



ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO  
Mayor

PEGGY LEMONS  
Vice Mayor

ISABEL AGUAYO  
Councilmember

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Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS  
Councilmember

September 25, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary of Transportation  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**RE: Support for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
I-710 Planning Study: Reconnecting the Long Beach-East LA Corridor  
Communities Plan**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the City of Paramount, I am writing in support of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), in partnership with the California Department of Transportation, application for Fiscal Year 2024 Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Program funding for the I-710 Planning Study: Reconnecting the Long Beach-East LA Corridor Communities ("the Plan").

The Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program aims to advance community-centered transportation connection projects, with a priority for projects that benefit disadvantaged communities, by removing retrofitting or mitigating transportation facilities that create a physical barrier to community connectivity. The RCP Program goals is to improve access to daily needs such as jobs, education, healthcare, food, nature, and recreation, and foster equitable development and restoration, and provide technical assistance to further these goals.

LA Metro is seeking Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program funding for planning activities related to mitigating and removing the barriers that divide communities on both sides of the I-710. The Plan will prioritize projects to bridge the divide created by the I-710 freeway for approximately 19 miles from Long Beach all the way north to East Los Angeles. The I-710 South Corridor connects the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles with shipping and warehousing facilities in Southern California, and the corridor's 1.2 million residents, over 80 percent of whom identify as Black or Hispanic, face some of the worst air quality in the country. According to DOT's Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, approximately 72% of census tracts in the study area are considered disadvantaged. This planning effort would build on work completed through the Metro

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Board approved Long Beach-East LA Corridor Mobility Investment Plan (CMIP) to analyze and prioritize projects that respond to the community's needs.

For these reasons, the City of Paramount fully supports Metro as they seek Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program resources for this community-driven Plan to bring restorative justice to historically burdened communities. We appreciate your favorable consideration of Metro's grant request. Please feel free to contact City Manager John Moreno at (562) 220-2225, if you have any questions. We thank you for your time and consideration.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT



Annette C. Delgadillo  
Mayor

Cc: Honorable Congresswoman Nanette Barragan, 44<sup>th</sup> District  
Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District  
Honorable Assembly Speaker Emeritus Anthony Rendon, 62nd District  
Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Director, League of California Cities  
Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California Contract Cities Association