



WESTSIDE CITIES

- BEVERLY HILLS
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For Immediate Release
June 26, 2008
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Westside Cities Council of Governments Pleads for Congestion Relief *Urges Metro Board to Adopt Priorities in Long Range Transportation Plan*

Los Angeles, CA – With residents and commuters desperate for transportation options, the Westside Cities Council of Governments (COG) appealed to the Metro Board of Directors to adopt the priorities identified in its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Home to some of the worst traffic jams in the United States, the Westside Cities COG cited the importance of critical projects needed to relieve traffic congestion and provide mass transit opportunities to residents, visitors and workers.

Confronted with limited opportunities to expand existing roadways, the Westside Cities COG identified projects listed in the LRTP which provide a significant opportunity to expand needed public transportation capacity to the Westside. Benefiting the whole region, these projects link existing regional transit to the major employment and entertainment centers of the Westside, sustaining the regions economic health and reducing the air pollution and carbon dioxide emissions associated with Westside traffic gridlock.

The three priority projects identified by the Westside Cities COG to provide desperately-needed congestion relief on the Westside included the Exposition Light Rail Phase II completed all the way to Santa Monica, which has projected boardings of at least 62,000 per day, the Westside Subway Extension and the I-10/Robertson/National Area Circulation Improvement Project, one of the few freeway improvements on the Westside.

“No community in Los Angeles County is immune from the congestion. Our quality of life will continue to suffer throughout our region if we don’t act soon to build new rail projects and significantly improve our transportation network and infrastructure,” said Linda Briskman, Chair of the Westside Cities Council of Governments and City of Beverly Hills Councilmember. “Through a rigorous process, the Metro Board previously prioritized projects across the County and we urge the Board to adhere to those priorities so that critical projects can be completed on time,” she continued.