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SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT

COMMITTEE ON STEERING AND POLICY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

November 20, 2026

Metro Headquarters
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952
Attn: Board of Directors, LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Dear Metro Board Members,

Throughout the 119th Congress, I have worked with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to secure federal funds to enhance public transportation options throughout California's Twenty-Ninth Congressional District. I look forward to continuing to work with Metro to secure federal funds and advance important transportation priorities, such as the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project (Project). Part of this Project requires the construction of a Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF). Metro has identified five options for the MSF location, including the Westfield Fashion Square mall in Sherman Oaks and The Plant Shopping Center (The Plant) in Panorama City. I urge Metro to reconsider these two options as potential sites for the MSF, and to extend the public comment period from November 23, 2026, to January 2027 to allow sufficient time for community input.

The proposed sites of the Westfield Fashion Square mall and The Plant are established commercial centers that are economic drivers for the surrounding area. These locations serve as important gathering places for the community. I do not support either location being considered as a location for Metro's MSF. Members of the community deserve to be involved through a robust public comment process on where this facility is ultimately located.

The success of the Project is dependent on meaningful community engagement and a transparent planning process. Metro's November 23, 2026, deadline does not provide sufficient time for affected community members to review the proposals and submit informed feedback. An extended public comment period will allow residents, businesses, and community organizations a meaningful opportunity to provide feedback on all the proposed MSF locations.

I remain committed to working with Metro to ensure the San Fernando Valley receives needed federal funding for essential transportation projects, such as the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project. Progress must be balanced with respect for impacted communities through transparent and inclusive processes. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress
California's Twenty-Ninth Congressional District