



June 17, 2013

Metro Board of Directors
P.O. BOX 531776
Los Angeles, CA 90053-1776

Chairman Antonovich and Directors:

RE: Comments on the Proposed Amendment to the Measure R Expenditure Plan

On behalf of the Azusa City Council, I am writing to express our deep concerns regarding the proposed Measure R Expenditure Plan Amendment, as presented by Metro CEO Art Leahy. The amendment is out of date and incomplete. Since Measure R is a tax payer approved plan, the proposed amendment is not reflecting the will of the voters. It is not transparent enough and does not fulfill your legal obligations.

The expenditure plan was put together in 2008, and since that time extensive study has been conducted on many of the transit projects. Regrettably, the proposed amendment does not contain the information from those studies. In addition the amendment does not provide information about the additional cost associated with accelerating selected projects.

The Foothill Extension project is an important example of inaccurate information in the amendment. The current plan shows an incorrect total cost estimate of \$758 million, and 2017 completion year. This information reflects the initial segment of the project only, not completion of the project as defined in statute. The updated expenditure plan must reflect the true “estimated total cost” of \$1.714 billion to complete the project to Claremont, as well as an updated completion year. Although Measure R will not fully fund the project to Claremont, you must include information related to completing the entire project in the plan to meet your legal obligations. As you have done with all underfunded Measure R projects, you can include “TBD” in the “other funding” category for the Foothill Extension project to deal with the funding gap.

The agency’s planning work over the last five years must be incorporated for all projects in the expenditure plan. New information on the estimated total cost for each project, the assumed Measure R funding, and the timeline for completion should be updated for each project.

The Board must not accept the current expenditure plan amendment. Rather, the Board must require staff to provide an updated and accurate plan that reflects the full information currently available about each project.

We hope the board will take appropriate action to rectify the deficiencies in the current expenditure plan amendment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph R. Rocha". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Joseph R. Rocha
Mayor

cc: *Eric Garcetti, Mayor-elect, City of Los Angeles*
Art Leahy, Metro CEO
Habib F. Balian, Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority CEO