



## ORANGELINE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

### AGENDA REPORT

TO: Members of the Orangeline Development Authority  
FROM: OLDA Executive Team  
DATE: May 13, 2009  
SUBJECT: **REQUEST FOR MEASURE R ADVANCED PLANNING FUNDING**

#### DISCUSSION

The MTA is gearing up for implementation of the projects and programs included in Measure R. The West Santa Ana Branch is one of the transit corridor projects approved with estimated funding available in 2015-17. Given the long lead time on transit corridor projects and the volatile funding environments at the state and federal level, it is imperative that this project move forward with project definition planning activities as expeditiously as possible.

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Orangeline Development Authority Board approve the attached letter to Gateway Cities MTA Board Member Diane Dubois to support the funding of early planning money for the implementation of the Orangeline transit corridor project.

The Orangeline Development Authority is a joint powers agency formed to pursue development of a high speed environmentally friendly transit system in Southern California. The Authority is composed of the following public agencies:

City of Artesia  
City of Bell  
City of Bellflower  
City of Cerritos  
City of Cudahy  
City of Downey  
City of Glendale  
City of Huntington Park  
City of Maywood  
City of Palmdale  
City of Paramount  
City of Santa Clarita  
City of South Gate  
City of Vernon

#### Chairman

Bruce Barrows  
Mayor  
City of Cerritos

#### Vice Chairman

Marsha McLean  
Councilmember  
City of Santa Clarita

#### Treasurer

Mike McCormick  
Councilmember  
City of Vernon

#### General Counsel

Yvette M. Abich Garcia, Esq.  
Coiantuono & Levin, PC

#### Interim Executive Director

Art Gallucci  
City Manager  
City of Cerritos

May \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

Ms. Diane DuBois, Director  
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
c/o City of Lakewood  
5050 Clark Ave.  
Lakewood, CA 90712

Dear Director DuBois:

**Re: Early Measure R Planning Funding for the West Santa Ana  
Branch – Orangeline Alignment**

The Orangeline Development Authority (OLDA) requests that as the funding policy direction is developed for Measure R, that you pursue a policy to ensure funding for feasibility studies and early planning efforts for this project. Instituting a policy that funds advanced planning work will define this project for funding eligibility and place it in a position to pursue a possible public/private/partnership. The unique characteristics of the alignment and potential development make it a strong candidate project for private investment.

OLDA's goal is the implementation of an alternative technology, high-speed, environmentally friendly, grade-separated transit corridor utilizing the West Santa Ana (Pacific Electric Right-of-Way) owned by the MTA in Los Angeles County and OCTA in Orange County. In addition to eleven Gateway Cities, OLDA member cities also include northern Los Angeles County jurisdictions that are committed to extending the Orangeline to meet the needs of their jurisdictions.

Over the past two years, OLDA member cities were engaged in a study with the both the MTA and the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) concerning the feasibility of developing the West Santa Branch in both counties. The Los Angeles/Orange County Inter-County Study recommended further study of joint usage of the right-of-way in both counties and there have been funds pledged by both counties to pursue a feasibility study.

The 14 OLDA member jurisdictions are aggressively pursuing the development of a transit project in this corridor. The OLDA member agencies are looking forward to establishing a collaborative process with the MTA and moving forward to defining a transit project. Instituting the early planning efforts will allow the West Santa Ana project to move forward.

Sincerely,

Bruce Barrows  
Chair