

# City of Alhambra

Office of the City Manager

May 14, 2024

Michelle Smith, Manager  
 LAMTA Highway Program  
 One Gateway Plaza, Pail Stop 99022-8  
 Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Request to Replace Fremont Avenue Traffic Improvements (Valley to Mission) (Project No. MR1.1.2.01) in the amount of \$14.4 Million with Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements**

Dear Ms. Smith:

On behalf of the City of Alhambra, we appreciate the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board's decision (Motion 35) of February 24, 2022 clarifying eligible uses for SR-710 North Mobility Improvement Projects and providing for certain considerations including bikeway projects and pedestrian safety improvements, which align with the purpose and need of the 710 Project to effectively and efficiently accommodate regional and local travel while reducing congestion and minimizing environmental impacts related to mobile sources. By facilitating such flexibility, bikeway and pedestrian safety efforts encourage more active transportation and, consequently, create a more comprehensive transportation system suitable for Alhambra's current and future needs.

Motion 35 also enabled greater opportunity for communities to revise their scope of work or propose a replacement project if the jurisdiction can take advantage of the new eligible uses. Between 2022-2024, the City of Alhambra spent valuable resources developing its Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan. The Plan provides a framework of the City's active transportation enhancements over the next several years. As part of this Plan, the City can mobilize a Basic Bicycle Network (19.5 miles) or a Full Bicycle Network (42.6 miles) to help reduce congestion and improve safety. The Plan also addresses pedestrian improvements, with emphasis on traffic calming and barrier removal in eight priority zone locations to encourage more walking, reduce conflicts, and promote a healthier community.

On March 11, 2024, after considerable public engagement, review, and comment, the Alhambra City Council unanimously adopted Alhambra's first Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan. In addition, on May 13, 2024, the Council directed the immediate implementation of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan through a combination of the City's Measure R allocation under the 710 MIPs and other transportation and grant resources.



*Gateway  
to the  
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*111  
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California  
91801*

*626  
570-5010*

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The total minimum amount of funds needed to implement Alhambra's Plan are \$29 million-- \$14 million, if implementing high comfort bike lanes plus \$15 million for various pedestrian enhancements including bulb outs, pedestrian crossings, and beacons at eight priority zone locations. The City will not be executing Fremont Project (MR 1.1.2.01); hence, there are \$14.4 million dollars currently available for the City to utilize for other eligible Measure R purposes. For the balance of the Plan's projects, the City will be utilizing (if awarded) other transportation dollars including funding from the Cal Trans Active Transportation Program and Safe Streets for All.

At this time, based on updated Measure R criteria received from Metro; the adoption of the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan; City Council direction and Alhambra's intention to withdraw the Fremont Avenue Traffic Improvements Project, the City would like to respectfully request Metro's approval for Alhambra's Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements Project from MIP funding under Alhambra's previously approved MIP allocation. As discussed with Metro staff on March 27, 2024 and April 3, 2024, this new active transportation project will yield a variety of community benefits, which details are summarized in the attachment herein and/or in Alhambra's Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Plan, which be viewed via the City's website at [https://www.cityofalhambra.org/DocumentCenter/View/5231/Alhambra plan-final-export-3\\_7\\_24-1](https://www.cityofalhambra.org/DocumentCenter/View/5231/Alhambra_plan-final-export-3_7_24-1).

We wish to thank you, of course, for hearing and responding to Alhambra's interests. As always, we look forward to our continued partnership with Metro and to executing these important community endeavors.

Sincerely,



Jessica Binnquist  
City Manager  
City of Alhambra