



## CITY OF BANNING STAFF REPORT

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Douglas Schulze, City Manager

**PREPARED BY:** Stephanie Sirls, Transit Manager  
Art Vela, Director of Public Works

**MEETING DATE:** May 14, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of Resolution 2024-68, Approving the Execution of the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) Three-Year Free Fare Program

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt Resolution 2024-68.

**BACKGROUND:**

LCTOP is one of several programs that are part of the Transit, Affordable Housing, and Sustainable Communities Program established by the California Legislature in 2014 by Senate Bill 862.

The LCTOP was created to provide operating and capital assistance for transit agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emission and improve mobility, with a priority on serving disadvantaged communities. Approved projects in LCTOP are intended to support new or expanded bus or rail services, expand intermodal transit facilities, and may include equipment acquisition, fueling, maintenance and other costs to operate those services or facilities, with each project reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The City of Banning, in working with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) requested an allocation of LCTOP funds in the amount of \$143,000 to fund an additional year of the Free Fare Program for students, seniors, persons with disabilities, veterans and City of Banning residents with proper identification. In order to proceed, the City of Banning must submit a Resolution to authorize the submittal of the project nomination and allocation request for funding.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

The Free Fare Program is intended to support transit operations and promote the use of public transportation. The Free Fare Program will also help meet LCTOP's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving mobility within disadvantaged communities. It also allows the City of Banning to take advantage of the \$143,000 LCTOP funds which will be used to supplement free rides provided to the community.

The City of Banning must submit a Resolution to authorize the submittal of the project nomination and allocation request for funding.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

If approved, the resolution will authorize the submittal of the project nomination and allocation request for LCTOP funding in the amount of \$143,000. There is no impact to the General Fund.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Do not approve Resolution 2024-68 and provide alternative direction to staff. Not approving this item would hinder the City from extending the Free Fare Program by another year, therefore directly impacting City of Banning patrons and their ability to have access to free transportation.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. [Resolution 2024-68, LCTOP.docx](#)
2. [LCTOP Certifications and Assurances Form.docx](#)
3. [FY 23-24 Authorized Agent Form.docx](#)