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| **Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation Strongly Backs Federal New Starts Program**  Today, in a strong show of support, twelve members of the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation co-authored a letter to express their strong support for the New Starts program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The FTA’s discretionary New Starts program is the federal government's primary financial resource for supporting locally-planned, implemented, and operated transit "guideway" capital investments. The correspondence, circulated by Congresswoman Janice Hahn (D-44), a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, urges the Chairman and Ranking member of the House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development to provide $1.9 billion for the New Starts program in their Fiscal Year 2014 spending bill. Our New Starts projects, the Purple Line Extension and the Regional Connector, are recommended for Full Funding Grant Agreements in President Obama’s Fiscal Year 2014 Budget that was released earlier this month. The House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development is slated to issue its funding recommendation for the New Starts program and other transportation programs within the next several months. Our agency will continue to closely monitor Congressional actions related to the funding of all federal transportation programs. We thank members of the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation for their consistent support of our ongoing efforts to enhance the mobility of their constituents. Please click [here](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130422_NEWEST_new_starts_approps_letter.pdf) for a copy of the Congressional New Start letter co-authored by members of the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation.  <http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/130422_NEWEST_new_starts_approps_letter.pdf> |
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