



**Metro**

Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

**Phillip A. Washington**  
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June 16, 2015

Hon. Orrin Hatch  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Finance  
SD-219  
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Ron Wyden  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Finance  
SD-219  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Wyden:

I am writing on behalf of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to express our appreciation for the hearing you have scheduled on June 18, 2015 to discuss issues related to challenges facing the federal Highway Trust Fund. Metro strongly supports efforts by the U.S. Congress to ensure the solvency of the federal Highway Trust Fund in order to permit the adoption of a fully funded long-term surface transportation authorization bill in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress.

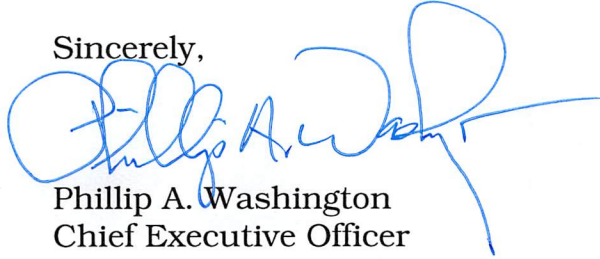
Working in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation and with funding from the federal Highway Trust Fund, Metro is working on an ambitious program of improving the environment, building a vibrant economy, and reducing congestion for the residents of Los Angeles County, the country's most populous county. By utilizing a mix of federal, state and local funds, our agency has five major rail projects under construction, dozens of freeway improvements underway, among other alternative transportation initiatives. To continue building our projects, which employ thousands of public and private sector employees, Metro will need a fully funded federal Highway Trust Fund. Like many Members of Congress and transportation stakeholders across the nation, we are concerned that our positive efforts to improve mobility for the ten million residents of Los Angeles County will be compromised should the federal Highway Trust Fund, as highlighted by the Congressional Budget Office, face significant funding shortfalls.

In 2008, the voters of Los Angeles County passed Measure R, a half-cent sales tax, to fund an unprecedented number of transportation projects. Many of these projects, which depend on resources from the federal Highway Trust Fund, are well underway and represent some of the largest public works projects in the country. Because our agency is determined to continue building our Measure R projects without delay, we are encouraged by your decision to hold a hearing on the long-term solvency of the federal Highway Trust Fund.

*Letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Finance  
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Thank you in advance for considering Metro's strong support for maintaining the federal government's commitment to investing in transportation programs and projects. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (213) 922-7555 with any comments on this correspondence or on any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Phillip A. Washington". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large initial "P" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Phillip A. Washington  
Chief Executive Officer