

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**INGLEWOOD TRANSIT CONNECTOR (ITC) PROJECT AWARDED \$407 MILLION GRANT FROM  
CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

**Transit Intercity Rail Capital Program Grant Paves Way for the Completion of the ITC**

INGLEWOOD – Today, the Inglewood Transit Connector (ITC) Project announced it will be awarded a grant of \$407 million from the California State Transportation Agency to support construction of the Inglewood Transportation Connector (ITC), a 1.6-mile automated transit system that will connect the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s (Metro) Downtown Inglewood K Line Station to the City’s premier sports and entertainment venues, and housing and commercial centers. With a station serving downtown Inglewood at Market Street, and two stations along Prairie Avenue, the ITC has been designed to provide safe, efficient, and environmentally friendly service to the Kia Forum, Sofi Stadium and Hollywood Park, as well as Intuit Dome, which opens in 2024.

“The City of Inglewood is on the move – both literally and figuratively. Over the past decade we have been able to attract unprecedented economic investment in our City, but it’s success will ultimately be based on whether our residents, employees and patrons have a quality transit option to get to these new amenities,” said Inglewood Mayor and Metro Board member James T. Butts. “I want to thank Governor Newsom, our partners at the California State Transportation Agency, and our legislative delegation, for making a significant financial investment in the Inglewood Transit Connector, which paves the way in making this project not just a vision, but reality.”

“The ITC project is not just a transit connector. It is a means of investing in our workforce, reducing our environmental footprint, and supporting the economic development of our region,” said Councilmember George Dotson, who represents City of Inglewood’s 1<sup>st</sup> District. “Much appreciation to all our State partners who have made this dream all the more closer to becoming reality.”

“On behalf of the City of Inglewood and our community, I want to thank the State of California for its generous investment and support of our program which is instrumental in making this project a reality,” said Councilmember Alex Padilla, who represents the City of Inglewood’s 2<sup>nd</sup> District. “This is certainly going to benefit not only Inglewood, but the region at-large, in the years to come.”

“To truly realize the Inglewood Renaissance, we must make sure our residents, visitors and employees can get where they want and need to go,” said Councilmember Eloy Morales, who represents the City of Inglewood’s 3<sup>rd</sup> District. “I thank our partners at the California State Transit Agency for believing in our City and partnering with us on this critical transportation improvement that will undoubtedly transform our region for decades to come.”

“Inglewood is at the forefront of modernizing transportation, mobility, and infrastructure challenges with this bold new ITC project that will benefit not only Inglewood residents, but the greater community,” said Councilmember Dionne Faulk, who represents the City of Inglewood’s 4<sup>th</sup> District. “I want to thank my colleagues, including Mayor James Butts, my fellow Councilmembers, and State officials, for their partnership which has been instrumental in advancing this vision.”

As the region prepares for the LA28 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the ITC has emerged as a transit priority for the State, receiving \$407 million of the \$1.3 billion that was designated for projects in Southern California through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP). TIRCP is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment – particularly in disadvantaged communities. This cycle comes from the state General Fund as a part of a \$15 billion multiyear transportation infrastructure package enacted in the 2022-2023 state budget. With this significant State investment, the project is poised to apply for a Capital Investment Grant through the Federal Transportation Authority, which will provide the remaining funds necessary to move into construction.

“I congratulate the Inglewood Transit Connector on receiving this award as part of the Newsom Administration’s historic investments in transit and intercity rail projects,” said California Transportation Secretary Toms Omishakin. “This funding will help get this transformative project over the finish line and into operation so area residents can enjoy more of the mobility, safety, environmental and equity benefits that come with riding transit.”

“Today’s award supporting the Inglewood Transit Connector will be transformative not just for the City of Inglewood, but for communities throughout the South Bay and Los Angeles County,” said Assemblymember Tina McKinnor. “This investment will build upon Inglewood’s renaissance and demonstrate the State of California’s commitment to improve local air quality, create good paying jobs and enhance the tremendous economic growth taking place in the state’s newest and biggest sports and entertainment district in California.”

In July 2022, the City collaborated with Metro to form the Inglewood Transit Connector Joint Powers Authority (ITC JPA), a single-purpose entity charged with overseeing the project.

“Today’s funding decision to award TIRCP funds to the Inglewood Transit Connector means continued progress on our region’s transit future,” said L.A. County Supervisor and Metro Board Member Holly J. Mitchell. “Through improved mobility and accessibility, transit has the power to strengthen outcomes in underinvested communities and support economic revitalization and redevelopment.”

The project represents an unprecedented public-private collaboration, designed to create a significant “first-last mile” connection between LA County’s rail system and one of the region’s most catalytic job and entertainment centers. In May 2022, the City prequalified three development teams, who have been engaged in procurement discussions, and are anticipated to bid on the project, under a novel alternative delivery concept where the developer team is responsible for design, construction, financing, operations and maintenance of the project.

“The Inglewood Transit Connector Joint Powers Authority is singularly-focused on delivering quality transit that connects all of Inglewood’s assets and amenities to the regional Metro rail system, and this grant is critical in supporting our efforts,” said ITC JPA Chair Michael Bohlke.

In addition to creating a transit connection to thousands of new housing units and millions of square feet of retail centers, the ITC Project is being designed to support a capacity of up to 11,000 travelers per hour to accommodate thousands of employees and fans traveling to Los Angeles Rams, Los Angeles Chargers and LA Clippers games, as well as to a plethora of other concerts and events that are anticipated to occur each year at the various venues. The City estimates that the ITC Project will generate approximately 9.7 million annual boardings on the regional transportation system in 2028, and prevent 3.9 billion vehicle miles travelled over the life of the project.

With over 14,000 jobs anticipated to be created, the ITC Project will create significant opportunities for the surrounding workforce to benefit both during construction and operations. The ITC JPA has set a goal that disadvantaged businesses enterprises receive 16% of contracting opportunities and it is also making plans to engage a broad spectrum of small business participation in all components of the project.

The City and JPA are also working with the Federal Transit Agency to secure a Capital Investment Grant, which is necessary to fully fund the approximately \$1.5 billion infrastructure project.

“I have been proud to secure federal funding for the Inglewood Transit Connector Project and the state funding announced today is another important investment in this critical project,” Senator Alex Padilla said. “Connecting the entertainment and jobs centers in Inglewood to regional transit options will open up economic opportunities for thousands of Angelenos while also ensuring the millions who visit Los Angeles have a smooth and safe experience.”

The investment in this clean transit project is anticipated to result in a reduction of 1.2 million metric tons of greenhouse gases over the life of the project, which is equivalent to avoiding the burning of 1.3 billion pounds of coal.

“I am thrilled to learn that the ITC has received \$407 million from the state of California for our transit connector,” said Owen Smith owner of The Miracle Theatre. “Inglewood is an economic, cultural and entertainment force in our region, and today’s news proves that our City has what it takes to make this project a reality and bring communities from all over the region to Downtown Inglewood.”

A contract which will enable design work to proceed is anticipated to be awarded in late Summer 2023.

For more information, please visit [www.envisioninglewood.org](http://www.envisioninglewood.org).

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