD) with mixed use development, creating a High-Quality Transit Area (HQTa) that will spur economic development and assist the City of Riverside with obtaining future grant funding. This vision is a long-range plan that produces a vision for 2048. The document is not regulatory and has not been formally adopted, however RTA's Mobility Hub should be designed with the knowledge of this plan and the City of Riverside's future vision for the TOD.

The Mobility Hub is essential to support the future multi-modal transportation network and will be designed to address the future mobility, sustainability, and quality of life needs of this region, as well as RTA's long-range transit plan. The Mobility Hub will be designed and developed with emerging technologies, energy sources and mobility solutions in mind. Non-traditional modes, such as shared bikes, shared vehicles, electric vehicles, transportation network companies (TNCs) and pedestrian access will play a pivotal role in addressing the first mile/last mile mobility challenge of this region. All modes, technologies and emerging transit options will be thoroughly evaluated and included as appropriate. State funding has been secured for urban greening, and the siting of the new trees will be designed in partnership with the City of Riverside's Urban Forestry Division. The project will be a cohesive effort among all the key stakeholders, including the City, local transportation commission, various business owners and community groups.

The project site is approximately 4.7 acres and is located adjacent to the Metrolink station and the public park-and-ride lot. RTA owns two parcels of the project site, with a site between them that is owned by Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) and contains an inactive well. This project will study the entire 4.7 acres including the RPU-owned well site and recommend the best design that meets RTA's current and future operating needs. RTA is currently working with RPU on a plan to relocate their well to the southern parcel, thereby allowing RTA to develop the hub on one contiguous piece of property.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

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Attachment: Presentation