

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL **DATE:** April 14, 2008

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION URGING THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO INCLUDE THE METRO GOLD LINE FOOTHILL EXTENSION AS A FUNDED PROJECT IN THE 2008 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that City Council adopt a resolution urging the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors to include the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension as a funded project in the 2008 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for Los Angeles County. The proposed resolution also seeks a commitment in the LRTP for additional funding for capital and operating cost of local transit services. The resolution also requests that the LRTP recognize the on-going studies for SR-710 gap closure and not presuppose the studies by defining a route for the gap closure project.

BACKGROUND

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is currently preparing an update to their Long Range Transportation Plan for Los Angeles County (LRTP). The 2008 LRTP will guide transportation development in the county through the year 2030. The LRTP examines the impacts that forecast growth will have on the mobility of the county, which includes increasing demand on streets, highways, buses and trains, and it recommends what can be done to address those impacts within anticipated revenues (Recommended Draft Plan), as well as what could be done if additional revenues become available (Strategic Unfunded Plan).

The Draft LRTP Recommended Plan is based on what Metro believes are realistic financial projections of revenues from federal, state and local taxes and

subsidies, as well as revenues from passenger fares, advertising, real estate rentals and other miscellaneous sources. Metro is currently seeking public comments on the Draft LRTP and will consider the Final LRTP at a Board meeting this summer.

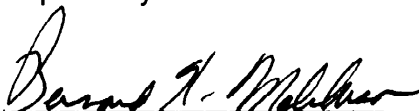
The Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension to Azusa is not included in the Recommend Plan but is included on the Strategic Plan and could receive funding if additional funds were available to Metro beyond those forecast for projects in the Recommended Plan. The Draft LRTP also includes the 710 Freeway Gap Closure in the Strategic Unfunded Plan. The Draft LRTP also does not include funding for local transit capital projects and operations in the Recommended or Strategic Unfunded Plans.

Staff has reviewed the Draft LRTP and has prepared a resolution for the City Council's consideration that would be submitted to Metro during the public comment period on the Draft LRTP.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed Metro Draft LRTP would have no fiscal impact for the City.

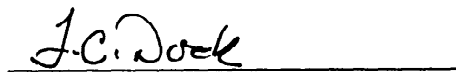
Respectfully submitted:


BERNARD K. MELEKIAN
City Manager

Prepared by:


Mark Yamarone
Principal Transportation Planner

Approved by:


Frederick C. Dock
Director of Transportation

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA URGING THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO INCLUDE THE METRO GOLD LINE FOOTHILL EXTENSION AS A FUNDED PROJECT IN THE 2006 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY

WHEREAS the intent of this resolution is to clearly communicate the position of the City of Pasadena with respect to the importance of the timely completion of the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension; and

WHEREAS, it is also intended to formally represent the position of the City of Pasadena in appealing to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors to assist the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority in their effort to obtain Federal New Starts funds from the Federal Transit Authority; and

WHEREAS, in anticipation of the timely completion of the Gold Line from Pasadena to Azusa and ultimately to Montclair the City of Pasadena has taken definite and specific actions to implement transit oriented development zones centered on the six Gold Line Stations in Pasadena; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pasadena has adopted the Central District and East Pasadena Specific Plans to encourage transit-oriented and pedestrian-oriented developments around all six of the Gold Line Stations within the City. These Specific Plans determine precise land use patterns, zoning, setbacks, and design within defined boundaries. Within the Specific Plans, the principles of transit-oriented and pedestrian-oriented developments are applied.

WHEREAS, the City of Pasadena asserts that it is incumbent on the Metro Board of Directors to prepare a plan for the operation and maintenance of the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension project in the 2008 Long Range Transportation Plan for Los Angeles County.

WHEREAS, the Draft LRTP acknowledges that the local bus system provides the largest share of public transportation options in Los Angeles County and that local buses provide local circulation and feeder services to regional transit facilities.

WHEREAS, the upcoming preliminary engineering and technical studies must consider all the routes studied as part of the previous Feasibility Assessment, in addition to any other route that may be deemed practicable as part of the next study. This concept, which is "route neutral", is in conformance with the provision for the SAFETEA-LU technical corrections bill.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Pasadena City Council urges the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors to place the funding for the operation and maintenance of the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension project in the 2008 Long Range

Transportation Plan for Los Angeles County and include the Gold Line Foothill Extension as a priority project funded for operations and maintenance.

FUTHERMORE, failure to take this requisite planning action would be an undue hardship to the Cities along the Foothill Corridor that urgently need this regional transportation project in the Easter portion of the San Gabriel Valley.

FUTHERMORE, as the City of Pasadena urges Metro to provide a commitment in the LRTP for additional funding for capital and operating cost of local transit services.

FUTHERMORE, as the Draft LRTP includes the SR-710 Gap Closer project the City of Pasadena urges Metro to recognize in the Draft LRTP the on-going studies for this facility and not presuppose the ongoing studies by defining a route for the 710 gap closure project.

Adopted at the regular meeting of the City Council on the _____ day of _____, 2008 by the following votes:

AYES:

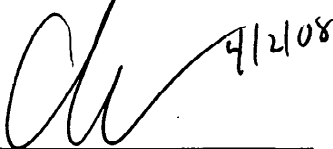
NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

JANE L. RODRIGUEZ
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



NICHOLAS G RODRIGUEZ
Assistant City Attorney