



**Metro**

Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

213.922.2000 Tel  
metro.net

**December 23, 2015**

**TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**THROUGH: PHILLIP A. WASHINGTON** *PWA*  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**FROM: RICHARD CLARKE** *REC*  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

**PAULETTA TONILAS** *by Pauletta*  
**CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER**

**MARTHA WELBORNE** *MW*  
**CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER**

**SUBJECT: WESTWOOD/VA HOSPITAL PURPLE LINE EXTENSION STATION**

### ISSUE

On December 22<sup>nd</sup> we had a very positive meeting regarding the Westwood/VA Hospital Station for the Purple Line Extension. Two Special Assistants to Veterans Administration Secretary Robert McDonald, the head of the VA's Desert Pacific Region and her assistant met with the CEO and key members of the Metro team involved in this project.

### DISCUSSION

The Purple Line Extension was approved by the Metro Board of Directors and received a Record of Decision from the Federal Transit Administration in 2012. The Westwood/VA Hospital Station is the last of the seven new stations included in the nine-mile extension and is a part of Section 3 for the project.

The Veterans Administration has been developing a Master Plan for its West LA campus, the largest medical center campus in the VA system encompassing 387 acres. They released a Draft Master Plan in October that did not include the subway station.

We were reassured at the meeting yesterday that the next version of the Draft Master Plan will indeed include the station. More importantly, we identified how our two agencies will work together to finalize details for the station location on the campus. We believe the VA representatives came away with a better understanding of the issues relevant in planning, siting and building the station, as well as how we can develop the necessary agreements between the two agencies. We have greater insight of the VA's goals, plans and priorities for the revitalized campus. In addition to the station, we look

forward to working with them to incorporate their clients into our career pathways for veterans and facilitating use of our transit system.

This progress is the direct result of our coordinated staff and Board efforts. Our Community Relations and Government Relations teams ensured that the VA heard from Metro, members of the community and our federal partners about the importance of this station in improving access to the campus for veterans, their families, visitors and staff. We would like to thank our Directors who also communicated with the VA and our federal partners about this matter.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Toward the end of January 2016, VA Secretary McDonald will be in Los Angeles to release the revised Draft Master Plan. That plan will provide the road map and, at that point, we anticipate that our Project Management team for the Purple Line Extension and the VA can begin working together to bring this station to fruition.