



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS
APPLICABLE TO MEASURE R ORDINANCE AND
MEASURE R LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

**TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS
APPLICABLE TO MEASURE R ORDINANCE AND
MEASURE R LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

**TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R Local Return Fund
Consolidated Audit Report
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MEASURE R ORDINANCE AND MEASURE R LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES	1
List of Package A Jurisdictions	4
Compliance Area Tested	5
Summary of Audit Results	
Schedule 1 – Summary of Compliance Findings	6
Schedule 2 – Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs	7

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS
APPLICABLE TO MEASURE R ORDINANCE AND
MEASURE R LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

**To: Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
and Measure R Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee**

Report on Compliance

We have audited the compliance of the County of Los Angeles (County) and the thirty-nine (39) Cities identified in the List of Package A Jurisdictions, with the types of compliance requirements described in the Measure R Ordinance enacted through a Los Angeles County voter-approved law in November 2008; Measure R Local Return Guidelines, issued by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), approved by its Board of Directors on October 22, 2009 (collectively, the Guidelines); and the respective Assurances and Understandings Regarding Receipt and Use of Measure R Local Return Funds, executed by Metro, the County and the respective Cities for the year ended June 30, 2021 (collectively, the Requirements). Compliance with the above-noted Guidelines and Requirements by the County and the Cities are identified in the accompanying Summary of Audit Results, Schedule 1 and Schedule 2.

Management's Responsibility

Compliance with the Guidelines and Requirements is the responsibility of the respective management of the County and the Cities.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on the County and each City's compliance with the Guidelines and Requirements referred to above based on our audits. We conducted our audits of compliance in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the Measure R Local Return program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the County and each City's compliance with the Guidelines and Requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions on compliance. However, our audits do not provide a legal determination of the County's and each City's compliance with the Guidelines and Requirements.



Opinion

In our opinion, the County and the Cities complied, in all material respects, with the Guidelines and Requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the Measure R Local Return program for the year ended June 30, 2021.

Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed instances of noncompliance, which are required to be reported in accordance with the Guidelines and Requirements and which are described in the accompanying Summary of Compliance Findings (Schedule 1) and Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2) as Findings #2021-001 through #2021-003. Our opinion is not modified with respect to these matters.

Responses by the Cities to the noncompliance findings identified in our audits are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2). The Cities' responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance, and accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

The management of the County and each City is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the Guidelines and Requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audits of compliance, we considered the County and each City's internal control over compliance with the Guidelines and Requirements that could have a direct and material effect on the Measure R Local Return program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Guidelines and Requirements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's and each City's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with the requirements, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with the requirements that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. We did identify a deficiency in internal control over compliance, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2) as Finding #2021-002, that we consider to be a material weakness.



The City's response to the internal control over compliance finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2). The City's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance, and accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing on internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Guidelines and Requirements. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vaquero & Company LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Glendale, California
December 30, 2021

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R Local Return Fund
List of Package A Jurisdictions
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021**

1. COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
2. CITY OF AGOURA HILLS
3. CITY OF AZUSA
4. CITY OF BALDWIN PARK
5. CITY OF BELL
6. CITY OF BELL GARDENS
7. CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
8. CITY OF CALABASAS
9. CITY OF CARSON
10. CITY OF COMMERCE
11. CITY OF COMPTON
12. CITY OF CUDAHY
13. CITY OF CULVER CITY
14. CITY OF EL MONTE
15. CITY OF GARDENA
16. CITY OF HAWTHORNE
17. CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
18. CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK
19. CITY OF INDUSTRY
20. CITY OF INGLEWOOD
21. CITY OF IRWINDALE
22. CITY OF LA PUENTE
23. CITY OF LAWNSDALE
24. CITY OF LYNWOOD
25. CITY OF MALIBU
26. CITY OF MAYWOOD
27. CITY OF MONTEBELLO
28. CITY OF MONTEREY PARK
29. CITY OF PICO RIVERA
30. CITY OF POMONA
31. CITY OF ROSEMEAD
32. CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
33. CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS
34. CITY OF SANTA MONICA
35. CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
36. CITY OF SOUTH GATE
37. CITY OF VERNON
38. CITY OF WALNUT
39. CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
40. CITY OF WESTLAKE VILLAGE

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R Local Return Fund
Compliance Area Tested
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

1. Funds were expended for transportation purposes.
2. Separate Measure R Local Return Account was established.
3. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Measure R Local Return Account.
4. Funds were expended with Metro's approval.
5. Funds were not substituted for property tax and are in compliance with the Maintenance of Effort.
6. Timely use of funds.
7. Administrative expenses are within the 20% cap.
8. Expenditure Plan (Form One or electronic equivalent) was submitted on time.
9. Annual Expenditure Report (Form Two or electronic equivalent) was submitted on time.
10. Where funds expended were reimbursable by other grants or fund sources, the reimbursement was credited to the Local Return Account upon receipt of the reimbursement.
11. Where Measure R funds were given, loaned or exchanged by one jurisdiction to another, the receiving jurisdiction has credited its Local Return Account with the funds received.
12. A separate account was established for Capital reserve funds and Capital reserve was approved by Metro.
13. Funds were used to augment, not supplant existing local revenues being used for transportation purposes unless there is a fund shortfall.
14. Recreational transit form was submitted on time.
15. Fund exchanges were approved by Metro.
16. Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R Local Return Fund
Summary of Compliance Findings
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021**

The audits of the County of Los Angeles and 39 cities have resulted in 3 findings. The table below summarizes those findings:

Finding	# of Findings	Responsible Cities/ Finding No. Reference	Questioned Costs	Resolved During the Audit
Funds were expended with Metro's approval.	3	Agoura Hills (See Finding #2021-001)	\$ 4,063	\$ 4,063
		Calabasas (See Finding #2021-002)	29,039	29,039
		Montebello (See Finding #2021-003)	24,988	24,988
Total Findings and Questioned Costs	3		\$ 58,090	\$ 58,090

Details of the findings are in Schedule 2.

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021**

Finding #2021-001	City of Agoura Hills
Compliance Reference	<p>Section B (II) Expenditure Plan (Form One) of Measure R Local Return Program Guideline states that, "To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure R LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdiction shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (Form One), annually, by August 1st of each year.</p> <p>Expenditure Plan (Form One) provides a listing of projects funded with Measure R LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year. For both operating and capital projects, Part I is to be filled out. For capital projects (projects over \$250,000), Part II is required. Pursuant to AB2321, Metro will provide LR funds to a capital project or program sponsor who submits the required expenditure plan.</p>
Condition	<p>The City claimed expenditures for MRLRF Project Code 705, Sidewalk Repairs, amounting to \$4,063 prior to approval from Metro.</p> <p>Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, the project had no prior approval from Metro.</p>
Cause	Due to unanticipated work related to the Sidewalk Repairs project.
Effect	The City claimed expenditures totaling \$4,063 prior to approval from Metro. Lack of prior approvals results in noncompliance.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and implement internal controls to ensure that approval is obtained from Metro prior to spending on any local return-funded projects.
Management's Response	<p>The City concurs with the finding that a budget request should have been submitted to Metro for approval.</p> <p>The City continues to reevaluate the processes that are in place to ensure budgets are submitted for all projects to Metro timely.</p>
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted a retroactive approval of said projects on November 23, 2021. No additional follow up is required.

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021
(Continued)**

Finding #2021-002	City of Calabasas
Compliance Reference	<p>Section B(II)(1) Expenditure Plan (Form One) of the Measure R Local Return Program Guidelines state that “To maintain eligibility and meet Measure R LR program compliance requirements, jurisdictions shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (Form One) annually by August 1st of each year.</p> <p>Expenditure Plan (Form One) provides a listing of projects funded with Measure R LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year. For both operating and capital projects, Part I is to be filled out. For capital projects (projects over \$250,000), Part II is required. Pursuant to AB2321, Metro will provide LR funds to a capital project or program sponsor who submits the required expenditure plan.</p>
Condition	<p>The City claimed expenditures under MRLRF Project Code 630, Direct Administration, totaling \$29,039 with no prior approval from Metro.</p> <p>Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, the project had no prior approval from Metro.</p> <p>This is a repeat finding from prior years’ audits.</p>
Cause	The City was in transition staff wise. Information was not properly communicated.
Effect	The City claimed expenditures totaling \$29,039 prior to approval from Metro. Lack of prior approvals results in noncompliance with the Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that approval is obtained from Metro prior to spending on any Measure R-funded projects.
Management’s Response	The City agrees with the findings. The City will establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that approval is obtained from Metro prior to spending on any Measure R-funded projects.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted a retroactive approval of the said project on November 23, 2021. No additional follow up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021
(Continued)

Finding #2021-003	City of Montebello
Compliance Reference	<p>Section B (II) Expenditure Plan (Form One) of Measure R Local Return Program Guidelines state that, "To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure R LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdiction shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (Form One), annually, by August 1st of each year.</p> <p>"Expenditure Plan (Form One) provides a listing of projects funded with Measure R LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year. For both operating and capital projects, Part I is to be filled out. For capital projects (projects over \$250,000), Part II is required. Pursuant to AB2321, Metro will provide LR funds to a capital project or program sponsor who submits the required expenditure plan."</p>
Condition	<p>The City claimed expenditures for the following MRLRF projects with no prior approval from Metro:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project Code 380, Traffic Engineering Studies, totaling \$4,610; b. Project Code 490, Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, totaling \$1,535; c. Project Code 630, Administrative Overhead, totaling \$15,100; d. Project Code 630, Finance Overhead, totaling \$2,275; e. Project Code 705, Los Amigos Avenue (Welmar to Las Flores, totaling \$976; f. Project Code 705, Hay Street (Garfield to Sly City Limit), totaling \$366; and g. Project Code 705, Beverly Terrace (Maple to Park), totaling \$126. <p>Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, these projects had no prior approval from Metro.</p>
Cause	The City was unfamiliar with the new process due to staff turnover and a new system for reporting to Metro.
Effect	The City claimed expenditures totaling \$24,988 prior to approval from Metro. Lack of prior approval results in noncompliance with the Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that approval is obtained from Metro prior to spending on Measure R-funded projects.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021
(Continued)

Finding #2021-003 (Continued)	City of Montebello
Management's Response	The City submitted a Budget Request to Metro Program Manager and obtained a retroactive approval of the said projects on September 20 and 23, 2021.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted a retroactive approval of the said projects on September 20 and 23, 2021. No additional follow up is required.



www.vasquezcpa.com

Vasquez & Company LLP has 50 years of experience in performing audit, accounting & consulting services for all types of nonprofit organizations, for-profit companies, governmental entities and publicly traded companies. Vasquez is a member of the RSM US Alliance. RSM US Alliance provides its members with access to resources of RSM US LLP. RSM US Alliance member firms are separate and independent businesses and legal entities that are responsible for their own acts and omissions, and each are separate and independent from RSM US LLP. RSM US LLP is the U.S. member firm of RSM International, a global network of independent audit, tax, and consulting firms. Members of RSM US Alliance have access to RSM International resources through RSM US LLP but are not member firms of RSM International. Visit rsmus.com/about-us for more information regarding RSM US LLP and RSM International. The RSM™ logo is used under license by RSM US LLP. RSM US Alliance products and services are proprietary to RSM US LLP.