

[Home](#)[CEO Hotline](#)[Viewpoint](#)[Classified Ads](#)[Archives](#)[Metro.net \(web\)](#)

Resources

[Safety](#)[Pressroom \(web\)](#)[Ask the CEO](#)[CEO Forum](#)[Employee Recognition](#)[Employee Activities](#)[Metro Projects](#)[Facts at a Glance \(web\)](#)[Archives](#)[Events Calendar](#)[Research Center/Library](#)[Metro Classifieds](#)[Bazaar](#)

Metro Info

[30/10 Initiative](#)[Policies](#)[Training](#)[Help Desk](#)[Intranet Policy](#)

Need e-Help?

Call the Help Desk
at 2-4357

[Contact myMetro.net](#)

Board Approves Swift Response to meet Deadlines for Federal Stimulus Funding

- [So noted:](#) Officials laud CEO Snoble for Measure R and other achievements



Metro Board of Directors debate American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 item on Thursday's board agenda.

By GAYLE ANDERSON

(Feb. 26, 2009) Item 44, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which provides federal economic stimulus funding for Los Angeles County transportation capital projects, loomed large on the Metro Board agenda and took the lion's share of the discussion at the meeting held Feb. 26.

At issue was Action G, as it pertains to funding for phase 1 of the Exposition Light Rail Transit Project and the Metro Gold Line Foothill LRT extension.

The item was amended by Director Richard Katz, who noted the projects listed in Action G should not be considered as having priority for federal funding. In approving the item as amended, the board opted to revisit Action G pending guidelines to be determined for new starts and discretionary funding.

The directors voted unanimously to move item 44 forward so agencies can access vital stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 recently signed by the president. The board approval puts into motion directives for establishing an economic stimulus funding priority for Los Angeles County and determining approval deadlines for capital projects.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe, who made the motion to approve item 44, which was seconded by Director Zev Yaroslavsky, praised staff for organizing the complicated categories of allocations and obligations

in a brief period in order to meet strict and short federal deadlines.

The board's action was in response to the federal economic stimulus funding to be provided to Los Angeles County to preserve and create jobs.

As a result of the swift response, Metro is establishing a 75-day grant approval/obligation deadline for the 89 Los Angeles County jurisdictions for all highway and transit project submittals. The motion was amended by Director Ara Najarian to allow a 135-day deadline for Metro and other Los Angeles County transit operators. The deadlines are structured to ensure that Los Angeles County does not relinquish Recovery Act funds to other regions or states. The deadline time frame begins on the day that the applicable federal agency officially apportions the funds, which is expected to start March 3.

Directors also approved item 12 to retrofit a soundwall program to fund the design of Soundwall Package 11 along portions of the SR-170 and I-405 in the San Fernando Valley and to transfer the construction of Soundwall Package 4 along the I-210 freeway. The Soundwall Package 11 project requires an additional \$4.6 million in Proposition C 25 percent funds.

Items on the consent calendar approved without further discussion include:

- Item 11: 2009 Call for Projects Application Package
- Item 30: Motion to prioritize Measure R 3% commuter rail funds for Metrolink safety improvements.
- Items 32, 33: Award contracts for construction management and administration and for environmental consulting and engineering services in support of Board-adopted capital projects.
- Item 35: Award contract for two 'bucket' trucks for facility maintenance and repairs.