

The Los Angeles Coalition

A COALITION FOR THE ECONOMY & JOBS IN LOS ANGELES



September 10, 2018

Hon. Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

As leaders of the Los Angeles Coalition for the Economy & Jobs, we are writing to respectfully request that the U.S. Department of Transportation continue to support the Westside Purple Line Extension Section 3 project's path towards a Full Funding Grant Agreement.

The Los Angeles Coalition for the Economy & Jobs is an independent and bipartisan alliance that brings together leaders from the business, labor, academia and nonprofit communities to advance sound policies that help to responsibly grow the economy and create quality jobs throughout the region. As a group, the L.A. Coalition's membership represents organizations that employ hundreds of thousands of workers across L.A. County.

We are encouraged that the Federal Transit Administration recently cleared the Westside Purple Line Extension Section 3 project to enter into the New Start Engineering phase, a key step towards securing a Full Funding Grant Agreement through the Capital Investment Grant Program.

As you may know, in November 2016 the people of L.A. County overwhelmingly approved - 71.15 percent support - Measure M to invest \$120 billion throughout the next 40 years to build a 21st century public transit system. These local funds, when matched and leveraged with federal New Starts grant funds, will continue to accelerate the flow of dollars into our transportation system and communities, stimulating much needed job creation throughout the region.

This model partnership is also setting a great example of how local regions, like L.A., are able to provide a majority of funds to build major transit projects, while mitigating the financial burden on the federal government.

The Westside Purple Line Extension is one of L.A.'s most significant public transit projects. The Administration's and the Department's support for this project will put well over 20,000 people to work, increase mobility in one of the nation's most densely populated regions, provide residents in L.A.'s high unemployment areas a better transportation option into a part of the region that is creating more job opportunities and it will improve the economic and environmental health of Los Angeles County's 10 million residents.


This project is especially important because this transit line will serve many of the major venues for the coming 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games which will be hosted by the City of L.A. and will also provide enhanced access to UCLA/Westwood area (home to over 80,000 students and employees) and to the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration Campus.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of our correspondence. Please do not hesitate to contact us at 310/714-9473 with any questions regarding this letter.

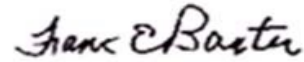
Sincerely,



Russell Goldsmith
Coalition Chairman &
City National Bank
Chairman & CEO



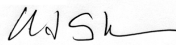
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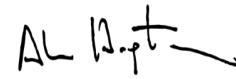
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Theodore F. Craver, Jr.
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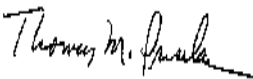
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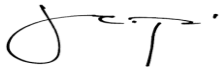
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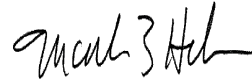
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Cc: K. Jane Williams, Acting Administrator, Federal Transit Administration