



CITY OF GLENDORA

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August 11, 2022

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR FOOTHILL GOLD LINE BUDGET REQUEST

Dear Governor Newsom and Legislators:

As you enter the final days of the legislative session, I am writing to once again strongly urge your support of the one-time budget appropriation request of \$748,000,000 to **complete the shovel-ready, zero-emission Foothill Gold Line light rail project from Glendora to Montclair before costs to complete this important project rise again**. 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.

PRIDE OF THE FOOTHILLS

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 one-time 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 most of the 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_{2e}** 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; an estimated \$9 billion in additional investment planned or underway.
 - To date, 19,200 housing units have already been built around Foothill Gold Line stations, with an estimated 17,000 more housing units planned or underway now - **more than 10,000 of the planned housing units are at the unfunded 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 now to outside of the region, with a new Greyhound 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.

Finally, the cost to complete this project continues to increase every year that it is not underway. We urge you to take advantage of the funding available now to complete this important regional project through a one-time funding request before the cost increases again.

Let's not lose this opportunity to make a significant difference for the future of our region's environmental health and for the people of Southern California. I urge you to support providing the funding needed to complete the Foothill Gold Line light rail project now.

Yours truly,



Karen K. Davis
Mayor

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