



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro

News

December 2, 2017

Dave Sotero/Joni Goheen
Metro Media Relations
213.922.3007/213.922.2700
metro.net/press/pressroom
mediarelations@metro.net
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First Major Measure M Project Moves into Construction with Gold Line Foothill Extension Phase 2 Groundbreaking

As elected leaders and transportation officials celebrate the groundbreaking for Phase 2 of the Gold Line Foothill Extension Project today, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) marks a new milestone in its ongoing efforts to transform transportation in the L.A. region. The light rail extension is the first major Measure M project to break ground following the overwhelming approval of Metro's half-cent transportation sales tax last year.

The full light rail project encompasses 12.3-miles, and is planned to ultimately serve the cities of Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair. Each of the new stations will have parking as well as passenger drop-off areas, pedestrian, bus and bicycle amenities. Metro has developed a First Mile/Last Mile program to assist cities with implementing additional access improvements to and from new Gold Line stations.

"Our Measure M half-cent sales tax has been in effect for barely a year, but we are already working collectively to fulfill the will of voters who desperately need regional traffic relief," said Los Angeles Mayor and Metro Board Chair Eric Garcetti. "One of our first orders of business is to continue extending the highly successful Gold Line to new Foothill cities. This extension will give residents new transportation options, create new jobs and economic activity, and help sustain population growth in this burgeoning area."

Within the Measure M sales tax ordinance, Metro has allocated more than \$1 billion to build the lion's share of the extension within Los Angeles County. Another \$400 million has been allocated to the project using other local sales tax and Cap and Trade funds. Combined, more than \$1.4 billion has been authorized by the Metro Board to build the rail line between Glendora and Claremont. The Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority is also applying nearly \$100 million in previous Measure R sales tax funding savings from construction of the first phase to Azusa that was completed in 2016. The construction authority is now working with San Bernardino County to fund the expansion of the line an additional mile to Montclair.

“Funding the second phase of the Gold Line Extension is the perfect example of what we’re trying to achieve through our agency’s comprehensive transportation plan,” said Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington. “As we make transit more available in new communities, we are changing the face of Southern California and creating an infrastructure inheritance for our children and grandchildren.”

The second phase of the Gold Line Foothill Extension is scheduled to be completed and operational by 2027. Metro remains committed to working cooperatively with the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority to deliver the project on time and on budget. The two agencies have established Master Cooperative and Funding Agreements that define the roles, responsibilities and processes that are needed for Metro to fund the project and work productively with the construction authority. Metro will operate the extended rail line once it’s complete.

About Measure M

Measure M was passed by more than 71 percent of L.A. County voters in November 2016. Leaders throughout the county helped shape the transportation sales tax measure to meet regional transportation needs. The sales tax funds a comprehensive plan that not only improves transportation options, but also funds operations, state of good repair, affordable fares and bike and pedestrian connections. It also returns funding to local cities to complete their own transportation projects. Overall, the \$120 billion plan funds 40 major transportation projects within the next 40 years.

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.

Stay informed by following Metro on The Source and El Pasajero at metro.net, facebook.com/losangelesmetro, twitter.com/metrolosangeles and twitter.com/metroLAalerts and instagram.com/metrolosangeles.

Metro-149 (General Release)

###