



**Metro**

October 19, 2012

Joseph Tavaglione  
Chair  
California Transportation Commission  
1120 N Street  
Room 2221, Mail Stop: 52  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairman Tavaglione:

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors considers itself a strong partner in the improvement of State Highway corridors in our County. We have stepped to the plate many times over to invest hundreds of millions of local sales tax dollars in environmental studies and significant highway improvements including funding overruns on highway projects even when we had no control over that project. We write to you now to express our concern regarding the California Transportation Commission's policy to move bid savings on Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) funds on Los Angeles County projects to other projects which could be outside of Los Angeles County.

As you know Los Angeles County suffers the most extreme congestion of any urban area in the country. Through our strong partnership with the State of California we have been able to make significant improvements and have brought significant resources into Los Angeles County. We are very concerned that the CTC is now entertaining the possibility of moving important congestion relief funds away from the most congested county in the country.

The CMIA program funds many important projects in Los Angeles County. Removing funds from those projects to projects outside of our County will cause significant harm to our region. We recognize that the CTC has a policy on bid savings but we urge you to exercise caution given that the CTC would be removing funds from projects before they have ever been constructed and prior to the resolution of any cost overruns. Furthermore, there are other CMIA projects in our County that could use these funds. As we write to you we are currently trying to resolve a request from Caltrans to fund an additional \$9 million in overruns on a portion of the I-405 HOV lane and soundwall project that is on top of \$23 million in overruns already funded by this Board.

Metro staff has presented to the CTC and Caltrans a method whereby the state can maintain its partnership with Metro and ensure that these funds stay within Los Angeles County and fund important congestion relief projects. We urge you to work with that proposal and keep Los Angeles County's congestion relief funds in our County.

Sincerely,

Metro Board of Directors

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Michael D. Antonovich  
Chair  
Los Angeles County Supervisor  
Fifth Supervisorial District

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First Vice Chair  
Mayor, City of Lakewood

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Mayor, City of Los Angeles

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Mel Wilson  
City of Los Angeles Mayoral Appointee

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Zev Yaroslavsky  
Los Angeles County Supervisor  
Third Supervisorial District

cc. Art Leahy, Chief Executive Officer, Metro  
California Transportation Commission Members  
California State Senator Mark DeSaulnier, Ex Officio Member, CTC  
California State Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal, Ex Officio Member, CTC  
Brian P. Kelly, Acting Secretary, Business Transportation & Housing Agency