



April 12, 2016

The Plan
Metro
One Gateway Plaza
Mail Stop: 99-13-1
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Re: Comments Regarding the Proposed Expenditure Plan

Via Email

The Draft Expenditure Plan represents an enormous effort on the part of Metro staff and officials to help to resolve some of the major transportation issues in the Los Angeles County area, and we commend you on your efforts.

Regarding the SR-710 North Tunnel:

The majority of the Arroyo Verdugo Subregion cities would be detrimentally impacted by the SR-710 North Tunnel Alternative, which is still possible financially under the proposed new Measure, even though it is not specifically listed; and also request that the Tunnel Alternative be eliminated from any further consideration by the Metro Board prior to the ballot measure going to the voters to garner unequivocal support for the proposed measure. If this is not a possibility, then we request the following:

1. That the Expenditure Plan make explicit what is already implicit: that the proposed ballot measure will not add any funds to the SR-710 Tunnel beyond what is already in Measure R; and
2. That the Board pass a policy that excludes the SR-710 North Tunnel project from consideration as a P3 project;
3. That the Metro Board direct Caltrans to formally explore a “take out the stubs, great streets, multi-modal” alternative such as the one contained in the “Beyond the 710” proposal, which addresses making the Cal State L.A. campus more accessible and improves mobility in the Subregion; and
4. That the Metro Board consider all the non-tunnel alternatives contained in the SR-710 North DEIR/DEIS to assist the subregion in alleviating traffic and congestion without detrimental environmental impacts on any agency or group of agencies.

We sincerely believe these actions are reasonable and ask that you give them serious consideration prior to the release of your Expenditure Plan. If they are not undertaken, most of the cities in the Arroyo Verdugo Subregion will not be able to support the proposed ballot measure. As much as we would like congestion relief, we cannot have it at the expense of the health of the residents of our communities. We hope that the Metro Board takes the health of our residents as seriously as we do. In order for our communities to support the proposed ballot measure, any possibility that funding generated by the measure might be used to further the tunnel must be eliminated.

Other General Comments:

In addition, all of the cities in the Subregion submit the following comments regarding the draft Expenditure Plan. We request that Metro:

1. Clarify the project uses for the Congestion Relief projects in the Expenditure Plan and confirm that the Subregion's need for state of good repair funding for transit and arterials is included in these projects;
2. Advance more of the \$1.3 Billion in Congestion Relief Project funding to earlier years so that cities can begin to spend these funds; and
3. Clarify the process by which subregions or regional facilities can apply for System-wide Connectivity Projects so that project development of a possible Orange Line connection to Burbank Bob Hope Airport could be combined with the related project to extend the Orange Line to the Gold Line.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,



Marina Khubesrian, M.D.
Chair

cc: Philip Washington, CEO, Metro
David Yale, Metro
Mayor, City Council Members & City Manager, City of Burbank
Mayor, City Council Members & City Manager, City of Glendale
Mayor, City Council Members & City Manager, City of La Cañada Flintridge
Mayor, City Council Members & City Manager, City of Pasadena
Mayor, City Council Members & City Manager, City of South Pasadena
The Hon. Adam Schiff, Congressman