



# sbXpress

THE NEWSLETTER FOR OMNITRANS BRT



## FINAL STEPS TAKEN LEADING TO START OF sbX CONSTRUCTION

Construction is set to begin this fall for the 15.7-mile E Street Corridor sbX Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project, the first BRT service in the Inland Empire and the first in a system of rapid transit corridors planned for the San Bernardino Valley.

The Project Construction Grant Agreement (PCGA), which is the final step in the federal funding process, was submitted by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to the United States Congress in July. PCGA approval is expected by mid-September at which time it will be signed by the FTA and Omnitrans and allows the construction contract to go into effect.

Also in July, the Omnitrans Board of Directors approved a staff request to authorize CEO/General Manager Milo Victoria to execute the PCGA upon congressional approval. In a separate action, the Omnitrans board also approved the construction contract to a joint venture between Griffith Company, a general contractor, and Comet Electric, Inc. The joint venture had the lowest bid of \$64,700,603.05 and met all requirements as a responsible bidder.

“Omnitrans and its partners are on the brink of fulfilling a vision to help create sustainable communities by offering bus rapid transit as a new transportation alternative,” Victoria said. “The project will help stimulate our local economy by creating jobs in a region that desperately needs these types of opportunities.”

Corridor construction is due to begin in the fall of this year, with completion in the fourth quarter of 2013. Passenger service is scheduled for early 2014.

### About the Omnitrans sbX Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project

The sbX BRT Project is the first of-its-kind express service to be constructed in the Inland Empire. It is the beginning of an intermodal public transit system in the San Bernardino Valley that will reduce vehicle congestion while providing the public an environmentally friendly alternative that is sophisticated, cost effective, and time efficient.

The 15.7-mile corridor spans between northern San Bernardino and Loma Linda. It will include 16 art-inspired stations at key university, government, business, entertainment and medical centers as well as four park-and-ride facilities. For more information about the project, visit [sbx.omnitrans.org](http://sbx.omnitrans.org) or call the helpline toll-free at (855) sbX-NEWS / 729-6397.



# sbX PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES OVERVIEW



The estimated \$191.7 million sbX project will create hundreds of direct and indirect jobs during the construction phase of the project. Of the total cost, 73.87 percent comes from the federal government. Of particular note, the sbX project is one of a handful of projects in the United States that was awarded a full \$75 million grant from the Federal Transit Administration's Small Start Program.

The state is funding 15.74 percent of the project and 10.39 percent comes local sources. This includes funds designated only for transit projects through the San Bernardino County Measure I voter-approved half-cent sales tax and permit fee waivers from the cities of San Bernardino and Loma Linda. There are no cash contributions from these cities.



**Federal** – Includes \$75 Million from FTA Small Starts Program

**\$141.6 Million**



**State** – Includes \$14.34 Million from Proposition 1B Bonds

**\$30.18 Million**

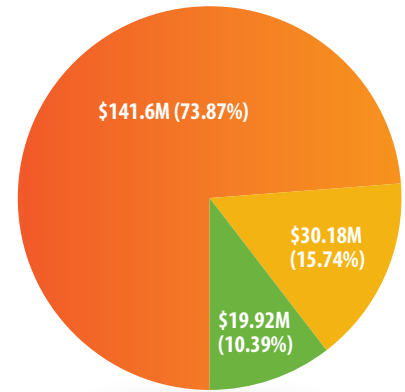


**Local** – Includes \$5.48 Million from San Bernardino County Measure I Half-Cent Sales Tax and \$8.08 Million in Permit Fee Waivers from Cities of San Bernardino and Loma Linda.

**\$19.92 Million**

**TOTAL**

**\$191.7 Million**



## NEW CONTRACTS SPECIALIST JOINS IPMO STAFF



**Debra Nicastro**, has been hired as a Senior Contracts Specialist for the Omnitrans Procurement Department and the Integrated Project Management Office (IPMO). She is tasked with overseeing the execution of contracts for the sbX project in compliance with federal and agency regulations, policies and procedures.

Debra brings more than two decades of experience in contracts, purchasing, materials, project and property management in both the public and private sectors. Previous employers include the Pasadena Unified School District, the Saugus Union School District, Jacobs Engineering Group, Northrop Corp. and Lockheed Aeronautical Systems Co.

She has professional designations in government contracts management and purchasing/material management from UCLA; is certified in federal acquisition regulations by UCLA; and in property management system audit analysis by the Air Force Institute of Technology (Wright-Patterson AFB).

### EDITORS NOTE

With the start of construction beginning, the sbX newsletter will be issued on a monthly basis.

Stay informed of the latest project developments.

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