



Arroyo Verdugo Communities Joint Powers Authority

VIII.B

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**DATE:** June 1, 2023  
**TO:** Governing Board  
**FROM:** David Kriske, AVCJPA Representative, Metro Technical Advisory Committee  
**SUBJECT:** Metro Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Update

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## RECOMMENDATION

Note and File.

## BACKGROUND

The Metro TAC meets monthly to provide input on Metro programs and projects, and to hear updates on various Metro programs that affect the cities, subregions, and Councils of Government in Los Angeles County. The following summarizes the major projects or programs recently discussed at TAC.

## DISCUSSION

### Countywide Bus Stop Plan

Metro staff provided an update on a planning effort to improve the amenities at bus stops throughout LA County. Metro's 2022 Customer Experience Plan identifies five customer service "pain points" that discourage transit ridership and identifies improvements to address these issues. The plan identifies cleanliness, public safety, bus stop shade and seating, customer information, and time competitiveness and connectivity as the most impactful to preserving and improving ridership. Improvements to bus stops can positively affect many of these customer experience issues. Of the approximately 12,000+ bus stops served by Metro, only 46% have seating, and only 24% have bus stop shelters. To begin this planning effort, Metro staff has summarized Metro's plans and policies for bus stop improvements and has assessed all Metro bus stops to identify and prioritize short-term improvements. In addition, staff has evaluated bus stop improvement programs and policies at peer transit agencies in the United States and London. Once this is complete, Metro is developing a Bus Stop Sketch Plan to help Metro and cities make improvements to bus stops and plans to apply for a federal grant to make improvements to several stops in Los Angeles. Metro also plans to improve coordination with other jurisdictions so that bus stop improvements can be coordinated across the individual cities that host Metro's bus system.

### FTA Section 5310 Funding Appeals and Call for Projects Deobligation Appeals

The Metro TAC serves to review funding award and deobligation appeals for several Metro funding programs and makes recommendations to the Metro Board on the award and deobligation of these funds. The TAC reviewed funding award recommendations and appeals for the Metro's FTA Section 5310 funding program, which provides funding for projects to close gaps and barriers identified in the County's paratransit programs. The TAC also reviewed local city appeals to Metro staff

recommendations to deobligate grant funds awarded through the Call for Projects program. For both programs, the TAC reviewed staff recommendations, heard from affected local agencies, and recommended grant funds be awarded or deobligated based on the information presented. These recommendations will be communicated to the Metro Board, who will make the final decision to award or deobligate funds. No AVCJPA member agencies were affected by any of the funding or deobligation decisions made during this TAC review cycle.

#### Celebrate Streets and Mobility Grants Program

Metro staff provided an update on a new grant program dedicated to transforming streets and transportation facilities into temporary centers of art, culture, and recreation to engage local communities in the spirit of the Olympic Games. Metro is currently developing this grant program and has identified federal and state grant programs to fund this program including federal funding for the 2028 games, philanthropic funding, and sponsorships. Potential grant categories include both neighborhood-scale events and regionally significant events. The program would be open to cities, counties, transit agencies, non-profits, and special event producers. Metro staff is currently working with stakeholders to secure funding for the program and to refine the grant program criteria and objectives. If funding is secured, staff plans to ask the Metro Board to launch the program in order to fund grants that support the 2026 World Cup and the 2028 Olympics.

#### Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Development Update

Metro has begun outreach for its Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and staff gave the TAC an update of its review and outreach activities. As part of the budget development process, Metro applies an Equitable Zero-Based Budgeting (EZBB) approach to apply an equity lens to the FY 24 budget. The draft budget proposal for major infrastructure investment and regional allocations accounts for 58.2% of total agency's budget, which includes transit infrastructure development, highway multimodal development, Regional Rail, and regional allocations/pass-throughs. Metro staff reviewed its budget outreach efforts including Telephone town halls and the use of the My Metro Budget online tool (launched in October 2022 ). Metro is also conducting briefings at Regional Service Councils, Councils of Governments, and transportation and advisory committees, and will prepare a final draft budget book and conduct a budget public hearing prior to the Metro Board of Directors considering whether to adopt the budget in May 2023.

#### NoHo Pasadena BRT Update

Metro staff provided an update of the NoHo to Pasadena BRT project as part of its Countywide project update. Staff indicated that preliminary engineering is underway and preparations have begun for fist-last mile design work. Metro staff is conducting meeting with each corridor city to discuss project design, and to coordinate receipt of as-built engineering information. Staff is also advancing design from the 5 percent level prepared as part of the EIR to begin developing final design documents for roadway improvements, transit stations, signal design, and other elements. Staff is also securing consultant services to support the design effort.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no Fiscal Impact to receive this TAC update.