



Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

# Metro News

March 28, 2018  
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## California Transportation Commission Adopts 2018 STIP

### **Metro Secures \$482 Million in State Funding for Various Transportation Projects Including State Route 138 Highway Project, East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor and Bus Replacements**

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) has approved the programming of \$482 million in State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding that will be used for a variety of transportation projects throughout the region including the SR-138 Highway Project, the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Project and the purchase of new buses for Metro's bus fleet.

The CTC on March 21 adopted the five-year 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which includes \$482 million for Los Angeles County. The 2018 STIP is a much needed boost of funding, particularly after the last STIP adopted in 2016 cut \$754 million of funding from projects statewide.

"Our transportation network is the engine that powers our economy forward — and a catalyst that drives us toward a more sustainable and interconnected future," said Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Eric Garcetti. "This new funding will ensure Metro can continue to deliver Measure M projects on time and on budget."

The 2018 STIP provides Los Angeles and other counties the chance to fully restore projects deleted in 2016, as well as the opportunity to fund additional transportation priorities. In Los Angeles County, Metro in partnership with Caltrans is completing much needed safety improvements on the State Route (SR) 138 from Palmdale to the San Bernardino County line by widening the last three segments of the highway. Metro is also funding other major transportation priorities including the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor, a major Measure M capital project, and bus fleet replacements that are a critical state of good repair priority.

In approving Metro's funding request, the CTC allocated \$131 million toward the SR-138 Highway Project that extends from the SR-14 in Los Angeles County to the SR-18 in San Bernardino County. The funding is for all four components of the project.

In addition, \$202 million was allocated to the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor project, a high-capacity bus rapid transit or light rail project that will connect the Orange Line Van Nuys Station to the Sylmar/San Fernando Metrolink Station.

Another \$47 million was awarded to Metro for a series of bus purchases to replace older buses in Metro's fleet.

Other highway improvement projects in Los Angeles County receiving funding include \$20 million for the SR-71, \$12 million for the I-405/Crenshaw Boulevard ramp improvements, \$14 million for a project to replace the Shoemaker Bridge between SR 710 and downtown Long Beach, \$18 million for I-605/I-5 interchange improvements and \$22 million for I-605/SR-91 interchange improvements.

The Metro Board of Directors takes the STIP and SB 1 funding very seriously. There is an effort underway to put a ballot measure before California voters to repeal SB 1 and if it happens cities in L.A. County would lose \$4.35 billion over the next decade to support the delivery of Measure M projects. In January, the Metro Board voted to support Proposition 69 (ACA 5), which protects the revenues generated from SB 1 and to oppose any efforts to repeal SB 1.

"We applaud the CTC with moving forward on the adoption of the 2018 STIP and we are excited that through this adoption, Metro will have the opportunity to recognize immediate benefit of SB 1 in funding critical investments in Los Angeles County," said Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington.

#### About Metro

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is unique among the nation's transportation agencies. Created in 1993, Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that transports about 1.3 million passengers daily on a fleet of 2,200 clean air buses and six rail lines. The agency also oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related building projects and leads transportation planning and programming for Los Angeles County.

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