



## Press Release

March 11, 2021

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Foothill Gold Line Board Welcomes New Member**

*Glendora Council Member Mendell Thompson is sworn in as board's newest member*

**MONROVIA, Calif.** – At their March meeting yesterday, the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority (Construction Authority) Board of Directors welcomed Glendora Council Member Mendell Thompson to the board. Councilman Thompson was sworn in for a two-year term during the meeting, after being appointed by the City of South Pasadena earlier this month. The City also appointed Ontario Mayor Paul Leon as the alternate member for the next two years, and Dan Evans as a non-voting board member for a four-year term. Councilman Thompson has been representing the City of Glendora on the Foothill Gold Line Joint Powers Authority board since April 2017; bringing nearly five years of experience to his new position on the board of directors.

“I am honored and humbled to be serving on this board and will do my best to carry the mantle held so well by my predecessor,” stated Council Member Thompson upon his swearing in. “The Foothill Gold Line is a critical project for the Foothill communities and our entire region, and I look forward to being part of the board as the current construction phase continues and as we seek the funding necessary to extend the line to Claremont, Montclair and beyond.”

Major construction activities are now underway on the project segment from Glendora to Pomona; which is anticipated to be completed in late 2024, as reported during the same meeting. If an additional \$450 million in funding is secured by October 2021, the entire project from Glendora to Montclair will be completed altogether as part of the current design-build contract, and would be anticipated to be complete in 2028.

The Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority board is made up of elected and appointed representatives from throughout the project corridor. The current board is made up of the following individuals: Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval (Chair), La Verne Mayor Pro Tem Robin Carder (Vice Chair), Claremont Council Member Ed Reece (voting member), Los Angeles City Representative Melchor Ilomin (voting member), Glendora Council Member Mendell Thompson (voting member), Pasadena Council Member Gene Masuda (non-voting member), Ontario Council Member Alan Wapner (non-voting member), and South Pasadena representative Dan Evans (non-voting member). 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 (currently referred to as the L Line) light rail system from Union Station to Montclair. 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 Glendora to Montclair segment in 2003. The Glendora to Montclair segment was environmentally cleared in March 2013 under CEQA and again in 2019 to allow the potential for phased construction. The project 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 may be built in phases, due to funding constraints. Major construction on the project segment from Glendora to Pomona began in July and is anticipated to be completed in late 2024. If additional funding is

secured by October 2021, the entire segment from Glendora to Montclair will be completed altogether by 2028.

The project is being built in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. The Los Angeles County portion is 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 to Montclair (in San Bernardino County). The State of California has provided \$300 million in funding through a TIRCP grant awarded in 2018.