



GATEWAY CITIES
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

April 1, 2016

Artesia

Avalon

Bell

Bellflower

Bell Gardens

Cerritos

Commerce

Compton

Cudahy

Downey

Hawaiian Gardens

Huntington Park

Industry

La Habra Heights

La Mirada

Lakewood

Long Beach

Lynwood

Maywood

Montebello

Norwalk

Paramount

Pico Rivera

Santa Fe Springs

Signal Hill

South Gate

Vernon

Whittier

County of Los Angeles

Port of Long Beach

The Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas
Chairman, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Supervisor, Second District, County of Los Angeles
500 W Temple St #866
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisor Ridley-Thomas:

On behalf of the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG), we thank you for your support last month of Item 32.1, the West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor (Eco-Rapid Transit Project) and our effort to create sustainable transit oriented communities. The motion provided for Metro staff to return to the Board with a recommendation to create a program and allocate funding for a transit oriented communities program for the Eco-Rpaid Alignment.

We ask again for your support as we have worked closely with Metro staff to develop this initial scope of work to authorize the Metro Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to enter into a Funding Agreement with Gateway Cities Council of Governments for near term project activities.

The alignment cities are committed to working together and supporting the implementation of this project. The entire COG supports this effort and has determined that the Eco-Rapid/West Santa Ana Branch project is the COG's top transit project priority. We will build upon the Los Angeles County Economic Development Strategy and the Metro Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Round 2 funded Eco-Rapid Transit TOD Guidelines. Eco-Rapid Transit will use this project to empower our communities and create partnerships built on common economic development and quality of life goals and objectives. With your help, we are starting this now.

Again, thank you very much. We support this item and look forward to working with Metro to create sustainable transit oriented communities in this corridor.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Powers, Executive Director
Gateway Cities Council of Governments



Eco-Rapid Transit, formerly known as the Orangeline Development Authority, is a joint powers authority (JPA) created to pursue development of a transit system that moves as rapidly as possible, uses grade separation as appropriate, and is environmentally friendly and energy efficient. The system is designed to enhance and increase transportation options for riders of this region utilizing safe, advanced transit technology to expand economic growth that maximizes ridership in Southern California. The Authority is composed of the following public agencies:

- City of Artesia
 - City of Bell
 - City of Bell Gardens
 - City of Bellflower
 - City of Cudahy
 - City of Downey
 - City of Glendale
 - City of Huntington Park
 - City of Maywood
 - City of Paramount
 - City of South Gate
 - City of Vernon
 - Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority
- Chair
- Maria Davila
Council Member
City of South Gate
- Vice Chairman
- Zareh Sinanyan
Council Member
City of Glendale
- Secretary
- Cristian Markovich
Mayor
City of Cudahy
- Treasurer
- Michael McCormick
Mayor
City of Vernon
- Internal Auditor
- Ali Sajjad Taj
Mayor Pro Tem
City of Artesia
- Executive Director
Michael R. Kodama
- General Counsel
Teresa L. Highsmith
- Ex-Officio
Rene Bobadilla
City Manager Representative

March 31, 2016

The Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas
Chairman, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Supervisor, Second District, County of Los Angeles
500 W Temple St #866
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisor Ridley-Thomas,

On behalf of Eco-Rapid Transit, we thank you for your support last month of Item 32.1, the West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor (Eco-Rapid Transit Project) and our effort to create sustainable transit oriented communities. We ask again for your support as we have worked closely with Metro staff to develop this initial scope of work to authorize the Metro Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to enter into a Funding Agreement with Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG) for near term project activities.

Our cities along this alignment are committed to working together and supporting the implementation of this project. We will build upon the Los Angeles County Economic Development Strategy and the Metro TOD Round 2 funded Eco-Rapid Transit TOD Guidelines. Eco-Rapid Transit will use this project to empower our communities and create partnerships built on common economic development and quality of life goals and objectives. With your help, we are starting this now.

Again, thank you very much. We support this item and look forward to working with Metro to create sustainable transit oriented communities in this corridor.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Kodama
Executive Director, Eco-Rapid Transit