



Eco-Rapid Transit, formerly known as the Orangeline Development Authority, is a joint powers authority (JPA) created to pursue development of a transit system that moves as rapidly as possible, uses grade separation as appropriate, and is environmentally friendly and energy efficient. The system is designed to enhance and increase transportation options for riders of this region utilizing safe, advanced transit technology to expand economic growth that maximizes ridership in Southern California. The Authority is composed of the following public agencies:

City of Artesia
City of Bell
City of Bell Gardens
City of Bellflower
City of Cudahy
City of Downey
City of Glendale
City of Huntington Park
City of Maywood
City of Paramount
City of South Gate
City of Vernon
Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena
Airport Authority

Chair

Maria Davila
Council Member
City of South Gate

Vice Chairman

Zareh Sinanyan
Council Member
City of Glendale

Secretary

Cristian Markovich
Mayor
City of Cudahy

Treasurer

Michael McCormick
Mayor
City of Vernon

Internal Auditor

Ali Sajjad Taj
Mayor Pro Tem
City of Artesia

Executive Director

Michael R. Kodama

General Counsel

Teresa L. Highsmith

Ex-Officio

Rene Bobadilla
City Manager Representative

***** PRESS RELEASE *****

Eco-Rapid Transit Moving Forward – Metro Approves \$18 Million for Corridor Planning

Paramount CA – March 3, 2016

Eco-Rapid Transit is moving forward with its partners on plans to make the West Santa Ana Branch a reality that will connect communities, create jobs and generate economic opportunities.

Last week, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) approved, on an 11 to 0 vote, \$18 million of Measure R funds for predevelopment and planning of Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) along the West Santa Ana Branch. Transit Oriented Communities will be a local and regional partnership that creates sustainable jobs, green space, healthy communities and infrastructure planning along the entire corridor. This board motion was sponsored by Metro Board Members Diane DuBois, Don Knabe, Eric Garcetti and Hilda Solis.

Eco-Rapid Transit Board Chair and City of South Gate Councilmember said, "I am very excited and pleased that the Metro Board of Directors approved this allocation of funds to our communities. These planning dollars enable us to work together and bring environmental and social justice to our disadvantaged communities. It brings jobs and economic opportunities for our cities."

State Senator Tony Mendoza added, "I am extremely pleased that the MTA Board of Directors voted to allocate eighteen million dollars of Measure R funds for the ECO-RAPID transit rail project. There has been tremendous support shown from statewide and regional leaders for this project which will transform our region and provide much-needed transportation options for the Gateway Cities' residents.

This builds upon recent efforts of Eco-Rapid Transit. On February 19, 2016, Eco-Rapid Transit and Senator Tony Mendoza hosted a group of legislators in Paramount. Mendoza and Davila said the meeting was a call to action for predevelopment planning and to push for transportation funding.

Metro Board Director and Lakewood City Councilwoman Diane DuBois and Metro CEO Phil Washington talked about the West Santa Ana Branch Transit corridor project and what it could mean to have this line that would run from Artesia to Downtown Los Angeles.

Downey City Councilman Luis Marquez, the immediate past chair of Eco-Rapid Transit, discussed why this is important to our area and said, "This project is so important for our communities. We are all in this together." The 20-mile line will serve an estimated 70,000 people per day and cost approximately \$4.3 to \$4.6 billion. It includes potential stations serving Artesia, Bellflower, Paramount, Downey, South Gate, Bell, Cudahy, Huntington Park and Vernon. It includes connectivity to Maywood, and Bell Gardens.



Eco-Rapid Transit, formerly known as the Orangeline Development Authority, is a joint powers authority (JPA) created to pursue development of a transit system that moves as rapidly as possible, uses grade separation as appropriate, and is environmentally friendly and energy efficient. The system is designed to enhance and increase transportation options for riders of this region utilizing safe, advanced transit technology to expand economic growth that maximizes ridership in Southern California. The Authority is composed of the following public agencies:

City of Artesia

City of Bell

City of Bell Gardens

City of Bellflower

City of Cudahy

City of Downey

City of Glendale

City of Huntington Park

City of Maywood

City of Paramount

City of South Gate

City of Vernon

Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena
Airport Authority

Chair

Maria Davila
Council Member
City of South Gate

Vice Chairman

Zareh Sinanyan
Council Member
City of Glendale

Secretary

Cristian Markovich
Mayor
City of Cudahy

Treasurer

Michael McCormick
Mayor
City of Vernon

Internal Auditor

Ali Sajjad Taj
Mayor Pro Tem
City of Artesia

Executive Director

Michael R. Kodama

General Counsel

Teresa L. Highsmith

Ex-Officio

Rene Bobadilla
City Manager Representative

Eco-Rapid Transit Eco-Rapid Transit is a joint powers authority with 13 members created to develop a transit system that is environmentally friendly and energy efficient. It is designed to enhance and increase transportation options for riders of the gateway region, utilizing safe, and advanced transportation technology to expand economic growth that will benefit Southern California.

For more information, about Eco-Rapid Transit, please visit www.eco-rapid.org

Press contact: Michael R Kodama, Executive Director

Telephone: 562-663-6850

Cell: 818-468-8593

mkodama@eco-rapid.org