



Item #6

Managing Congestion on the Freeway System

Ad Hoc Congestion, Highway and Roads Committee
September 20, 2017



Metro

Motion



At their March meeting, the Board requested that:

- Staff explore options to better manage congestion on the freeway system by improving the HOV Lanes and ExpressLanes, and;
- Provide a status update of efforts at the September 2017 meeting



HOV Lane Improvements



- A working group comprised of Metro and Caltrans staff was established to address this issue
- HOV Performance Impact Study (PIS)
 - Traffic counts: completed in Spring 2017
 - Additional data collection and analysis: Fall 2017
 - Micro-simulation modeling: May 2018
 - Final Report: Summer 2018
 - Safety and compliance impacts are being assessed in PIS process
- Caltrans and CHP coordination meetings to start September 2017
- Active Traffic Management (ATM) and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)
 - e.g. Adaptive Traffic Control Systems, Integrated Corridor Management



ExpressLanes Improvements



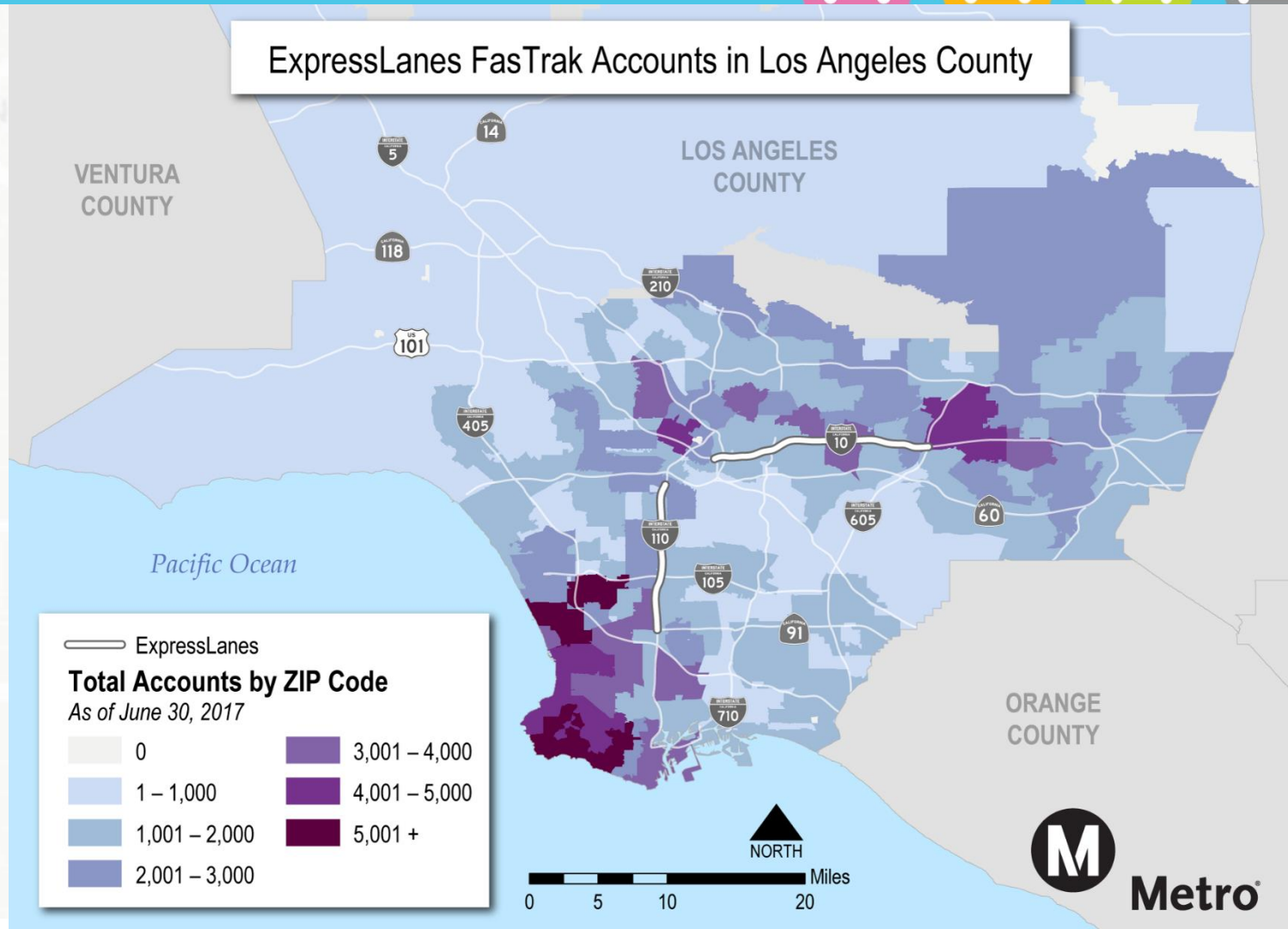
- Acceleration of Projects
 - Streamlining project delivery
 - System network approach in seeking CTC tolling authority
 - Secure discretionary grants
 - Inter-fund borrowing
 - Leveraging the unsolicited proposal (UP) process
- Ongoing coordination with Orange County
- I-105 operational improvements
- Charging Clean Air Vehicles (CAVs): Early 2018
- Occupancy detection: Summer 2018



ExpressLanes Market Penetration



ExpressLanes FasTrak Accounts in Los Angeles County



ExpressLanes Financing



- A prior survey indicates a vast majority (75%) of ExpressLanes customers would like to see expansion to other freeways in LA County
- Would provide mobility benefits through improvement of freeway operations and enhanced transit service in these corridors
- Analysis of Net Toll Revenue Grant Expenditures:
 - \$47 million in grants (Rounds 1 and 2)
 - 3% expended (\$1.4 million) in the past 3 years
- Since ExpressLanes have few outside funding sources, net revenues from existing and future ExpressLanes could be utilized to develop the network
 - Net revenues could be borrowed through a process of inter-fund borrowing
 - Since each ExpressLanes project has its own enterprise account, the amount of net revenue that is borrowed can be tracked



Transportation Demand Management



- TDM Strategies
 - Metro provides employers assistance with programs aimed at reducing single occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips to and from worksites (commuter benefits, transit and vanpool subsidies, Metro Rewards, etc.)
- Commuter Benefits
 - IRS Section 132(f) employers can provide a voluntary benefit to their employees which reduces their monthly commuting costs
 - Commuter Benefits Ordinance Working Group (CBOWG) has been established
 - The 2018 State Legislative Program will include a recommendation for the Board to support legislation that would expand authority for Metro or other entities to establish Commuter Benefit Programs

