



**Building a Coalition for a Comprehensive
Transportation System in Los Angeles County**
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(affiliations for identification purposes only)

Ara Najarian
Mayor, City of Glendale
Chair, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Dear Mayor Najarian,

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority will be considering action on the updated Long Range Transportation Plan at its July 23 meeting. We urge the metro Board to Move forward with approval of the revised LRTP consistent with previous 2001 LRTP Constrained Plan and integrating and respecting the voter-approved Measure R projects and schedule. We are concerned that delaying action on the 2009 LRTP can create an unpredictable environment and key projects may then fail to be ready to successfully compete for federal funding when that funding becomes available.

We urge you therefore, as well, to expedite planning and environmental review for early Measure R projects to enable Metro to compete for federal or other monies as they become available.

In addition, it seems important that we identify priority projects to be built expeditiously with local funds, such as Exposition LRT 2, Foothill Goldline extension, Crenshaw LRT, and the Orangeline BRT extension.

We should also identify priority projects to compete for Federal New Starts funding.

We believe that the Wilshire Subway and Regional Connector projects are the priority projects for federal application, both because of their enormous significance for the regional transit system, for our county's economic development, but also because they are projects in greatest need for additional federal funding to complete their planned development. Please expedite planning, design and environmental review for these projects to ensure their readiness for federal application.

Further, the LRTP should consider the prospect that the availability of federal funding, either through the Transportation Reauthorization Bill or through the National Infrastructure Bank Bill, may create the opportunity to accelerate various projects. Please develop a public process and plan to establish criteria and a schedule for accelerating projects so we can accelerate access to Measure R funding through these mechanisms.

Sincerely,

Dennis Zane
Executive Director
Move LA