



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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Metro News

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Final federal subway funding secured

U.S. Department of Transportation Announces Completion of Federal Funding for Last Remaining Section of Metro Purple Line Subway Extension to Westwood/VA

A federal grant and loan totaling nearly \$1.3 billion to help build the third and final phase of the Metro Purple Line Extension to Westwood/VA Hospital was announced today by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Funding was made available via the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Capital Investment Grant program and a \$xxx-million loan through the U.S. Department of Transportation's TIFIA program to total \$x.xxx billion. The project will also receive \$xxx million in federal funding through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality program. The total project budget for Section 3 is \$3.56 billion.

[Coupled with Metro's \$747 million local match made possible by 2008's Measure R sales tax, \$2.4 billion is now secured to continue construction of one of L.A. County's most critically needed public transit projects – a subway primarily under Wilshire Boulevard that will finally connect downtown Los Angeles and Westwood with service en route to the Miracle Mile, Beverly Hills and Century City.]

Metro has already selected Tutor Perini, a Joint Venture to build the subway extension's second section and third sections.

"Metro greatly appreciates the funding provided by our transportation partners in Washington D.C.," said James Butts, city of Inglewood Mayor and Metro Board Chair. "By matching federal dollars with Metro's local sales tax proceeds, we will be able to deliver fast, frequent and high-capacity subway service as promised to L.A. County residents on an accelerated timeline."

Metro is already building the first two sections of the Purple Line Extension Project. The first subway section between the current subway terminus at Wilshire/Western and Wilshire/La Cienega, including three new stations is approximately xx percent complete. The second section, which will add

another 2.6 miles to the project and build two new stations at Wilshire/Rodeo in downtown Beverly Hills and Century City, is now xx percent complete.

Construction of the Purple Line Extension Section 3 will, according to the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, create more than 17,000 good paying jobs.

“Securing federal funds for this project was a truly collaborative effort, bringing together stakeholders at the local, state and federal levels,” said Metro Board Member [____].

The Purple Line Extension to the Westwood/VA Hospital station will garner about 49,300 daily weekday boardings at the seven new stations. There will be about 78,000 new daily trips on the full Metro Rail System as a result of opening this line.

A total of \$4.4 billion in federal New Starts funding has now been secured for the project, which is one of the highest priority transit projects in the United States.

“I’d like to personally thank the U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Transit Administration for working hard to ensure this funding agreement moved forward in a deliberate and effective manner,” said Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington. “This and previous federal project funding represents years of hard work, and is the keystone to Metro’s countywide program to transform transportation in our region.”

Trains are expected to run every four minutes during peak hours on the Purple Line Extension and every 10 minutes during off-peak times. The Metro Board last month approved a contract for new subway vehicles to help support the line and the agency is also working on a project that will allow subway trains to turn around more quickly at Union Station, thereby increasing capacity on the line.

Over 300,000 people travel into the Westside every morning for work from throughout the region. More than 100,000 trips also leave the area for outside destinations. The Purple Line extension will offer improved connectivity to the entire Metro Bus and Rail network, as well as transfers to municipal bus lines and other regional transportation services.

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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