

High Desert Corridor
Joint Powers Authority

September 28, 2016

Meeting Materials

Item 3

Correspondence



High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority



E-220 HIGH DESERT CORRIDOR

June 3, 2016

Phil Washington
Chief Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Dear Mr. Washington:

On June 1, 2016, we discussed the ½ cent Proposed Ballot Measure (PBM) at our High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority (HDCJPA) Board meeting, and are happy to see support for the High Desert Multipurpose Corridor included in the preliminary PBM. We realize that your Board of Directors will be considering the specifics of the PBM at its June meeting, and that time is of the essence. There are two (2) changes that we would strongly encourage you make in the final documents presented to your Board for their consideration.

1. We recommend that the High Desert Multipurpose Corridor (HDMC), as approved by your Board, be shown as a unique type of project; one that has high speed passenger rail, green energy and active transportation (bikeway) components in addition to the highway component. The HDMC is NOT exclusively a highway project.

Metro Board action defined the HDC as a Multipurpose Corridor, and showing it only in the Highway category, it makes the HDMC a target for anti-highway environmental groups that do not understand the built in mitigation.

The high speed passenger rail part of the project, as well as the Green Corridor's promotion of renewable energy, and the Bikeway connectivity all specifically mitigate highway VMT and reduce carbon emissions.

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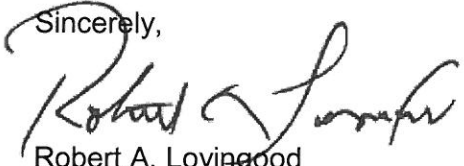


2. We recommend that the funds proposed for the project (\$170 million of Metro funds) NOT be earmarked for a specific purpose such as Right of Way acquisition.

As a proposed P3 project, we are trying to attract significant private sector dollars, and we need maximum flexibility in when and how the limited public funds can be used to advance the multipurpose project to a successful completion.

In summary, the High Desert Multipurpose Corridor project is very popular and supported by our Los Angeles County (and San Bernardino County) member agencies. We are very impressed with your leadership in developing support for continued investments in our transportation infrastructure. We also support your efforts to extend the time period to 50 years. With the recommended changes outlined above, we would heartily help in publicizing support for the PBM.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Lovingood
San Bernardino County First District Supervisor
Chairman, High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority

RAL:LH:day

c: High Desert Corridor JPA Board of Directors