



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority
One Gateway Plaza
3rd Floor Board Room
Los Angeles, CA

Board Report

File #: 2024-0114, **File Type:** Minutes

Agenda Number: 2.

**INDEPENDENT CITIZENS ADVISORY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MARCH 6, 2024**

SUBJECT: MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE Minutes of Meeting held March 13, 2023.



MINUTES

Monday, March 13, 2023

11:00 AM

Independent Citizen's Advisory and Oversight Committee

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

**Emina Darakjy, Chair
Louis Moret, Vice Chair
Belinda Faustinos
Dwight Ham
Brian Russell**

CALLED TO ORDER at 11:01 AM

ROLL CALL

1. **SUBJECT: REMARKS BY THE CHAIR** **2023-0150**

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVED remarks by the Chair – none.

2. **SUBJECT: MINUTES** **2023-0148**

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVED Minutes of Meeting held March 2, 2022.

ED (Chair)	DH	BF	BR	LM
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

3. **SUBJECT: PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C AUDITS OF FISCAL YEAR 2022** **2023-0109**

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVED AND FILED the Independent Auditor’s Report on:

- A. Schedules of Revenues and Expenditures for Proposition A and Proposition C Special Revenue Funds for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2022, completed by BCA Watson Rice, LLP (BCA);
- B. Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Proposition A and Proposition C Ordinances and Local Return Guidelines for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2022, completed by Vasquez & Company, LLP (Vasquez); and
- C. Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Proposition A and Proposition C Ordinances and Local Return Guidelines for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2022, completed by Simpson & Simpson, CPAs (Simpson).

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DH = D. Ham	ED = E. Darakjy	BR = B. Russell	BF = B. Faustinos	LM = L. Moret
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LEGEND: Y = YES, N = NO, C = HARD CONFLICT, S = SOFT CONFLICT ABS = ABSTAIN, A = ABSENT, P = PRESENT

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Regarding the BCA Watson Rice audit, Director Ham asked for clarification on the large variance. Staff responded that large variances are investigated and validated but these variances are due to an increase in sales tax revenue and Metro receiving Federal stimulus funding.

Director Faustinos asked how Metro plans to budget the excess funds in future years to which staff responded that there is a reallocation process in place.

Regarding the Vasquez and Company, LLP audit, Director Ham mentioned that it appears that cities are asking for forgiveness instead of asking for approval to use their funds. He added that the audit is revealing more than numbers which appears to include an issue with the process. Staff responded that Metro leads the process of auditing 89 cities in Los Angeles County which includes frequent communication, reminders, and training. A common issue is staff turnover within the cities which leads to a loss of historical knowledge. Additionally, Metro has changed the software that is used in the reporting and approval method which has seen promising results as the audits are improving, year over year.

Regarding the Simpson and Simpson audit, Director Ham asked what the next steps are if the City of Downey does not pay Metro the money that is owed by June 30, 2023. Staff responded that they would withhold the city’s wire transfers until the issue is resolved.

ED (Chair)	DH	BF	BR	LM
P	P	P	P	P

4. SUBJECT: ORAL REPORT ON COMPLETE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS

2023-0147

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVED Oral Report on Complete Streets and Highways projects.

ED (Chair)	DH	BF	BR	LM
P	P	P	P	P

Chair Darakjy asked about the soundwalls on the freeways if anything has changed in regard to the funding source or if it is still MTA and Caltrans designs and builds them. Staff replied that nothing has changed in the program and that there is a long queue of projects that are looking to identify funding for the movement of the soundwalls and if there is a specific project

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the Chair is talking about, staff will get in touch with the manager and provide the information to Chair Darakjy.

Director Ham asked about the Olympics coming up in 2028 and if we can see completion of the ongoing projects by that date so that the City of Los Angeles will not look as busy. Staff answered that the last two segments of I-5 will be completed by the end of the year. For the 405 projects, the environmental processes take time.

5. SUBJECT: ORAL REPORT ON TRANSIT CAPITAL PROJECTS **2023-0151**

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVED Oral Report on Transit Capital projects.

ED (Chair)	DH	BF	BR	LM
P	P	P	P	P

Chair Darakjy asked who got the contract for tree trimming and staff responded that she will be provided with more detailed information but that the general contractor is Griffith Company.

Chair Ham asked when we are expecting for the total complete project for LAX to be completed, staff answered that seven stations are open and serving the community and that the current plan is the last station which is Aviation and Century and also AMC, along with LAWA project will be open by the end of next year.

Director Russell noticed zero percent on the job site injury and congratulated staff on that.

ADJOURNED AT 12:36 P.M.

Prepared by: Mandy Cheung
Administrative Analyst, Board Administration



Collette Langston, Board Clerk