

Key Findings and Recommendations

Key Findings		Recommendations
Overall Data Plan	Data informed stakeholders are better able to advocate for FSI continuity and success. FSI message documentation can make a significant difference in supporters for FSI.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Document GoPass and LIFE data into a lessons-learned format, vet internally the FSI Goals and Objectives, and coordinate media release 2. Utilize graphics and data visualizations to show the results of GoPass and LIFE programs. It increases community buy-in and program visibility, which can be translated into fund opportunities 3. Elaborate a cost-scenario analysis for FSI roll-out 4. Develop socio-economic benefit analysis followed by FSI business case (including return on investment) 5. Define FSI unique value proposition and initiate a community outreach campaign
Federal & State	FSI requires a combination of federal and state government grants, that together can form a funding mosaic for FSI Phase 2.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Continue efforts on monitoring and shaping legislation towards fare-free programs such as Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) that are aligned to FSI benefits and outcomes 7. Watch for federal and state funding application deadlines, Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) coming from Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE), Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Sustainable Transportation Equity Projects (STEP), Caltrans Low Carbon Transit Operation Program (LCTOP) and Housing and Urban Development grants (HUD). 8. Explore remaining ARPA budget availability from other municipalities and the willingness to fund FSI 9. Seek FTA waivers or exemptions to use FTA awards or grants for operating program expenditures – redefine portions of the FSI pilot program which may be eligible for capital funding to cover start-up expenses 10. Submit grant applications with transit equity impact related language or cost projections that can be earmarked for projects supporting disadvantaged communities as well as operational compliance with key Federal Justice40 requirements
LA Metro	FSI can leverage alternative revenue sources, such as toll round-up, pay-it-forward partnerships and philanthropic bulk purchases, as methods to achieve sustainable funding for fare-free programs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Leverage multiple fund sources and rebalance allocations as needed to align with shifting priorities within budget guidelines 12. Tailor outreach to gather support from legislators who will be champions and allies for the FSI Program 13. Further explore alternative revenues sources to support FSI (e.g., pay-it-forward program, toll round-up) 14. Revisit designated budget allocations for projects, such as projections for estimated fare revenue loss, that can subsidize operational expenses for equity-related programs like FSI 15. Continue to monitor compliance requirements for FTA Title VI Fare and Service Equity Analysis or Waiver
NGOs & Others	FSI can benefit from strong local coalition support that may drive political actions and long-term incentives for LA community (e.g. philanthropic donations, and industry partnerships)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Foster a marketing coalition with local business partners to gather awareness and pay-it-forward agreements to purchase bulk fares for low-income program enrollees. Connect with private sector companies that have large philanthropy and DEI budgets which align very well with opportunities to subsidize equitable travel and environmental justice initiatives to benefit their customer community. 17. Partner with NGO's and 501(c)(3) philanthropies who will purchase bulk fares for low-income enrollees using donations they collect. An example would be New York, MTA (Expanded MetroCard Bulk Sales Program).