



**Metro**

Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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**JANUARY 14, 2015**

**TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**THROUGH: ARTHUR T. LEAHY** *AL*  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**FROM: MARTHA WELBORNE** *MW*  
**CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER**

**SUBJECT: UNION STATION MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE**

**ISSUE**

The Board of Directors approved moving the USMP from the planning phase into the implementation phase at the October 23, 2014 Board Meeting. One of the key recommendations included in the Board action was the creation of the USMP Steering Committee. The USMP Steering Committee was envisioned to serve as an advisory body that would guide USMP implementation and eventually make recommendations on the governance structure for the future development program.

**DISCUSSION**

Metro purchased Los Angeles Union Station (LAUS) in 2011 and shortly thereafter initiated the master planning process with Gruen and Associates and Grimshaw Architects. After holding many focus group meetings, community meetings, and briefings and presentations to the Board of Directors and other key stakeholders, the recommendation to transition the USMP from the planning phase into the implementation phase was approved by the Board of Directors in October 2014.

The USMP Board action included several recommendations that focused on initiating a series of short- and long-term actions that included procuring a consultant to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report, acceptance of FTA and Los Angeles County Open Space District grants, entering into an agreement with the City of Los Angeles for the coordinated implementation of the USMP perimeter improvements, and the formation of the USMP Steering Committee.

The USMP Steering Committee will be a key foundational communication method that will keep stakeholders in the development community engaged throughout the early implementation process. Because early stage improvements do not include new commercial development, it is critical to ensure that the development and investment

community is kept abreast of the overall USMP program and is engaged and prepared to participate when the time to initiate the development program comes.

To that end, the Committee will be renamed the "USMP Commercial Development Committee". The USMP Commercial Development Committee will focus on the implementation plan, the public and private real estate development program, and determining and ultimately recommending the appropriate governance structure when Metro is ready to pursue the development program. USMP Commercial Development Committee membership would include representation from Metro Executive Management, City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, and the real estate and investment community.

This committee will be advisory only and meetings will be open to the public. Representatives from the City of Los Angeles will include the Office of the Chief Administrator, Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, Economic and Workforce Development Department, and the Department of City Planning; the County of Los Angeles will be represented by the Chief Executive Office. To ensure the participation of expert and respected members from the development and investment community while simultaneously not precluding their ability to participate in the future development program, development and investment community USMP Commercial Development Committee membership will be informal, rather than formal appointments for specific developers and investors which could raise the appearance of conflicts of interest. Instead, staff will reach out to the development and investment community through organizations like the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the Central City Association of Los Angeles, and the Urban Land Institute to invite interested parties to attend USMP Commercial Development Committee meetings that will be held on an annual/biannual basis depending on progress of USMP implementation activities. The first USMP Commercial Development Committee meeting will be held in summer 2015.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Following the Board of Directors recommendation, staff will initiate discussions with the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, and key development and investment organizations to discuss the USMP Commercial Development Committee and an initial meeting in the summer of 2015.

If you have further questions or wish for additional clarification, please contact Elizabeth Carvajal, Transportation Planning Manager, at (213) 922-3084 or [carvajale@metro.net](mailto:carvajale@metro.net).

### **ATTACHMENTS**

A. USMP Commercial Development Committee - Prospective Membership

**USMP Commercial Development Committee**

**Prospective Membership**

1. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro): Executive Management
2. County of Los Angeles: Chief Executive Office
3. City of Los Angeles: Office of the Chief Administrator
4. City of Los Angeles: Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst
5. City of Los Angeles: Department of City Planning
6. City of Los Angeles: Economic and Workforce Development Department
7. Central City Association of Los Angeles
8. Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
9. Urban Land Institute