



April 15, 2025

Metro Board of Directors
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Re: Support for Arts District EIFD to Fund the Southeast Gateway Line Phase 2 Underground

Dear Metro Board of Directors,

I write to you today as the Executive Director of FASTLinkDTLA and the former Chairwoman and member of the California Transportation Commission. One of FASTLinkDTLA's important projects is DTLA Mobility for All – a coalition of organizations advocating for infrastructure investments that improve mobility for everyone by ensuring that our sidewalks, transit stations and curbs are universally accessible. FASTLinkDTLA is also a Transportation Management Organization (TMO) dedicated to enhancing DTLA's mobility, universal accessibility, livability, and economic prosperity.

Metro's large-scale infrastructure projects, and the methodology it uses to determine the manner of infrastructure it will deliver, greatly impacts Downtown's transit ridership and the community's willingness to reduce its use of personal vehicles in favor of transit use and active transportation.

Phase 2 of the Southeast Gateway Line is a prime example of methodology making a big impact. Since the line's inception, it was always planned to be built underground through Downtown Los Angeles. Going underground makes sense because of the current and future densities in Downtown, especially along the Alameda Corridor and the Arts District and Little Tokyo.

The newly approved DTLA 2040 Community Plan codifies the goal of increasing transit use by outlining Downtown's transit, housing, and economic development goals. Specific transportation goals include:

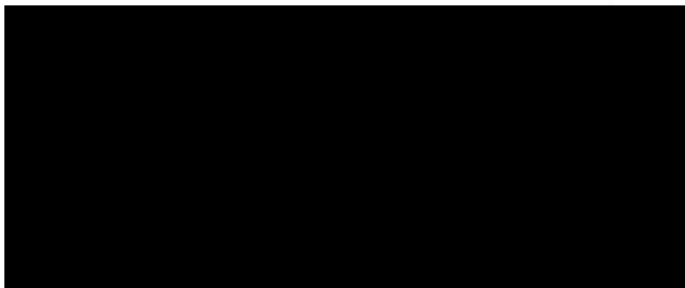
- Eliminating parking minimums to encourage more transit ridership
- Promoting transit, bicycle, and pedestrian-friendly environments
- Creating linkages between districts
- Fostering a world-class street and sidewalk network and public realm

FASTLinkDTLA
DTLA Headquarters: 525 South Hewitt Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013
5120 Highland View Avenue, Eagle Rock, CA 90041
hilary@FASTLinkDTLA.org

Undergrounding Phase 2 of the Southeast Gateway Line will give Metro and Downtown Los Angeles communities the best opportunity to meet not only these transportation objectives, but our greater housing, economic development, and environmental objectives as well. It will foster interconnected systems of transit while creating space for economic development and multi-modal transit opportunities such as streetcars, buses, biking, and walking. Connectivity increases access to mobility, and mobility spurs economic growth. All of this will facilitate less reliance on cars, decreasing our city's greenhouse gas emissions, and deliver new transit stations that are universally accessible.

With the immense opportunity to simultaneously address multiple DTLA-wide and regional public policy goals, finding pathways to fund Phase 2 should be prioritized. I support Metro's consideration of a value capture tool to ensure the line is built underground, and help connect mobility projects that the communities Downtown and along the LA River such as the Arts District. Supporting projects include the Sixth Street Station envisioned next to the Sixth Street Viaduct, the Los Angeles River Bikeway, and the LA Streetcar. The Alameda Corridor and Arts District's large, underutilized parcels that have been re-zoned through the DTLA 2040 Community Plan are prime fiscal, legislative, and community conditions for a transformative Enhanced Infrastructure Finance District (EIFD) to fund undergrounding and supporting projects.

Undergrounding Phase 2 is the ideal path for DTLA's current and future universal mobility needs, and creating an EIFD to support the budget needed is timely. Please join FASTLinkDTLA in supporting this important opportunity to increase transit ridership regionally and enhance the community, transit accessibility and economy locally in Downtown Los Angeles.



CC: The Honorable Hilda Solis, LA County Supervisor and Metro Board Member
The Honorable Karen Bass, Mayor of Los Angeles and Metro Board Member
The Honorable Councilwoman Ysabel Jurado, Council District 14
Metro Board members

FASTLinkDTLA

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March 27, 2025

The Honorable Chair Janice Hahn
Metro Board of Directors
Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza, Mailstop # 99-13-1
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Letter of Support for Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor Project – Segment B

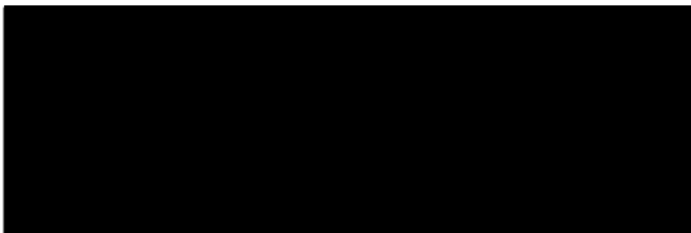
Dear Chair Hahn,

We appreciate the efforts that Metro, in coordination with the various cities and the County, are making to inform the community about the Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor Segment B Project to provide a safe pathway for cyclists, pedestrians, and motorists via Randolph Street. The City of Bell has been involved in this important project for 2 years. It understands the important connections it will provide to the residents of Bell, Commerce, Huntington Park, and the Florence-Firestone community. Once fully built, the project will create a safe and continuous corridor for biking and walking, extending approximately 4 miles east along Randolph Street from the A Line Slauson Station to the Los Angeles River.

Please accept this letter of support for the Project. As you continue working with the various cities and making progress, please consider the opportunities and challenges related to design, safety, economic development, and employment in this region as it grows.

Thank you for your efforts and leadership on this important project.

Please contact Interim Public Works Director John Oskoui at joskoui@cityofbell.org with any questions.



cc: Metro Board of Directors



CITY OF COMMERCE

April 3, 2025

The Honorable Chair Janice Hahn
Metro Board of Directors
Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza, Mailstop # 99-13-1
Los Angeles, CA 90012
RE: Letter of Support for Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor Project – Segment B

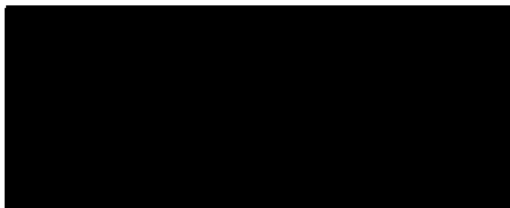
Dear Chair Hahn,

We appreciate the efforts that Metro, in coordination with the various cities and County, are doing to inform the community about the Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor Segment B Project to provide a safe pathway for cyclists, pedestrians and motorists via Randolph Street. The City of Commerce has been involved in this important project for some time and understands the important connections it will provide to the residents of Bell, Commerce, Huntington Park and the Florence-Firestone community. Once fully built, the project will create a safe and continuous corridor for biking and walking, extending approximately 4 miles east along Randolph St from the A Line Slauson Station to the Los Angeles River.

Please accept this letter of support for the Project. As you continue working with the various cities, and continue making progress, please consider the opportunities and challenges related to design, safety, economic development and employment in this region as it continues to grow.

Thank you for your efforts and leadership on this important project.

Please contact Mohammad Mostahkami at mohammad.mostahkami@transtech.org, or at 949-402-5903 with any questions.



cc: Metro Board of Directors