



PRESS RELEASE

January 11, 2019
Lisa Levy Buch
Chief Communications Officer
(626) 305-7004 and (909) 267-0161
llevybuch@foothillgoldline.org
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Foothill Gold Line Board Welcomes New Leadership from Pomona and La Verne

Newly-appointed board members are named chair and vice chair

Monrovia, CA – At their January meeting yesterday, the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority (Construction Authority) board of directors welcomed two new members: Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval and La Verne Council Member Robin Carder. These new appointments come following last month’s retirements of longtime board members Doug Tessitor and Sam Pedroza, after having served on the board for nearly a decade. Following the swearing in of the two new members, the board voted unanimously to have them lead the nine-member board: Mayor Sandoval as Chair and Council Member Carder as Vice Chair.

“It is an honor to have been chosen by my colleagues to lead the board as we work to make the Foothill Gold Line dream come true for the tens of thousands of future riders that live and work in the eastern San Gabriel Valley and western Inland Empire,” stated newly-elected Chairman Sandoval. “Hundreds of thousands of people travel through this corridor every day, and they are eager to have the reliable, sustainable transportation option provided by the Gold Line.”

The new leadership and makeup of the board comes when the Construction Authority is already underway on construction of the 12.3-mile Glendora to Montclair light rail extension; but at a time where the agency is responding to unexpectedly high bids from the teams competing to win the Alignment design-build contract. The agency has identified a need to secure another \$570 million to complete the full project to Montclair and is currently undergoing environmental review to evaluate impacts associated with the La Verne and/or Pomona station becoming a potential temporary terminus while the shortfall is sought.

Newly-elected Vice Chairwoman Carder stated, “We are going through an exciting but challenging period for the project, and I look forward to working together with my fellow board members and the agency’s excellent staff to ensure that the construction ahead is successful and that we do everything in our power to complete the project to Montclair as soon as possible.”

The Foothill Gold Line board is made up of elected and appointed representatives from throughout the project corridor. In addition to the two new members, Duarte Mayor and Metro Board Member John Fasana, Ontario Mayor Paul Leon, Ontario Council Member Alan Wapner (non-voting), Pasadena Council Member Gene Masuda (non-voting), Los Angeles representative Melchor Ilomin and South Pasadena representative Dan Evans (non-voting) also sit on the board. The Governor’s appointee is currently vacant.

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About the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority – The Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority is an independent transportation planning and construction agency created in 1998 by the California State Legislature to plan, design and

build the Metro Gold Line light rail system from Union Station to Montclair, along the Foothills of the San Gabriel Valley. The agency completed the first segment from Union Station to Pasadena in 2003 and the Pasadena to Azusa segment in 2015; both on time and under budget. The agency began work on the Foothill Gold Line from Glendora to Montclair in 2003. The Glendora to Montclair project was environmentally cleared in March 2013 under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and completed advanced conceptual engineering in 2016. When completed, the extension will add new light rail stations in the cities of Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair.

The project is being built in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. The Los Angeles County portion will be funded mostly by Measure M, with residual funds from Measure R not used to complete the Pasadena to Azusa segment. San Bernardino County is responsible to fund their portion of the project from Claremont (in Los Angeles County) to Montclair (in San Bernardino County). The State of California is also providing funding for the project through a TIRCP grant awarded in 2018.