

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

News

April 21, 2016

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Metro Board to Host Interactive Telephone Town Hall Meetings May 4-18 as Part of Public Input on Potential Ballot Measure

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors will host a series of live, interactive telephone town hall meetings May 4 through 18 to discuss Metro's draft expenditure plan for a possible November sales tax ballot measure. The plan includes a timeline and funding amounts for a number of transit, highway, local, pedestrian and bicycle projects over the next 40 years.

Residents across Los Angeles County will be called at random through an innovative automated telephone system and invited to participate in the public forums from the comfort of their own homes. The telephone town halls are another option for the public to provide input for those who are unable to attend one of the traditional public meetings that are currently underway.

The plan outlines \$120 billion in transportation improvements with nearly 40 major projects to be built in 40 years. The draft plan also includes funding for commuter rail; transit operations; projects to keep buses, trains and facilities in good working condition; pedestrian and cycling connections, and; keeping fares affordable for students, seniors and the disabled. The plan would also return money to local cities for use on their transportation improvements.

"We've already received a significant amount of stakeholder feedback on Metro's draft expenditure plan unveiled last month," said Metro Board Chair and L.A. County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas. "Now, we want to provide another round of opportunities to engage members of the public, through a series of telephone town hall meetings. I encourage everyone interested in our county's transportation future to join the conversation."

Metro's Board of Directors will vote in June on the plan and decide whether to put the ballot measure before Los Angeles County voters in November. Public input will be accepted through Friday, May 20. It will then be compiled and shared with Board Members before their June decision.

Approximately 30,000 residents in areas served by each Metro Board Member will be called at random through the automated system and invited to participate in the telephone forum. When residents answer their phones, they will be connected to the meetings automatically. Anyone who does not receive a call but wants to participate can dial into the toll-free telephone number listed below.

There are several other ways to participate in the interactive town halls:

• English: On the day of the meeting, the toll-free call-in number is 888-400-1932.

- **Spanish:** On the day of the meeting, the toll-free call-in number is 888-400-9342.
- Participants can also sign up for meetings in advance and receive an email reminder by visiting http://theplan.metro.net.

The schedule of telephone town hall meetings is as follows:

Wednesday, May 4, **6:15 p.m.** – Metro Board Chair Mark Ridley-Thomas, representing the Second Supervisorial district, will talk to residents in the cities of Carson, Compton, Culver City, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lynwood, the communities of South Los Angeles, Koreatown, and portions of West Los Angeles.

Wednesday, May 4, 7:30 p.m. – Phillip A. Washington, Metro CEO, will talk to residents in the Northern San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys as well as Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys.

Thursday, May 5, 6:15 p.m. – Richard F. Clarke, Metro's Executive Director of Program Management, will talk to residents in the Westside, South Bay and South Los Angeles cities including Beverly Hills, Carson, Culver City, El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Santa Monica, Torrance and West Hollywood.

Thursday May 5, 7:30 p.m. – Richard F. Clarke, Metro's Executive Director of Program Management, will talk to residents in the cities in the Southeast area of Los Angeles County including Avalon, Artesia, Bell, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Cerritos, Commerce, Compton, Cudahy, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Huntington Park, La Habra Heights, Lakewood, La Mirada, Long Beach, Lynwood, Maywood, Norwalk, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, Signal Hill, South Gate, Vernon and Whittier.

Monday, May 9, 6:15 p.m. – Stephanie Wiggins, Metro's Deputy CEO, will talk to residents in the city of Los Angeles focusing on communities south of the Santa Monica Mountains including downtown and central Los Angeles, Hollywood, the Westside, South Los Angeles and the Harbor area.

Monday, May 9, 7:30 p.m. – John Fasana, Councilmember, city of Duarte, will talk to residents in the San Gabriel Valley cities of Alhambra, Arcadia Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bradbury, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, Duarte, El Monte, Glendora, Industry, Irwindale, La Cañada/Flintridge, La Puente, La Verne, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Temple City, Walnut and West Covina.

Wednesday, May 11, 6:15 p.m. – Hilda L. Solis, L.A. County Supervisor, representing the First Supervisorial district, will talk to residents in Northeast and East Los Angeles and the cities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bell, Bell Gardens, Claremont, Commerce, Cudahy, El Monte, Huntington Park, Industry, Irwindale, La Puente, Los Angeles, Maywood, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pico Rivera, Pomona, Rosemead, Santa Fe Springs, South El Monte, South Gate, Vernon, Walnut and West Covina.

Wednesday, May 11, 7:30 p.m. – Phillip A. Washington, Metro CEO, will talk to residents in the cities of Artesia, Avalon, Bellflower, Cerritos, Diamond Bar, Downey, El Segundo, Hawaiian Gardens, Hermosa Beach, La Mirada, Lakewood, Lomita, Long Beach, Manhattan Beach, Norwalk, Palos Verdes Estates, Paramount, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling

Hills Estates, Santa Fe Springs, Signal Hill, Torrance and Whittier as well as the communities of Harbor City, La Habra/Hacienda Heights, Marina Del Ray, Playa Del Rey, San Pedro and Wilmington.

Thursday, May 12, **6:15 p.m.** – Paul Krekorian, L.A. City Councilmember, will talk to residents in the San Fernando Valley including the communities of North Hollywood, Pacoima, Studio City, Sun Valley, Valley Glen, Valley Village and Van Nuys.

Thursday, May 12, 7:30 p.m. – Stephanie Wiggins, Metro's Deputy CEO, will talk to residents in the cities of Agoura Hills, Burbank, Calabasas, Glendale, Hidden Hills, La Cañada/Flintridge, Lancaster, Malibu, Palmdale, San Fernando, Santa Clarita and Westlake Village.

Monday, May 16, 6:15 p.m. – Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, Metro Board Member, will talk to residents in the City of Los Angeles including the communities of South Los Angeles, Baldwin Hills, Crenshaw, Florence-Graham, Ladera Heights, Leimert Park, South Park, Watts and Westmont.

Monday, May 16, 7:30 p.m. – Mike Bonin, L.A. City Councilmember, will talk to residents in the western portion of the City of Los Angeles including the communities of Brentwood, Del Rey, Mar Vista, Pacific Palisades, Playa Del Rey, West Los Angeles, Westchester, and Venice.

Wednesday, May 18, 6:15 p.m. – Sheila Kuehl, L.A County Supervisor representing the Third Supervisorial district, will talk to residents in the cities of Agoura Hills, Beverly Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, San Fernando, Santa Monica, West Hollywood and Westlake Village as well as portions of the west side and the San Fernando Valley.

Wednesday May 18, 7:30 p.m. – Eric Garcetti, L.A. Mayor, will talk to City of Los Angeles residents in the San Fernando Valley.

ADA Language Accommodation: If you require an interpreter or other accommodations, please contact Metro at least 72 hours prior to the telephone town hall meeting date at 323-466-3876 or California Relay Service at 711.

The full expenditure plan is available for public review at <u>www.metro.net/theplan.</u> In addition to the interactive telephone town hall meetings, the public can provide input through public meetings, Facebook, Twitter, e-mail at theplan@metro.net or via phone at 323-466-3876. The deadline for public input is May 20.

About Metro

Metro is a multimodal transportation agency that is really three companies in one: a major operator that transports about 1.4 million boarding passengers on an average weekday on a fleet of 2,200 clean air buses and six rail lines, a major construction agency that oversees many bus, rail, highway and other mobility related building projects, and the lead transportation planning and programming agency for Los Angeles County. Overseeing one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is changing the urban landscape of the Los Angeles region. Dozens of transit, highway and other mobility projects largely funded by Measure R are under construction or in the planning stages. These include five new rail lines, enhanced bus operations, and numerous highway and local projects.

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