Arroyo Verdugo Communities Joint Powers Authority

ITEM# IX C

DATE: August 6, 2026

TO: Governing Board

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

SUBJECT: Metro Technical Advisory Committee Updates

RECOMMENDATION

Note and File.

BACKGROUND

The Metro Technical Advisory Committee (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 report summarizes the major projects or programs recently discussed at TAC.

DISCUSSION

Metro Call for Project Deobligation Appeals

The TAC considered several deobligation appeals for grant projects funded through the now discontinued Metro Call for Projects at the June meeting. Call for Projects grants include requirements to implement project phases within deadlines set by the grant, or risk funding deobligation. Local agencies with funds that are subject to lapse have the opportunity to request extensions to these grant funds, which are reviewed by the TAC and then sent to the Metro Board for approval. This year, no Arroyo Verdugo Cities JPA cities had grant projects subject to lapse that required an appeal to the TAC.

Active Transportation Program Update

Metro staff updated the TAC on several state grant initiatives. The FY 26-27 Local Streets and Road Program project eligibility lists were due July 1 and California Transportation Commission (CTC) staff is reviewing submittals. The Local Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 13 grant cycle will open this summer for applications, and staff indicated there was $317 million in available funding for this cycle. Cities should confirm that they are eligible to apply, including that they are not currently delayed in implementing prior HSIP grant projects. The Active Transportation Program Cycle 8 grant program closed for applications June 22. Cycle 8 has $619 million in funding available and the State received $3 billion in grant requests from 317 applications including 51 from LA County. CTC staff will make project recommendations for statewide, small, and rural projects in November to be considered by the CTC in December. Following the CTC's approval of these projects, non-funded projects will be distributed to the various state MPO's, which are able to allocate funding to projects in their areas that did not receive CTC funding. The MPO project recommendations will be announced in April 2027 and

approved in June 2027. The AVCJPA cities of Burbank, Glendale, and South Pasadena submitted projects for ATP Cycle 8.

Metro Visionary Seed Fund Program Update

Metro staff provided an update on its Office of Strategic Innovation (OSI) Visionary Seed Fund (VSF) program, which makes competitive grants available every three years to spark innovative mobility concepts in Los Angeles County. Round 1 previously awarded $3 million in seed funding to three mobility pilot projects in West Covina, Torrance, and Metro TEAMSUN, with the goal of helping these transit systems increase ridership to return to pre-COVID transit ridership levels. Metro staff also discussed the upcoming Round 2 funding. OSI is allocating $1.9 million in funding over the next three years for its Round 2 program. The Round 2 program requires applicants to focus on two core themes: Essential Stop/Station Improvements (addressing seating, lighting, cleanliness, and heat mitigation) and Games Preparedness (developing pilots deployed before the 2028 Games to benefit visitors and create long-term positive impacts). Grantees must provide a 40% local match and include an academic or research partner. The Round 2 timeline will begin with a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) launch in early summer 2026, leading to selection and awards by late 2026, and pilot implementation active through the 2028 Games.

Metro NoHo to Pasadena Corridor BRT Project Update

Metro staff provided an update on the North Hollywood to Pasadena Bus Rapid Transit project. This $400 million project will provide a premium, faster, and more reliable connection between the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys. Key objectives focus on enhanced connectivity to Metro's A, B, and G lines as well as major employment, commercial, and residential destinations in the communities of North Hollywood, Burbank, Glendale, Eagle Rock, and Pasadena. The project will utilize project features including dedicated bus lanes, transit signal priority, zero-emission electric buses, and upgraded stations featuring shaded canopies and real-time arrival kiosks. Once operational, the BRT line will offer highly frequent service, running every 10 minutes during weekday AM and PM peak hours and every 15 minutes midday and on weekends. Construction already broke ground in Pasadena in April 2026, with corridor-wide construction slated for Summer 2026 to ensure full revenue service launches well in advance of the 2028 LA Olympic Games. Ongoing community mitigation efforts include quarterly meetings, door-to-door business outreach, and multilingual notices

Transit Security Update

Metro staff provided an update on safety and security trends and initiatives to reduce crime on Metro's transit network. Staff reported that in 2025, expanded public safety initiatives reduced crimes against persons to their lowest levels since 2021. Enhanced deployments, narcotics enforcement, and rollout of TAP-to-Exit fare gates cut crimes against persons by 6.71% and reduced arrests for trespassing by 32.71%. In addition, bus retrofits to improve operator safety reduced operator assaults requiring medical transport by 67% and reduced operator assaults per million boardings by 50.5%. To prepare for the World Cup (and future Olympic Games), Metro coordinated 21 emergency training exercises, deployed high-visibility bomb detection units, and tested concealed weapons screening at 11 locations. Additionally, newly activated faregates at five LA City stations saw a 200% surge in valid entries and a 240% increase in revenue. Staff also discussed an effort to modernize its CCTV infrastructure and hire 600 sworn transit police officers over the next

five years to implement the Metro Board's decision to create an in-house transit police force, in addition to other public safety programs for crisis response and homeless outreach.

FISCAL IMPACT
There is no Fiscal Impact to receive this TAC update.