

# AB 1941 – LA Metro Board Membership

## Assembly Member Chris R. Holden

### SUMMARY

AB 1941 will amend the allocation of Board members on the Board of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. AB 1941 will foster the discussions necessary to ensure all residents of the County feel adequately represented on the Board.

### BACKGROUND

LA Metro serves as the transportation planner, coordinator, designer, builder and operator for the 9.6 million Californians living within Los Angeles County. The agency frequently provides local management for large state-funded highway construction projects, including the SR 405, SR 710 and SR 605 corridor expansions. LA Metro operates with an overall budget of \$4.95 billion per year.

The existing Board consists of 14 members including four members from the City of Los Angeles and five members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Four members of the Board represent local governments outside the City of Los Angeles, and despite providing millions of dollars in funding annually, the State of California has no voting representatives on the LA Metro Board.

There have long been lingering complaints about the allocation of funding, and regional representation on the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Many residents of Los Angeles County, especially those outside of the City of Los Angeles, believe that although all County residents pay to fund county wide ballot measures, only select residents receive their fair share of the benefits. This simmering discontent reached a boiling point last summer when the Metro Board amended Measure R's expenditure plan to deemphasize projects that voters were convinced would be a priority when voting for the sales tax in 2008.

### EXISTING LAW

**Public Utilities Code §130000:** Establishes the County Transportation Commissions Act and sets general guidelines for County Transportation Commissions.

**Public Utilities Code §130051:** Establishes the Board of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority at 14 members.

### THE SOLUTION

While there may be no perfect solution to the allocation of limited resources to address what seem to be limitless needs, AB 1941 represents the initiation of a dialogue about who does and does not have a voice in the planning of community's infrastructure needs. Many residents of Los Angeles County are heavily invested in the success of this agency and passage of another countywide measure to fund the county's transportation priorities. With the failure of Measure J in 2012, it is appropriate to, at a minimum, inquire into whether all residents of Los Angeles County have or believe they have adequate representation in the process.

### Support/Opposition

#### Support:

#### Opposition:

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