



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Tab 102

213.922.2000 Tel
metro.net

August 17, 2026

Ms. Tanisha Taylor, Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street, MS 52
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Tab 102

Dear Director Taylor:

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) would like to add our strong support for the City of Los Angeles' scope change request. The support letter from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) also reflects our position. We offer this letter to expand on two points from SCAG's letter.

Local and Regional Funding Contributions. The project represents a significant step toward closing the gap in the LA River Greenway in the San Fernando Valley, which in turn helps complete the 51-mile LA River Bike Path through the rest of LA County. Recognizing the importance of closing this gap, LA County voters approved Measure M (a ½-cent transportation sales tax), with \$60 million specifically set aside for the LA River Greenway, \$24 million of which is committed to this project. Measure M funds provide leverage to secure additional state and federal funding needed to complete all segments of the Greenway. To that end, Metro has been working closely with the City to secure grants for the various segments, including this ATP grant for Segments 1 and 2 and additional ATP and STIP grants for other segments. We have also awarded \$10 million to this project through our Metro Active Transport Program.

2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. There is also an urgent need for this project to move forward to support car-free travel during the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Metro is leading other efforts to improve and create car-free travel options for the Games, including first/last mile connections and a supplemental bus system. This project will add to the available options and is especially important for its connection to the Sepulveda Basin Recreation Area, which will host competitions in six sports (including sports on bikes and skateboards!).

We support the City's efforts to responsibly deliver the project with the resources it has secured and respectfully request your approval.

Sincerely,

E-SIGNED by laurie lombardi
on 2026-08-17 13:33:43 MST

Laurie Lombardi
Senior Executive Officer
Countywide Planning and Development



BikeLA
10575 Virginia Ave
Culver City, CA 90232
www.la-bike.org

August 15, 2026

California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street, MS-52
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Scope Modification Request – LA River Greenway, West San Fernando Valley Gap Closure (Vanalden Ave. to Balboa Blvd.)

Dear Commissioners and Executive Management:

On behalf of BikeLA and the people who bike, walk, and roll across Los Angeles County, I am writing in strong support of the City of Los Angeles' requested scope modification for Segments 1 and 2, from Vanalden Avenue to Balboa Boulevard, of the LA River Greenway Completion Project.

Closing this gap matters. For communities in Reseda, Tarzana, Van Nuys, and throughout the West San Fernando Valley, these three miles can turn disconnected pieces of the LA River path into a transportation corridor that people can actually use—to reach schools, parks, transit, jobs, local businesses, and one another without having to rely on a car.

BikeLA has long advocated for a connected Los Angeles River path that is safe, comfortable, and accessible to people of all ages and abilities. Our preference remains clear: where feasible, people biking and walking should be separated from fast-moving vehicle traffic, and a fully grade-separated LA Riverway should remain the long-term goal.

But we also believe strongly in getting safe infrastructure built.

With construction bids significantly exceeding earlier estimates, the City has proposed replacing some grade-separated crossings with high-visibility, signalized at-grade crossings using Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (HAWK signals) and upgraded ADA ramps. This modification substantially reduces project costs while preserving something critically important: a continuous route.

The proposal also retains essential grade-separated infrastructure, including the Orange Line Busway undercrossing and Caballero Creek bridge, where viable surface alternatives do not exist. These investments, together with appropriately designed and operated surface crossings, allow Los Angeles to move forward with a connected corridor rather than allowing another critical active transportation project to stall.

That distinction matters. Los Angeles has too many bicycle facilities that end abruptly, forcing riders into stressful or unsafe conditions precisely where protection is needed most. A connected network is what allows someone to choose a bicycle for an everyday trip with confidence. Completing this gap will make the LA River Greenway more useful not simply as a recreational amenity, but as genuine transportation infrastructure.

This project also serves communities with significant transportation and equity needs and provides an important connection along the Sepulveda Basin. Delaying these improvements would mean delaying safer mobility and access for the people who stand to benefit from them now.

Rising construction costs are a real challenge for active transportation projects across our region. We should respond by finding responsible ways to deliver projects—not by abandoning them. The proposed scope modification strikes that balance while preserving the opportunity to pursue further grade separation as resources become available.

BikeLA respectfully urges the California Transportation Commission to approve the requested Scope Modification Request at its August 20–21 meeting and allow this important project to move forward.

Thank you for your continued investment in safer, healthier, and more connected communities across California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eli Akira Kaufman', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Eli Akira Kaufman

Executive Director

Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition (BikeLA)

Cc: Eric Bruins, Director of Strategic Initiatives, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering
Marcelino Ascensio, Senior Civil Engineer, City of Los Angeles Bureau of Engineering



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