



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
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Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

Hilda L. Solis
Chair

October 15, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your steadfast leadership and commitment to advancing transformational reconciliation legislation to help build our nation back better. As negotiations continue around a final legislative package, I urge your continued support for the Affordable Housing Access Program which would support the provision of fare-free and reduced-fare transit services.

Metro's Board of Directors recently approved the implementation of a pilot program known as the Fareless System Initiative, which offers fareless transit for K-12 students and community college students. New federal resources such as those proposed in the Affordable Housing Access Program would allow Metro to expand our fareless program to become the first major transit system in the country operating an entirely fareless system. The average income of Metro bus riders is \$17,975, and \$27,723 for our rail riders. Providing fareless access to Metro's transit system would enhance mobility across the region, improve equitable access to transit, increase ridership, and promote economic recovery in disadvantaged communities throughout Los Angeles.

Thank you again for your unwavering support of programs that provide more equity and mobility across the United States. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly if Metro can do anything to assist you as you advance this critical legislation.

Sincerely,

Hilda L. Solis

Metro Board Chair

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair, First District

cc: Metro Board of Directors
U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein
U.S. Senator Alex Padilla
House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs