



## **Press Release**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

*Caltrans 7 District Director Tony Tavares attends his first meeting following his appointment*

**MONROVIA, Calif.** – At their May meeting today, the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority (Construction Authority) Board of Directors welcomed its newest member – Caltrans District 7 Director Tony Tavares. Appointed by Governor Newsom for a four-year term, Mr. Tavares joined the nine-member board as its newest member following his swearing in at the beginning of the monthly board meeting.

“We are very excited to have Director Tavares on our board,” said Construction Authority Board Chairman and Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval. “We are now underway with major construction on the nine-mile extension of the project to Pomona, while we continue to seek the funding needed to complete the project to Montclair. Director Tavares will bring unique experience as an engineer to his position on the board, which will be helpful as he gets quickly up to speed on the project during this very busy period.”

Major construction activities are now underway throughout the 9.1-mile project segment from Glendora to Pomona that will add four new stations to the Metro rail system (one in each of the following cities: Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, and Pomona). The fully funded project segment is anticipated to be completed in 2025. If an additional \$465 million in funding is secured by October 2021, the entire project from Glendora to Montclair will be completed altogether as part of the current Alignment design-build contract, with an anticipated completion year of 2028.

“I am honored to be serving on this board with such an accomplished group of leaders,” stated Director Tony Tavares upon his swearing in. “Completing the project to not only Pomona, but to Claremont and Montclair, is a critical step to improving mobility and the quality of life for our region. I look forward to helping support that effort and being part of this important project in the coming years.”

The Foothill Gold Line board is made up of elected and appointed representatives from throughout the project corridor. The board is currently made up of Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval (Chair), La Verne Council Member Robin Carder (Vice Chair), Claremont Council Member Ed Reece, Glendora Council Member Mendell Thompson, Los Angeles City representative Melchor Ilomin, Ontario Council Member Alan Wapner (non-voting), Pasadena Council Member Gene Masuda (non-voting), and South Pasadena representative Dan Evans (non-voting).

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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 2025. 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 nearly \$300 million in funding through a TIRCP grant awarded in 2018.