

Metro & The Ballot Measure Employee Guidelines

What you may say about the Ballot Measure while you are working.

Anything said or communicated using public funds/resources must be fair, accurate, and impartial.

If you are asked a question about the Ballot Measure, you may respond that: the Ballot Measure is a comprehensive plan to improve transportation and ease traffic congestion in Los Angeles County funded through a new ½ cent sales tax starting in 2017 that would increase to a 1 cent sales tax in 2039 when the existing Measure R sales tax expires; the tax would continue until voters decide to end it; and the plan provides for independent audits and oversight. You may direct people to Metro's website for more information.

What NOT to say about the Ballot Measure while you are working.

As a government employee, you may not use public funds or resources to advocate (support or oppose) regarding the Ballot Measure.

Don't make statements supporting or opposing the Ballot Measure during working hours, even in response to questions.

Don't attend community events and make statements supporting or opposing the Ballot Measure if you are attending as part of your duties as a Metro employee.

Don't make statements to the press about the Ballot Measure unless expressly authorized by Metro's Communications Department or Executive Management.

Don't use Metro office equipment, such as phones, computers, e-mails, copy machines, or fax machines to support or oppose the Ballot Measure.

What you may say or do about the Ballot Measure while you are NOT working.

You don't lose your First Amendment rights simply because of your status as a government employee. You may support or oppose the Ballot Measure.

You may make statements supporting or opposing the Ballot Measure as a private citizen, if you wish.

You may participate in a campaign supporting or opposing the Ballot Measure as a private citizen, if you wish.

You may attend community events as a private citizen and speak in favor of or in opposition to the Ballot Measure, if you wish (but you may not act as both a Metro employee and a private citizen at the same event).