

Dear Members of the Los Angeles Metro Board,

The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County strongly supports connecting the San Fernando Valley and the Westside with a new rail line. <u>LWV California Transportation Policy</u> supports transit that lowers VMT, is efficient, convenient, and cost effective; is safe and secure; serves all segments of the population and diverse geographic needs; minimizes harmful effects on the environment; and is integrated with land use.

In selecting among options for this project, we urge Metro to prioritize the following criteria:

- Easy connections to the Purple and Expo lines.
- A stop at UCLA, the most popular destination on the Westside
- No stops on freeways as in alternatives #1, #2, #3
 - o Freeway stops do not directly connect to communities or destinations
 - o Freeway boarding platforms expose riders to unsafe levels of noise and pollution
- Compatible with existing rail stock
 - o Metro already runs light and heavy rail. It would be unnecessarily expensive and complicated to run a third type of rail car
- Minimize disruptions to local communities

We believe that out of the six alternatives mentioned in <u>The Source blog of November 30, 2021</u>, #4, #5 and #6 conform to these criteria.

We ask that you only consider alternatives #4, #5 and #6 going forward.

Thank you,

Fatima Malik

President

League of Women Voters of Los Angeles County

Ana Hall