

One Last Look at “Yes” and “No” on Measure R

By Damien Newton | Nov 3, 2008 | 3 COMMENTS

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One could argue that the main battle over Measure R has been between a battle for the transit system that LA needs versus the parochial concerns of politicians fighting to get more money spent in their districts regardless of need. Indeed, that's the argument that has dominated the debate despite the efforts of the [Bus Rider's Union](#) to inject race and socio-economic concerns and [cyclists and pedestrians](#) earlier efforts to set aside funds for non-motorized transportation.

Given that frame, these two images from the outstanding [Metro Library](#) struck me earlier today as the perfect frame for that debate. Two pictures to take with you into the booth tomorrow that help define what the argument is about. In the end, who do you want to side with, politicians fighting for regional equity, or students fighting for a vision of Los Angeles having a complete transit map? Do you want to support the guy with the "Gold Line Now"

sign who apparently thinks the best way to fund transit projects is to vote against transit funding; or the students who, to a person, walked or biked to their political rally?

Both Photos Courtesy the [Metro Library](#)



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browne • 14 years ago

I'm crossing my fingers and praying to god, the universe whoever it is that is in charge that Measure R passes. To me the only way people will learn is through natural consequence. (I have to say that I was happy when Bush won the first time, I didn't go so far as to vote for Bush, but I found Clinton's moderate policies and me, me, me vibe is what made it easy to go to Bush, it should have never been close enough steal...)

A child learns not to play with fire by getting burned, people will learn to not play nice with Metro by getting burned and there will be no better proof of that than the passage of Measure R. I'm voting an enthusiastic yes. I'm voting yes for all of the people who do believe in fairy tales.

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elon • 14 years ago

Excellent post. Too bad the Voter Information Guide doesn't have such helpful visuals.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Sirinya Tritipeskul Matute • 14 years ago

I am deeply touched by the last paragraph. I'm one of the students pictured on this blog entry. (I want rapid transit to the Valley so that I can get home more easily to see my family, and so that my family and many thousands of others can have a non-SOV alternative to get to their jobs in Beverly Hills and by the airport respectively.) I walked to the rally and have held signs for the past four weeks in support of Measure R. However imperfect it is, I think the fact that we have this kind of ballot measure (which is different from a bond measure, which I think is akin to a bandaid) to vote yes or no on this Tuesday signals that we are at a very important crossroads here in LA. Our congestion is compromising the economic health and quality of life in LA. Just think of all the places and people we don't visit because it would take too long to travel. We have this opportunity to reimagine LA as not just this car-dominated metropolis where only the transit-dependent use public transit to get around. The use of cars won't go away if Measure R passes, but finally we will have a steady stream of funding to pay for infrastructure improvements around the County.

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Will Measure R+ Reach the Fall Ballot? At Least Two County Supervisors Need a Change of Heart

By Damien Newton | Jun 6, 2012

(Update: An earlier version of this post identified Don Knabe as voting against Measure R at the Metro Board and again at the L.A. County Board of Supervisors last year. In fact, Knabe voted for Measure R with the Supervisors but against with the Metro Board of Directors.) With yesterday's election in the books, it's [...]

Advocates Make the Case for More Federal Funding for Southern California Transit and Bikeways

By Damien Newton | Feb 19, 2010

Flanked by advocates, Denny Zane of Move L.A. leads this morning's rally. For more photos, visit LA Streetsblog/Flickr Before the kickoff of the "Transportation Reauthorization Outreach Tour," this morning at the Metro Board Room in Downtown Los Angeles, a diverse collection of advocates made the case that the federal dollars that have recently alluded clean [...]

Garcetti to Mobility 21: We're Planning for the Next Measure R Campaign

By Damien Newton | Oct 29, 2013

Video provided by the Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti This morning, Eric Garcetti delivered a video message to the 1,000 attendees of Mobility 21's 12 Annual Transportation Conference. The Mayor, in Washington D.C. to try and raise more funds for local and regional transit projects, stressed some familiar themes: America Fast Forward, Great Streets, Measure [...]

Uncertainty About Federal and State Funds Tempers Measure R Enthusiasm

By Damien Newton | Dec 4, 2008

Anyone worried that the Metro Board of Directors, with an estimated \$40 billion in hand to spend over the next 30 years, was going to break the bank right out of the bank can breathe a sigh of relief. Concerns over federal and state funding measures, and how it impacts our plans for Measure R [...]

Bruins for Traffic Relief Raise Measure R's Profile

By Damien Newton | Oct 20, 2008

In an effort to boost the profile of Measure R, the proposed tax that would raise \$40 billion for Metro over the next 30 years by raising L.A. County's sales tax by half a cent, a group of UCLA undergraduate and graduate students have taken to some real grass roots campaigning. Standing at the corner [...]

Beyond the Spin, Breaking Down Measure J

By Damien Newton | Nov 5, 2012



On Monday, October 15, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa was feeling good. The Los Angeles Times and the Los Angeles Newspaper Group, which includes the Daily News, Daily Breeze, Long Beach Press-Telegram, SGV Tribune and Pasadena Star-News, had endorsed Measure J. In front of the hundreds of transit advocates and professionals at Railvolution, a sales tax extension [...]



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