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Alliance of Local Transit Operators

November 14, 2024

Stephanie N. Wiggins, Chief Executive Officer Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority One Gateway Plaza Mail Stop: 99-25-1 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Revised Proposition A Incentive Guidelines for the Subregional Paratransit Program

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

On behalf of The Alliance of Local Transit Operators (The Alliance), a group representing over forty Los Angeles County Local Operators, we would like to take this opportunity to affirm our support for the revised Proposition A Incentive Guidelines for the Subregional Paratransit program being brought before the Board for approval.

As noted in our February 5, 2024, letter to you, due to the post-pandemic effects on ridership and the continued vulnerability of the older adult and disabled community, the primary population served by subregional paratransit, the Fiscal Year 2023 data demonstrated that the Local Transit Operators are still struggling to meet Proposition A subregional paratransit program standards which were last updated in 2001.

Since the last adoption of the Proposition A Incentive Guidelines over twenty-three years ago, 26% of participating agencies have had to discontinue providing subregional paratransit transportation due to challenges in being able to meet outdated standards that were established in a very different demand and technology environment. This reduction of agencies participating in the Proposition A Incentive program has further limited subregional paratransit options in the region for the most vulnerable in our communities.

The Alliance members worked extensively with Metro staff through the Local Transit Systems Subcommittee Working Group to reach consensus on updates to the Proposition A Incentive Guidelines. These proposed guidelines streamline the subregional paratransit performance measures used to determine fund allocation, make the standards more relevant per the shift in the demand conditions and the technologies available today, and provide more reliable and predictable annual funding levels.

We appreciate your support in the ongoing effort to build consensus and regional collaboration between LA Metro and The Alliance members to provide intra-community public transportation services for paratransit and specialized transit services.

Sincerely,

Sebastián Andrés Hernández, City of Pasadena On behalf of The Alliance of Local Transit Operators

cc: Nalini Ahuja, LA Metro Michelle Navarro, LA Metro Chelsea Meister, LA Metro

Transportation Authority