Arroyo Verdugo Communities Joint Powers Authority

ITEM# IX B

DATE: October 30, 2025

TO: Governing Board

FROM: **David Kriske, AVCJPA Representative, Metro Technical Advisory Committee**

SUBJECT: Metro Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Update

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

Metro LIFE Program Update

Metro staff provided an update on the Metro LIFE Program. The LIFE Program provides transportation assistance initiative for low-income individuals in Los Angeles County by offering reduced-price transit fares for Metro services. LIFE provides eligible participants a 90-day transit pass for new enrollees, 20 free regional rides per month, and fare discounts with 16 participating transit operators including BurbankBus, Glendale Beeline, and Pasadena Transit. Eligibility is based on 2025 US Housing and Urban Development low-income guidelines. Since 2021, the program has enrolled 485,320 participants, and Metro provides ongoing outreach to ensure eligible participants are aware of the program, including pop-up events (100 per month), partnerships with over 500 third-party agencies, usage of 200 outside fare distribution agencies, and the ability to auto-renew enrollment. Metro also discussed how the LIFE program assisted with LA Wildfire relief, which enrolled 6,408 new participants. Finally, Metro outlined future outreach activities and discussed a future feature to validate EBT program verification at TAP machines to further enhance enrollment in the program.

Metro Active Transport Program Update

Metro staff updated the TAC on its Measure M Metro Active Transport, Transit, and First/Last Mile (MAT) Program Cycle 2 grant program. Metro released its grant solicitation in February 2025 and approved funding for 16 projects from a total of 30 applications, which included 12 First/Last Mile, 14 Active Transportation Corridor (biking/rolling), 2 Pedestrian District, and 2 Quick-Build applications. When the grants were approved, the Metro Board increased the original funding from $80.5 million to $85.5 million to maximize funding for the program. Projects were awarded based on Active Transportation Strategic Plan priority (tier and score) and criteria such as safety, project delivery, partnerships, and alignment with transportation plans including the Olympics Mobility Concept Plan.

Awarded projects will deliver at 30.5 miles of active transportation improvements, including 28.3 miles of bike lanes/paths, and enhance access to 11 transit stops/stations, contributing to a cumulative total of 54.2 miles and 22 stops/stations when combined with MAT Cycle 1 program previously awarded. Typical project improvements include improved crosswalks, signal upgrades, curb extensions and curb ramps, and traffic calming and intersection treatments. The AVCJPA Cities of Burbank and Pasadena were awarded funds; Burbank received funding for its Downtown Burbank Sidewalk Enhancement Project and Pasadena received funding for the Rose Bowl Multimodal Olympic Route Project. The next steps involve executing funding or cooperative agreements with the agencies awarded funding so that project design and outreach activities can begin early next year.

Active Transportation Program Update

Metro staff updated the TAC on Active Transportation Program (ATP) activities. The ATP Cycle 8 grant program awards funding via state and regional MPO funding sources to design and construct Active Transportation improvements. Grant Cycle 8 guidelines and fund estimates will be released in January 2026 and the Call for Projects will open on March 19 and close June 22, 2026. The preliminary funding estimate for Cycle 8 will be $574 million for funding to be distributed between Fiscal Year 2028 and 2031. Several informational workshops will be held on elements of the grant program and project delivery between October 2025 and February 2026. For Cycle 8, no major changes have been made to grant program guidelines, project eligibility, and the application process, but minor changes to the guidelines have been made to align the program with other recent CTC guideline and policy changes and program requirements. Metro also provided an overview of the Caltrans Community Cleanup and Employment Pathway Program, which provides funding for litter abatement and public space beautification on local right of way. Applications for this funding are due November 1 and grant projects can be awarded between $50,000 and $100,000 in funding.

Metro LAX Transit Center Station Project Update

Metro staff provided an update on the LAX/Metro Transit Center Station project (Airport Metro Connector). The purpose of the project is to connect Metro rail services (Metro C and K lines) directly to the LAX terminals via shuttle services in the near-term, and via a dedicated fixed-guideway automated people mover which is under construction. The project opened in June 2025 with a budget of $898 million, and consists of a large transit center and station located at 96th St and Aviation Bl. The station features light rail and bus connections, a bike hub, customer service center, ticket kiosks, direct elevator/escalator connections between station platforms, a dedicated bus operations building, commercial/retail space, and a future direct link to the LAX Automated People Mover.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no Fiscal Impact to receive this TAC update.