DATE       June 3, 2020
TO          GCTD Board of Directors
FROM        Beatris Megerdichian, Transit Planner
SUBJECT     Building Transit Supportive Communities Plan

SUMMARY

Gold Coast Transit District (GCTD) was awarded a Sustainable Planning Grant from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to implement the Building Transit Supportive Communities (BTSC) Plan. The Plan purpose is to help educate and guide local governments, developers, non-profit organizations, and community stakeholders in strategies for transit-supportive land-use decision-making. Focusing on transit-supportive land uses along with existing and planned high-quality transit areas (HQTAs) would result in more frequent bus lines, shorter travel time for passengers, increased ridership, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

The development of the Plan included analysis of existing transit-supportive land uses and identifying land use characteristics in the GCTD service area that support high ridership stops. GCTD, along with project consultant Nelson/Nygaard, held two community engagement workshops in November 2019 and March 2020 to collect stakeholder feedback, develop future transit-supportive areas, and set strategies and recommendations for transit-supportive land use. The Nelson/Nygaard team developed a BTSC Plan that includes a set of planning tools to enhance transit-supportive land use and design and show VMT/GHG reduction. The consultant has also prepared a "meeting toolkit" to help facilitate future outreach efforts by planning staff.

A presentation summarizing key highlights of the attached Building Transit Supportive Communities Plan will be presented at the Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the GCTD Board of Directors receive and file this report and presentation. Any comments provided during the comment period will be incorporated into the final plan report.

GENERAL MANAGER’S CONCURRENCE

Steven P. Brown, General Manager

Link to Building Transit Supportive Communities Draft Plan: https://tinyurl.com/yazjcqz3