



# Metro

May 20, 2020

Brian P. Kelly  
California High Speed Rail Authority  
770 L Street, Suite 620, MS-1  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Comments on the Draft HSR 2020 Business Plan**

Dear Mr. Kelly,

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Regional Rail department appreciated the opportunity to review and provide comments regarding the Draft 2020 Business Plan (Plan). Metro Regional Rail admires the ambition of this Plan and offers the following comments to strengthen the comprehensive planning and analysis of statewide transportation investment strategies described throughout the document. It should be noted, Metro Regional Rail is continually working with California High Speed Rail Authority, Southern California Regional Rail Authority, the Federal Railroad Administration, LOSSAN, Amtrak and other key partners to develop a fully integrated regional rail system throughout Los Angeles County.

Metro would like the Plan to consider the specific addition/clarification of certain elements that are missing or require greater elaboration to make a stronger point for rail integration as described in the main comments below.

1. Page 52, Chapter 3: the transformation is happening statewide – Table 3.1 Early Train Operator side-by-side comparison is showing \$14B of funding required. From a regional prospective, can we deliver higher speed service on an interim basis utilizing existing rail corridors to reduce this cost for the Southern California segment.
2. Page 87, Chapter 3: the transformation is happening statewide – Given that the Link US Project will transform how regional rail operates in Southern California and it is essential to the introduction of California High Speed Rail service to the Los Angeles region, Metro suggest that the Plan emphasizes the importance of the continued collaboration between Metro and the California High-Speed Rail Authority to work together to fund the Phase B station improvements for the LINK US project.
3. Page 90, The FRA approved the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Rosecrans/Marquardt project in November 2018. Metro is progressing with final design scheduled to be complete in July 2020.
4. Page 90, Metro Real Estate has completed all property appraisals and is continuing with the right-of-way acquisition process. Change the sentence from “Metro has completed property appraisals and started to acquire right-of-way acquisitions by May 2020.” To the following statement, “All property acquisitions and Right-of-Way certifications is scheduled to be completed by June 2020.”



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Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via phone at 213.418.3177 or e-mail at balderramab@metro.net.

Sincerely,

Brian Balderrama, PE  
Senior Director, Regional Rail

cc: Jeanet Owens, PE  
SEO Regional Rail