



Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Metro**

**News**

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## **Metro Board Supports Plan to Bring Immediate Traffic Relief to Cities Along the 710 North, Upon Completion of Environmental Study**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board voted today to adopt a locally preferred alternative that addresses traffic congestion in the SR-710 North corridor with projects such as traffic signals synchronization, street widening and freeway ramp improvements.

Board members supported the Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management alternative (TSM/TDM) to bring traffic relief to affected 710 North corridor cities.

“In the past, I have supported the tunnel option,” said Metro Board Chair John Fasana. “But the tunnel is not fundable and there are mobility and congestion issues right now that need to be addressed. Our goal is to use this money to bring relief to the neighborhoods as quickly as possible and we believe this is a good alternative to do just that.”

The move includes allocation of \$105 million of the \$780 million in Measure R funds previously earmarked for the 710 North corridor for development and implementation of TSM/TDM projects listed in the on-going environmental impact report. It recommends using remaining 710 North Measure R funds for new mobility improvement projects in the San Gabriel Valley region. It further recommends that other funding dedicated to this project, including regional surface transportation, congestion mitigation and air quality and regional improvement program funds be allocated for use in the central sub region, including unincorporated East Los Angeles. Funds will be prioritized for multi-modal and safety enhancement projects within the SR-710 North study area. To ensure equitable cashflow, these funds will be scheduled proportionally to Measure R funding in the next Long Range Transportation Plan update.

Metro staff will consult with affected cities and neighborhoods and report back to the Metro Board within 90 days on a procedure to identify additional projects that could qualify for

Measure R funding. Projects that were not included in the environmental study will undergo their own environmental process and clearance.

This action also defers any other alternative – including light rail, bus rapid transit and freeway tunnel – from future consideration by the Board until the community agrees on the value of such an investment and funds are identified to support it. The estimated \$3 plus billion (in 2014 dollars) that would have been required to pay for design and construction of a single bore freeway tunnel is not available and the light rail and bus rapid transit options are not expected to produce the needed traffic improvements.

It is anticipated that the final environmental document for the SR-710 North project will be completed by the first quarter of 2018. Upon completion of the environmental documents, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 7 will select the preferred alternative.

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### **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](http://metro.net), [facebook.com/losangelesmetro](https://www.facebook.com/losangelesmetro), [twitter.com/metrolosangeles](https://twitter.com/metrolosangeles) and [twitter.com/metroLAAalerts](https://twitter.com/metroLAAalerts) and [instagram.com/metrolosangeles](https://www.instagram.com/metrolosangeles).

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