



Metro

Ms. Carolyn Flowers, Acting Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation- East Building
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

May 13, 2016

Dear Ms. Carolyn Flowers,

On behalf of the Los Angeles South Bay Service Council, please accept this letter in support of Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (LA Metro) application to the FTA Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program (49 U.S.C. 5339).

The proposed project seeks to replace the remaining 66 diesel buses that are currently operated by contract service operators in the Los Angeles South Bay region. The South Bay is the *only* region within LA Metro's service area where diesel buses are still in operation. These buses are well past their useful life and as a result, experience maintenance issues that erode the level and quality of service provided to South Bay residents and visitors, as well as contribute to regional air pollution. Selection of LA Metro's application would result in the phasing out of the use of diesel buses, making significant contributions to reducing regional air pollution and improving the reliability of the region's public transportation service.

Our residents are heavily dependent on transit and deserve quality services provided with first-rate, environmentally conscious vehicles such those that are used to provide service throughout other service areas of the LA Metro region.

At our May Service Council Meeting, the members of the South Bay Service Council unanimously voted to support LA Metro's application to the FTA Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program. We are very hopeful that LA Metro's application will be selected so that the South Bay residents we represent will gain both improved air quality and transit service throughout the region.

Sincerely,

Ralph Franklin
Chair, South Bay Cities Service Council