

**Item #8: Response to Motion on Improved
Mobility through High-Speed Rail Projects
in LA County**



**Metro Board of Directors
Planning & Programming Committee
March 16, 2022**

Focus of Motion 46 (Barger, Najarian, Solis)

Position Metro and partners to secure funding from new opportunities for regional rail investment to advance projects in HSR-aligned commuter rail corridors

Possible new funding sources:

- State surplus
- New federal programs

Commuter rail corridors:

- Antelope Valley Line/AVL (HSR: Palmdale to LA)
- Orange County Line/OCL (HSR: LA to Anaheim)
- San Bernardino Line/SBL (HSR: LA to IE)

Build upon existing \$107 million in state funding awards (TIRCP) that leveraged \$113.8 million in local North County funding to improve service to Scenario 3 on AVL

Early Delivery HSR / Regional Rail Projects

Metro met with Metrolink, Amtrak and California HSR Authority to meet motion requests by:

- Identifying support for general concept
- Creating an inventory of projects (*Attachment B*)
- Update costs and readiness factors (as of February 2022)

Update: Project Management Funding Agreement (PMFA) will go to the HSR Board in April

Staff will continue to meet with partners to do the following:

- Discuss and develop evaluative criteria (incl. equity) for early delivery projects
- Discuss advocacy measures
- Update costs and readiness factors

Transformational Project List (Proposed)

Goal:

Position LA County to secure new funding for rail service improvements along key corridors

Transformational Project List (proposed)

- **Major Metrolink Upgrade Package to reach Service Scenario 4 on the AVL – per prior Metro AVL Feasibility Study**
 - Acton Downtown Double Track
 - Brighton to Roxford Double Track (Segments 2-4)
 - Via Princessa to Honby Double Track
 - Saugus to Hood Double Track
 - Vista Canyon Multimodal Maintenance Facility
- **Burbank to LA Third Track (AVL / VCL / LOSSAN)**
- **Lone Hill to White Double Track (SBL)**
- **Pioneer Boulevard Grade Separation (OCL / LOSSAN)**
- **Strategic / Value Engineered Tunneling between Palmdale – Santa Clarita (AVL)**
- **LA County Transportation Technology Center of Excellence and Proving Ground**

State and Federal Advocacy

1. **A \$16.5B Golden Opportunity Package of investments has been recommended to the State Legislature.**
2. **The Golden Opportunity Package includes a recommendation that the Legislature allocate \$1 billion to these types of projects.**
3. **CEO testimony on High-Speed Rail Business Plan.**
4. **Continued Advocacy in all budget related meetings.**
5. **Opportunities to create an ongoing funding stream.**
6. **Federal advocacy for future grant applications.**

Next Steps

- 1) Work with rail partners to develop appropriate criteria to be used to identify and prioritize LA County projects**
- 2) Continue to develop Federal Infrastructure and State surplus advocacy strategy and identify potential grant opportunities**
- 3) Create materials for advocacy (leave-behinds, etc.) to support advocacy**
- 4) Lead advocacy effort to create a dedicated funding source for next generation HSR-related capital projects aligned with this motion**