

# City of Glendora | City Hall

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April 20, 2023

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

The Honorable Toni G. Atkins  
Senate President Pro Tempore  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 8518  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 8830  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Maria Elena Durazo  
Chair, Budget Subcommittee 5  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Suite 4710  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

The Honorable Phil Ting  
Chair, Committee on Budget  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 8230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Steve Bennett  
Chair, Budget Subcommittee 3  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 4710  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## **RE: URGING FULL FUNDING FOR TRANSIT IN FINAL BUDGET**

Dear Honorable Governor, and Honorable Senate and Assembly Leadership:

Over the past several years, the State has partnered with Los Angeles to make critically needed investments in the county's expanding rail network. Those investments are making a difference in helping expand transit opportunities that improve mobility, reduce greenhouse gases and improve air quality for the millions of Californians that live and work throughout Los Angeles - but more is needed.

Last year, the Legislature approved an important bill - SB198 - to fund \$4 billion over the next two years to support continued investment in transit growth; but the current proposed budget has the funding reduced in half. We respectfully request that you reject the proposed cuts and include the full \$4 billion in this year's budget to be allocated over the next two years.

Those funds would be used to support the impressive transit expansion program underway throughout Los Angeles County, including completing a critical project – the Gold (L) Line Foothill Extension light rail project from Pomona to Montclair. In March, the LA Metro Board unanimously identified completing the Foothill Extension project as the agency’s top priority for future State funds.

The Foothill Extension project will complete the final two stations of a 25-station system that has been underway since the late 1990s and mostly paid for by LA County taxpayers through Propositions A and C and most recently Measures R and M.

The Foothill Extension is a truly shovel ready project that will start creating an estimated 5,500 jobs, \$860,000,000 in economic output, \$345,000,000 in labor income and \$13,000,000 in tax revenue right away during construction. Once completed, it will expand transit opportunities for millions of California residents, workers, students and visitors from Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties - extending zero-emission light rail service through one of the most congested and smoggiest corridors in the nation.

Completing the final two-station segment of the 25-station Foothill Extension system has strong and unilateral support at all levels (community, local, state and federal), and provides significant mobility and environmental benefits for the region and the State. The two final stations alone are expected to increase daily boardings on the Metro system by 7,700 boardings each weekday opening year - eliminating 14,900 car trips each day and reducing 26.7 million vehicle miles traveled annually (eliminating an estimated 1.75 million MTCO<sub>2e</sub> over the life of the project).

Additionally, the public investment in this one line of the Metro system 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 already planned – including projects that would fulfill the need for **more than 10,000 housing units to be built near the final two stations in Claremont and Montclair.**

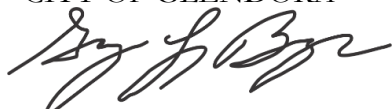
The shovel-ready project from Pomona to Montclair can be completed within five years of being funded; quickly providing a sustainable and reliable alternative for the nearly three million trips being made each day between western San Bernardino County and eastern Los Angeles County - only 3 percent of which are currently made by transit.

A robust and strong transit network is essential to keeping our economy moving, improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions; but the cost to build these major infrastructure projects continues to rise every year. We must not slow down. We need the State’s continuing partnership to complete projects that are shovel-ready, like the Foothill Extension.

We therefore respectfully urge the Legislature to fully fund transit in this year’s budget.

Sincerely,

CITY OF GLENDORA



Gary Boyer, Mayor

C: Senator Susan Rubio  
Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez  
Assembly Member Chris Holden  
Ronda Paschal, Deputy Legislative Secretary for Transportation, Office of the Governor  
Habib F. Balian, CEO, Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority