



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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Ara Najarian, Chair
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Item 42: Alternatives For Metro Board Member Composition and Appointment Structure

Dear Chair Najarian and Members of the Ad Hoc Board Composition Committee,

Metro serves one of the most diverse populations in the nation, and its governance structure should reflect the communities that depend on and are impacted by the agency's services and investments. As the Committee continues its work to evaluate the future composition and governance of the Metro Board, and based on feedback I have received from community stakeholders and transit riders across Los Angeles County, I respectfully submit the following recommendations for the Committee's consideration and inclusion in its forthcoming report to the full Metro Board.

A. Establish a voting Metro Board seat for a regular transit rider.

A dedicated rider representative would bring the lived experiences of daily transit users into Board deliberations, strengthen accountability, and help advance policies that better serve riders across Los Angeles County, especially communities most dependent on public transportation.

B. Allow each voting Board member to designate an alternate member.

Alternates would be authorized to participate and vote in the absence of the primary member, helping ensure continuity in governance, maintain consistent representation, and minimize disruptions to Board proceedings and actions.

C. Consider Dedicated Representation for the City of Long Beach on the Metro Board.

As the second-largest city in the County, a major economic center, and home to critical regional transportation assets and transit connections, the City of Long Beach plays a central role in the mobility network serving Southeast Los Angeles County. At the same time, the City's substantial population size can often limit opportunities for the surrounding Southeast Gateway communities to secure representation within the current governance structure. Establishing a dedicated seat for Long Beach would both recognize the City's regional significance and create a pathway for more balanced representation of the surrounding smaller municipalities, which collectively form a distinct, densely populated, and heavily transit-dependent corridor. This approach would help ensure more consistent representation of the diverse municipal perspectives and transportation priorities across the region.

I appreciate the Committee's thoughtful work on this important issue and respectfully request that these proposals be analyzed as part of Metro's broader governance review and considered in the Committee's recommendations.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Janice Hahn
LA Metro Board
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors