



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

Headquarters

East Building, 5th Floor – TCR
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

May 11, 2021

Mr. Philip A. Washington
Chief Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Dear Mr. Washington,

This correspondence is to confirm receipt and approval of Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) request for a waiver from the requirement to conduct a fare equity analysis after implementing a promotional fare for six months as outlined in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 4702.1B, Chapter 4, Section 7(b). This waiver grants Metro an additional 12 months (18 months total) after implementing its Fareless System Initiative (FSI) pilot program to gather data. This waiver is not date specific; however, it only applies to the pilot program and activities identified in the request.

As described to FTA, the FSI pilot program is a potential first step in determining the viability of a fareless system for all who ride Metro. This pilot program will eliminate fares for low-income individuals and K-12 students on Metro rail and bus services. The 12-month extension will provide Metro the necessary time to collect more accurate data from its large service area—more detailed data will help to more accurately identify challenges and concerns of the stakeholders in the region. If Metro decides to keep the pilot program permanently, the agency will conduct a fare equity analysis as required by FTA Circular 4702.1B and submit to FTA within three months of the end of the data-gathering period.

The FTA Office of Civil Rights is available to offer technical assistance throughout the data collection and equity analysis periods upon request. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nicholas Sun directly at (312) 705-1267 or via email at Nicholas.Sun@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Selene Faer Dalton-Kumins
Associate Administrator
Office of Civil Rights

cc: Ray Tellis, Regional Administrator, FTA Region 9
Monica McCallum, Acting Deputy Associate Administrator, FTA Office of Civil Rights