



February 16, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor  
State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Toni G. Akins  
President Pro Tem  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 8518  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Anthony Portantino  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Ste. 7630  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Senate Budget Committee  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 8630  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Anthony Rendon  
Speaker, California State Assembly  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 8330  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Chris R. Holden  
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 5650  
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Philip Y. Ting  
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 8230  
Sacramento, California 95814

**SUBJECT: URGING SUPPORT FOR FOOTHILL GOLD LINE BUDGET REQUEST**

Dear Governor Newsom and Legislators:

I am writing to urge your support of the budget appropriation request of \$748,000,000 to complete the shovel-ready, zero-emission Foothill Gold Line light rail project from Glendora to Montclair. The Foothill Gold Line is a project that will serve not only the San Gabriel Valley, but also the Southern California region by expanding transit opportunities for residents, workers, students and visitors of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties; extending light rail service through one of the most congested and smoggiest corridors in the nation.

At this time, the westernmost 9.1-mile, four-station segment of the project is under construction and is on track to be completed in early 2025. The current appropriations request represents the funding needed to complete the entire 12.3-mile, six-station project by 2028. This project is

environmentally cleared, has completed extensive design and is ready to go into construction if the funding shortfall is secured. It is truly shovel-ready.

The Foothill Gold Line light rail project has strong support at every level (community, local, state and federal) and its' benefits to the region are significant. However, completing the currently unfunded final three-mile, two-station project segment to Claremont and Montclair is critical to realizing the majority of environmental and mobility benefits of the project overall:

- Completing the two final stations at Claremont and Montclair is expected to generate more than half of the six-station's ridership projections; eliminating 53% of the car trips and nearly 60% of the vehicle miles traveled expected overall.
  - Extending the line to Claremont and Montclair is expected to add **7,700 boardings each weekday** to the LA County Metro transit system in 2028; eliminating 14,900 car trips each day opening year.
  - Trips from these two stations alone are projected to **reduce 26.7 million vehicle miles traveled annually; eliminating an estimated 1.75 million MTCO<sub>2e</sub>** over the life of the project.
- The public investment in the Foothill Gold Line continues to be a catalyst for private investment and much-needed housing within walking distance to transit:
  - To date, more than \$13 billion in private investment in residential and commercial development has occurred within 1/2-mile of a current and future station; with an estimated \$9 billion in additional investment planned.
  - Since 2003, 19,200 housing units have already been built around Foothill Gold Line stations, with an estimated 17,000 more housing units planned - **more than 10,000 of the planned units are near the Claremont and Montclair Stations.**
- Completing the Foothill Gold Line to Claremont and Montclair creates important direct connections:
  - At Montclair, riders will have more than a dozen direct bus connections to destinations throughout the Inland Empire - and soon to outside of the region, with a new Amtrak stop.
  - In Claremont, the station will connect thousands of students, faculty and staff traveling to and from the city's 10 colleges.

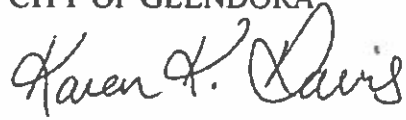
The entire project to Montclair can be completed by 2028 if this funding request is approved during this budget cycle. This would allow light rail service to be extended to the fastest growing cities in the San Gabriel Valley and provide a sustainable and reliable alternative for the nearly three million trips being made each day within and through the Foothill Gold Line corridor cities - **only 3 percent of which are currently made by transit.**

Since embarking on the Foothill Gold Line, LA County taxpayers have invested more than \$3 billion in this light rail system. This appropriation request would close the final funding gap and enable this important infrastructure system to be completed to its planned terminus, realizing its full environmental and mobility benefits for the region.

I therefore respectfully urge your favorable consideration of the requested appropriation of state funds to support the completion of the Foothill Gold Line light rail project.

Yours truly,

CITY OF GLENDORA

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen K. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "K".

Karen K. Davis, Mayor

Cc: Ronda Paschal, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor  
Mark McKenzie, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Jay Dickenson, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Jennifer Galehouse, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Hans Hemann, Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
Habib F. Balian, Foothill Gold Line