



Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Metro

News

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METRO UNVEILS AGGRESSIVE PLAN TO BRING PROJECTS TO A “SHOVEL-READY” STATE

In an action to move major capital projects closer to implementation, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) announced today a strategy to aggressively accelerate planning on those projects to help bring them to a “shovel-ready” state.

Operation Shovel Ready anticipates potential grants, private sector participation and local community support that can help fund major infrastructure improvements already identified for L.A. County.

“Moving these projects closer to a shove-ready state does not necessarily mean that they will all move immediately to the construction state,” said LA Metro Board Chair Mark Ridley-Thomas. “Operation Shovel Ready helps us to be ready so when funds become available, these projects can get started and finished sooner.”

Operation Shovel Ready specifies that any projects slated to move forward do so only with work that would be necessary if the projects do not immediately receive funding. In addition, funds needed to advance shovel-ready projects would not impact funding for currently approved projects.

“Experience shows that aggressively moving forward is more likely to advance projects quicker toward completion. We have moved projects through planning before complete funding commitments are received and have ultimately been successful,” said LA Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington.

Operation Shovel Ready transit projects are identified as the Airport Metro Connector 96th Street Transit Station, East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor, South Bay Metro Green Line Extension, Metro Gold Line Eastside Transit Corridor Phase II, Purple Line Extension Section 3, Vermont BRT Technical Study, North Hollywood to Pasadena BRT Technical Study, Crenshaw Northern Extension Feasibility Study, Grade Separations for Orange Line/Other Improvements, SCAG Green Line Extension to Norwalk Metrolink Station Feasibility Study, Red/Purple Line Operating Improvements, Rail to Rail/River Active Transportation Corridor Project, San Gabriel Valley Regional Greenway Network Feasibility Study, and the L.A. River Bike Path Feasibility Study.

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 2,000 clean air buses and six rail lines, a major construction agency that oversees many bus, rail, highway and other mobility related building projects, and it is the lead transportation planning and programming agency for Los Angeles County. Overseeing one of the largest public works programs in America, Metro is, literally, 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, the I-5 widening and other major projects.

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