



Board Report

File #: 2025-0057, **File Type:** Informational Report

Agenda Number: 4.

MEASURE M INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MARCH 5, 2025

SUBJECT: MEASURE M AUDITS OF FISCAL YEAR 2024

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE the Independent Auditor's Report on:

- A. Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures for Measure M Special Revenue Fund for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2024, completed by BCA Watson Rice, LLP (BCA);
- B. Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Measure M Ordinance and Measure M Local Return Guidelines for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2024, completed by Vasquez & Company, LLP (Vasquez); and
- C. Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Measure M Ordinance and Measure M Local Return Guidelines for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2024, completed by Simpson & Simpson, CPAs (Simpson).

ISSUE

The oversight process stipulated in the Measure M Ordinance requires that an annual audit be completed within six months after the end of the fiscal year to determine compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance and the Measure M Guidelines developed by Metro related to the receipt and expenditure of sales tax revenues during the fiscal year. The audit must be provided to the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (Committee) so that the Committee can review the results of the audit performed and make findings as to whether the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) and local subrecipients are in compliance with the terms of the Ordinance.

BACKGROUND

On November 9, 2016, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure M, which imposed a half-cent transaction and use tax for transportation, and the indefinite extension of an existing half-cent sales

tax (Measure R) also dedicated to transportation and originally set to expire in 2039. Measure M, also known as the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan Ordinance (Ordinance), establishes an Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee and an oversight process to ensure that LACMTA complies with the terms of the Ordinance.

DISCUSSION

The following summarizes the independent auditor's report on the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures for the Measure M Special Revenue Fund:

Management Audit Services (MAS) contracted with BCA to perform the independent audit of the LACMTA, as required by the Ordinance. BCA conducted the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that BCA plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures (Schedule) is free of material misstatement.

The auditors found that the Schedule referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the Measure M Revenues and Expenditures of LACMTA for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The auditors also found that LACMTA complied, in all material respects, with the requirements of the Ordinance for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

The following summarizes the independent auditor's report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Measure M Ordinance and Measure M Local Return Guidelines:

MAS contracted with two firms, Vasquez and Simpson, to conduct the audits of Measure M sales tax revenues used by the County of Los Angeles (County) as well as the 88 cities (Cities). The firms conducted the audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that the independent auditors plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the requirements in the Ordinance, which could have a direct and material effect on the Measure M Local Return program, occurred.

Vasquez concluded that the County and the 39 Cities complied in all material respects, with the requirements in the Ordinance that are applicable to the Measure M Local Return program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Vasquez found seven (7) instances of noncompliance, summarized in Schedule 2 of Attachment B.

Simpson concluded that the 49 Cities complied, in all material respects, with the requirements in the Ordinance that are applicable to the Measure M Local Return program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Simpson found five (5) instances of noncompliance, summarized in Schedule 2 of Attachment C.

EQUITY PLATFORM

The Measure M Independent Auditor Reports summarized in this report support compliance with the Ordinance and guidelines, as well as assist program managers in effectively managing and administering the Measure M-funded programs that serve all communities throughout the County. There are no known equity impacts or concerns from audit services conducted to complete the annual audits.

NEXT STEPS

As required by the Ordinance, the Committee will prepare an annual report detailing the results of the annual audit process and any findings. In addition, a public hearing will be scheduled to receive public input.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- A. Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures for Measure M Special Revenue Fund (BCA)
- B. Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Measure M Ordinance and Measure M Local Return Guidelines (Vasquez)
- C. Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Measure M Ordinance and Measure M Local Return Guidelines (Simpson and Simpson)

Prepared by: Kimberly Houston, Deputy Chief Auditor, (213) 922-4720
Lauren Choi, Senior Director, Audit, (213) 922-3926
Monica Del Toro, Senior Manager, Audit, (213) 922-7494

Reviewed by: Sharon Gookin, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, (213) 418-3101

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Independent Auditor's Report
On Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures
For
Measure M Special Revenue Fund**

**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(With Comparative Totals For 2023)**



2355 Crenshaw Blvd. Suite 150 Torrance, CA 90501
t: (310) 792-4640 f: (310) 792-4140

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Table of Contents

Page

Independent Auditor's Report.....	1
-----------------------------------	---

Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures:

Measure M Special Revenue Fund Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures	4
---	---

Notes to the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures for Measure M Special Revenue Fund.....	5
---	---

Required Supplemental Information (Unaudited):

Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024	9
--	---

Other Information (Unaudited):

Schedule of Expenditures by Subfund and Programs - Budget and Actual For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024	10
---	----

Schedule of Fund Balances by Subfund and Programs For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024	11
--	----

Other Reports:

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	12
---	----

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Measure M Revenues and Expenditures in Accordance with the <i>Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan</i>	14
--	----

Summary of Current Year Audit Findings.....	17
---	----

Status of Prior Year Audit Findings.....	18
--	----



2355 Crenshaw Blvd. Suite 150
Torrance, CA 90501

Telephone: 310.792.4640
Facsimile: 310.792.4331
www.bcawr.com

Independent Auditor's Report

Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Report on the Audit of the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures (the Schedule) of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the Schedule, which collectively comprise LACMTA's basic Schedule as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the Schedule referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the Measure M Revenues and Expenditures of LACMTA for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Schedule section of our report. We are required to be independent of the LACMTA and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 3 to the Schedule, the accompanying Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures of the Measure M Fund is intended to present the revenues and expenditures attributable to the Measure M Fund. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the LACMTA, as of June 30, 2024, and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our report is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the Schedule in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the Schedule that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Schedule as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the Schedule.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Schedule, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the Schedule.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the LACMTA's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the Schedule.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information be presented to supplement the basic Schedule. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic Schedule, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of the financial reporting for placing the basic Schedule in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic Schedule, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic Schedule. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements as a whole. The schedule of expenditures by subfund and programs - budget to actual and the schedule of fund balances by subfund and programs for the fiscal year ended and as of June 30, 2024, on pages 10 and 11 are presented for purposes of additional analyses and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Prior-Year Comparative Information

We have previously audited the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures of LACMTA, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion in our report dated November 28, 2023. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited Schedule from which it has been derived.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 2, 2024, on our consideration of LACMTA's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering LACMTA's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "BCA Watson Rice, LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Torrance, California

December 2, 2024

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority**Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(With Comparative Totals for 2023)
(Amounts expressed in thousands)**

	2024	2023
Revenues		
Sales tax	\$ 1,091,069	\$ 1,106,177
Intergovernmental	586	1,581
Investment income	44,748	29,304
Net appreciation (decline) in fair value of investments	11,077	(1,647)
Total revenues	1,147,480	1,135,415
Expenditures		
Administration and other transportation projects	60,985	64,634
Transportation subsidies	412,446	346,936
Debt and interest expenditures		
Principal	1,500	-
Total expenditures	474,931	411,570
Excess of revenues over expenditures	672,549	723,845
Other financing sources (uses)		
Transfers in	32,524	837
Transfers out	(685,259)	(685,159)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(652,735)	(684,322)
Excess of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses	\$ 19,814	\$ 39,523

The Notes to the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures are an integral part of this Schedule.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Notes to the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

The Notes to the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures are summaries of significant accounting policies and other disclosures considered necessary for a clear understanding of the accompanying schedule of revenues and expenditures.

Unless otherwise stated, all dollar amounts are expressed in thousands.

1. **Organization**

General

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) is governed by a Board of Directors composed of five members of the County Board of Supervisors, the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, three members appointed by the Mayor, and four members who are either mayors or members of a city council and have been appointed by the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee to represent the other cities in the County and a non-voting member appointed by the Governor of the State of California.

LACMTA is unique among the nation's transportation agencies. It serves as transportation planner and coordinator, designer, builder, and operator for one of the country's largest and most populous counties. More than 10 million people, about one-third of California's residents, live, work, and play within its 1,433-square-mile service area.

Measure M

Measure M, also known as Ordinance No. 16-01, the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan, is a special revenue fund used to account for the proceeds of the voter-approved one-half percent sales tax that became effective on November 8, 2016, and the rate of the tax shall increase to one percent on July 1, 2039, immediately upon expiration of the one-half percent sales tax imposed by Traffic Relief and Rail Expansion Ordinance (Measure M).

Revenues collected are required to be allocated in the following manner: 1) 5% for Metro rail operations; 2) 20% for transit operations (Metro and Municipal Providers); 3) 2% for ADA Paratransit for the disabled and Metro discounts for seniors and students; 4) 35% for transit construction; 5) 2% for Metro State of Good Repair projects; 6) 17% for highway construction; 7) 2% for Metro active transportation program; 8) 16% for local return - base for local projects and transit services; and 9) 1% for local return for regional rail.

2. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures for the Measure M Special Revenue Fund was prepared in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) in the United States of America as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the recognized standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles for governments.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Notes to the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

The most significant of LACMTA's accounting policies with regard to the special revenue fund type are described below:

Fund Accounting

LACMTA utilizes fund accounting to report its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain governmental functions or activities. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Funds are classified into three categories: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. Governmental Funds are used to account for most of LACMTA's governmental activities. The measurement focus is a determination of changes in financial position, rather than a net income determination. LACMTA uses the governmental fund type Special Revenue Fund to account for Measure M sales tax revenues and expenditures. Special Revenue Funds are used to account for proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

Basis of Accounting

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used for the special revenue fund type. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual, which means measurable (amount can be determined) and available (collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period).

Budgetary Accounting

The established legislation and adopted policies and procedures provide that the LACMTA's Board approves an annual budget. Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States of America for all governmental funds.

Prior to the adoption of the budget, the Board conducts public hearings for discussion of the proposed annual budget and at the conclusion of the hearings, but no later than June 30, adopts the final budget. All appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end. The budget is prepared by fund, project, expense type, and department. The legal level of control is at the fund level and the Board must approve additional appropriations.

By policy, the Board has provided procedures for management to make revisions within operational or project budgets only when there is no net dollar impact on the total appropriations at the fund level. Budget amendments are made when needed.

Annual budgets are adopted by LACMTA on the modified accrual basis of accounting for the special revenue fund types, on a basis consistent with GAAP as reflected in the Schedule.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Notes to the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Investment Income and Net Appreciation (Decline) in Fair Value of Investments

Investment income and net appreciation (decline) in fair value of investments are shown on the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures. LACMTA maintains a pooled cash and investments account that is available for use by all funds, except those restricted by State statutes. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Measure M fund had an investment income of \$44,748 and a net appreciation in the fair value of investments of \$11,077. The net appreciation in investments was mainly due to an increase in the fair market value of the investment portfolios mostly invested in bonds, which are sensitive to changes in interest rates.

The LACMTA issues a publicly available annual comprehensive financial report that includes complete disclosures related to the entire cash and investment pool. The report may be obtained at the LACMTA's website <https://www.metro.net/about/financebudget/>.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of the Schedule in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Comparative Financial Data

The amounts shown for 2023 in the accompanying Schedule are included only to provide a basis for comparison with 2024 and are not intended to present all information necessary for a fair presentation in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States of America.

3. Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures for Measure M Special Revenue Fund

The Schedule is intended to reflect the revenues and expenditures of the Measure M fund only. Accordingly, the Schedule does not purport to, and does not, present fairly the financial position of the LACMTA and changes in the financial position thereof for the year then ended in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States of America.

4. Debt

The debt principal payment of \$1,500 represents the repayment of an advance provided by the County of Los Angeles to cover the costs associated with the High Desert Intercity Rail Corridor Service Development Planning Study. This study aimed to evaluate the feasibility of a new high-speed intercity passenger rail service connecting the future Virgin Train USA Southern California Station in the Victor Valley to the Palmdale Transportation Center. LACMTA utilized the advance while awaiting funding and budget authority for Measure M allocations. On January 19, 2024, LACMTA repaid the \$1,500 advance to the County of Los Angeles.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Notes to the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

5. Intergovernmental Transactions

Any transaction conducted with any federal, state, and local governmental agencies outside the complete jurisdiction of LACMTA will be recorded in an account designated as Intergovernmental.

6. Operating Transfers

Amounts reflected as operating transfers represent permanent, legally authorized transfers from a fund receiving revenue to the fund through which the resources are to be expended. All operating transfers in/out of the Measure M Special Revenue Fund have been made in accordance with all expenditure requirements of the Measure M Ordinance.

7. Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over Expenditures and Other Financing Uses

The Measure M fund at June 30, 2024 had an excess of revenues over expenditures and other financing uses of \$19,814 primarily due to investment earnings. The foregoing factors contributed to the increase in Measure M Fund balance from \$1,150,955 to \$1,170,769 at June 30, 2024.

8. Audited Financial Statements

The audited financial statements for the Measure M Special Revenue Fund for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, are included in LACMTA's Audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

9. Contingent Liabilities

LACMTA is aware of potential claims that may be filed against them. The outcome of these matters is not presently determinable, but the resolution of these matters is not expected to have a significant impact on the financial condition of LACMTA.

10. Subsequent Events

In preparing the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures, LACMTA has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through December 2, 2024, the date the schedule was available to be issued. Based on this evaluation, it was determined that no subsequent events occurred that required recognition or additional disclosure in the Schedule.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures – Budget and Actual
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
Revenues				
Sales tax	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,091,069	\$ (108,931)
Intergovernmental	51,848	51,848	586	(51,262)
Investment income	-	-	44,748	44,748
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	-	-	11,077	11,077
Total revenues	1,251,848	1,251,848	1,147,480	(104,368)
Expenditures				
Administration and other transportation projects	226,665	156,998	60,985	96,013
Transportation subsidies	471,560	472,632	412,446	60,186
Debt and interest expenditures				
Principal	-	-	1,500	(1,500)
Total expenditures	698,225	629,630	474,931	154,699
Excess of revenues over expenditures	553,623	622,218	672,549	50,331
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in	38,306	38,306	32,524	(5,782)
Transfers out	(658,057)	(658,057)	(685,259)	(27,202)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(619,751)	(619,751)	(652,735)	(32,984)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses	\$ (66,128)	\$ 2,467	\$ 19,814	\$ 17,347

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Schedule of Expenditures by Subfund and Programs – Budget and Actual
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Amounts expressed in thousands)

Subfund	Programs	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
	<u>Program:</u>			
<i>Transit Operating and Maintenance</i>	Metro Rail Operations	\$ -	\$ 64,835	\$ (64,835)
	Transit Operations	276,006	247,770	28,236
	ADA Paratransit	23,640	21,494	2,146
<i>Transit/First/ Last Mile (Capital)</i>	Transit Construction	390,268	360,698	29,570
	Metro State of Good Repair	18,653	(633)	19,286
<i>Highway, Active Transportation, Complete Streets (Capital)</i>	Highway Construction	300,640	222,383	78,257
	Active Transportation Program	21,052	3,701	17,351
<i>Local Return/ Regional Rail</i>	Local Return	188,940	182,700	6,240
	Regional Rail - Metrolink	14,423	21,263	(6,840)
	Total program	<u>1,233,622</u>	<u>1,124,211</u>	<u>109,411</u>
<i>Administration</i>	Administration	17,759	3,455	14,304
	Total	<u>\$ 1,251,381</u>	<u>\$ 1,127,666</u>	<u>123,715</u>

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Schedule of Fund Balances by Subfund and Programs
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Amounts expressed in thousands)

Subfund	Programs	Beginning Balance, July 1, 2023	Revenues			Expenditures/Uses of Funds				Fund Balance
			Revenue Allocations	Other Revenues	Total Revenues	Admin	Local Return/ Transportation Subsidies	Transfers-out/ Capital Projects	Transfers-in/ Capital Projects	
<i>Transit Operating & Maintenance</i>	Program:									
	Metro Rail Operations	\$ 10,106	\$ 53,735	\$ 993	\$ 54,728	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (64,834)	\$ -	\$ -
	Transit Operations	393,297	214,941	15,957	230,898	-	(83,999)	(163,772)	-	376,424
	ADA Paratransit	9,432	21,494	531	22,025	-	-	(21,494)	-	9,963
<i>Subtotal</i>		412,835	290,170	17,481	307,651	-	(83,999)	(250,100)	-	386,387
<i>Transit/First/ Last Mile (Capital)</i>	Transit Construction	3,808	376,397	2,100	378,497	(19,819)	(14,674)	(328,990)	2,785	21,607
	Metro State of Good Repair	32,786	21,494	1,667	23,161	-	-	632		56,579
<i>Subtotal</i>		36,594	397,891	3,767	401,658	(19,819)	(14,674)	(328,358)	2,785	78,186
<i>Highway, Active Transportation, Complete Streets (Capital)</i>	Highway Construction	616,737	183,034	30,484	213,518	(35,265)	(128,761)	(81,718)	23,361	607,872
	Active Transportation Program	67,661	21,494	3,388	24,882	(2,358)	(365)	23,705	(24,683)	88,842
<i>Subtotal</i>		684,398	204,528	33,872	238,400	(37,623)	(129,126)	(58,013)	(1,322)	696,714
<i>Local Return/ Regional Rail</i>	Local Return	-	182,700	-	182,700	-	(182,700)	-	-	-
	Regional Rail - Metrolink	10,112	10,747	365	11,112	(1,588)	(1,947)	(48,788)	31,061	(38)
<i>Subtotal</i>		10,112	193,447	365	193,812	(1,588)	(184,647)	(48,788)	31,061	(38)
<i>Administration</i>	Total program	1,143,939	1,086,036	55,485	1,141,521	(59,030)	(412,446)	(685,259)	32,524	1,161,249
		7,016	5,619	340	5,959	(3,455)	-	-	-	9,520
	Grand Total	<u>\$ 1,150,955</u>	<u>\$ 1,091,655</u>	<u>\$ 55,825</u>	<u>\$ 1,147,480</u>	<u>\$ (62,485)</u>	<u>\$ (412,446)</u>	<u>\$ (685,259)</u>	<u>\$ 32,524</u>	<u>\$ 1,170,769</u>

**Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial
Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Based on an Audit of the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures
Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards***

Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures (the Schedule) for Measure M Special Revenue Fund of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the Schedule, which collectively comprised LACMTA's basic Schedule, and have issued our report thereon dated December 2, 2024.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the Schedule, we considered the LACMTA's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the Schedule, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the LACMTA's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the LACMTA's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the LACMTA's Schedule will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the LACMTA's Schedule is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the Schedule. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "BCA Watson Rice, LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Torrance, California
December 2, 2024

**Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to
Measure M Revenues and Expenditures in Accordance with the
*Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan Ordinance No. 16-01***

Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Report on Compliance

Opinion on Measure M Revenues and Expenditures

We have audited the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) compliance with the *Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan Ordinance No. 16-01* (the Ordinance) applicable to LACMTA's Measure M revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

In our opinion, LACMTA complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to the Measure M revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of LACMTA and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of LACMTA's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Measure M revenues and expenditures.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error and express an opinion on LACMTA's compliance with Measure M revenues and expenditures based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about LACMTA's compliance with the requirements of the Measure M revenues and expenditures as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding LACMTA's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing other procedures as necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of LACMTA's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with Measure M revenues and expenditures, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the LACMTA's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant deficiencies, and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a compliance requirement will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a compliance requirement that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the “Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance” section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that have not been identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the compliance requirements of the Measure M revenues and expenditures. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "BCA Watson Rice, LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Torrance, California
December 2, 2024

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Summary of Current Year Audit Findings
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

None noted.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Special Revenue Fund
Status of Prior Year Audit Findings

None noted.



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
WITH THE REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MEASURE M ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

**TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
WITH THE REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MEASURE M ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

**TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Consolidated Audit Report
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MEASURE M ORDINANCE AND MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES	1
List of Package A Jurisdictions	4
Compliance Area Tested	5
Summary of Audit Results	
Schedule 1 – Summary of Compliance Findings	6
Schedule 2 – Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs	7



655 N. Central Avenue
Suite 1550
Glendale, CA 91203

www.vasquez.cpa

213-873-1700
OFFICE

LOS ANGELES
SAN DIEGO
IRVINE
SACRAMENTO
FRESNO
PHOENIX
LAS VEGAS
MANILA, PH

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
WITH THE REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MEASURE M ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

**To the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
and Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee**

Report on Compliance

Opinion

We have audited the compliance of the County of Los Angeles (County) and the thirty-nine (39) Cities identified in the List of Package A Jurisdictions, with the types of compliance requirements described in the Measure M Ordinance enacted through a Los Angeles County voter-approved law in November 2016; Measure M Local Return Guidelines, issued by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), approved by its Board of Directors on June 22, 2017 (collectively, the Guidelines); and the respective Assurances and Understandings Regarding Receipt and Use of Measure M Local Return Funds, executed by Metro, the County and the respective Cities for the year ended June 30, 2024 (collectively, the Requirements). Compliance area tested and related findings are identified in the accompanying Summary of Audit Results, Schedule 1 and Schedule 2.

In our opinion, the County and the Cities complied, in all material respects, with the Guidelines and Requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the Measure M Local Return program for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the Guidelines. Our responsibilities under those standards and the Guidelines are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the County and the Cities and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance with the Guidelines. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County's and the Cities' compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.



Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Managements of the County and the Cities are responsible for their compliance with the Guidelines and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the County and each City's Measure M Local Return program.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the County's and the Cities' compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Guidelines will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the County's and the Cities' compliance with the requirements of the Guidelines as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Guidelines, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the County's and the Cities' compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the County's and the Cities' internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Guidelines, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's and the Cities' internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed instances of noncompliance which are required to be reported in accordance with the Guidelines and which are described in the accompanying Summary of Compliance Findings (Schedule 1) and Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2) as Findings #2024-001 through #2024-007. Our opinion is not modified with respect to these matters.



Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on the responses to the noncompliance findings identified in our compliance audits described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2). The responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiency in internal control over compliance that we consider to be a material weakness.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with the Guidelines on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with the Guidelines will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with the Guidelines that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2) as Findings #2024-001 and #2024-005 to be material weaknesses.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Cities' responses to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audits described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2). The Cities' responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Guidelines. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

**Glendale, California
December 31, 2024**

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
List of Package A Jurisdictions
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

1. COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
2. CITY OF AGOURA HILLS
3. CITY OF AZUSA
4. CITY OF BALDWIN PARK
5. CITY OF BELL
6. CITY OF BELL GARDENS
7. CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
8. CITY OF CALABASAS
9. CITY OF CARSON
10. CITY OF COMMERCE
11. CITY OF COMPTON
12. CITY OF CUDAHY
13. CITY OF CULVER CITY
14. CITY OF EL MONTE
15. CITY OF GARDENA
16. CITY OF HAWTHORNE
17. CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
18. CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK
19. CITY OF INDUSTRY
20. CITY OF INGLEWOOD
21. CITY OF IRWINDALE
22. CITY OF LA PUENTE
23. CITY OF LAWNSDALE
24. CITY OF LYNWOOD
25. CITY OF MALIBU
26. CITY OF MAYWOOD
27. CITY OF MONTEBELLO
28. CITY OF MONTEREY PARK
29. CITY OF PICO RIVERA
30. CITY OF POMONA
31. CITY OF ROSEMEAD
32. CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
33. CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS
34. CITY OF SANTA MONICA
35. CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
36. CITY OF SOUTH GATE
37. CITY OF VERNON
38. CITY OF WALNUT
39. CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
40. CITY OF WESTLAKE VILLAGE

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Compliance Area Tested
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

1. Funds were expended for transportation purposes.
2. Separate Measure M Local Return Account was established.
3. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Measure M Local Return Account.
4. Funds were expended with Metro's approval.
5. Funds were not substituted for property tax and are in compliance with the Maintenance of Effort.
6. Timely use of funds.
7. Administrative expenses are within the 20% cap.
8. Expenditure Plan (Form M-One or electronic equivalent) was submitted on time.
9. Expenditure Report (Form M-Two or electronic equivalent) was submitted on time.
10. Where funds expended were reimbursable by other grants or fund sources, the reimbursement was credited to the Local Return Account upon receipt of the reimbursement.
11. Where Measure M funds were given, loaned or exchanged by one jurisdiction to another, the receiving jurisdiction has credited its Local Return Account with the funds received.
12. A separate account was established for Capital reserve funds and Capital reserve was approved by Metro.
13. Funds were used to augment, not supplant existing local revenues being used for transportation purposes unless there is a fund shortfall.
14. Recreational transit form was submitted on time.
15. Fund exchanges (trades, loans, or gifts) were approved by Metro.
16. Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Summary of Compliance Findings
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

The audits of the County of Los Angeles and 39 cities have resulted in seven (7) findings. The table below summarizes these findings:

Compliance Area	# of Findings	Responsible Cities/ Finding No. Reference	Questioned Costs	Resolved During the Audit
Funds were expended with Metro's approval.	3	Culver City (See Finding #2024-003)	\$ 311,950	\$ 311,950
		Maywood (See Finding #2024-006)	2,288	2,288
		South Gate (See Finding #2024-007)	9,123	9,123
Timely use of funds.	2	Cudahy (See Finding #2024-002)	119,107	119,107
		Hidden Hills (See Finding #2024-004)	20,019	20,019
Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.	2	Compton (See Finding #2024-001)	None	None
		Huntington Park (See Finding #2024-005)	None	None
Total Findings and Questioned Costs	7		\$ 462,487	\$ 462,487

Details of the above findings are presented in Schedule 2.

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Finding #2024-001	City of Compton
Compliance Reference	Measure M Local Return Guidelines Section XXV states that, "It is each Jurisdiction's responsibility to maintain proper accounting records and documentation to facilitate the performance of the audit as prescribed in these Guidelines".
Condition	As of the date of the audit, on December 24, 2024, the City's year-end closing process was still ongoing. We noted the following critical observations: • Reconciliations of major balance sheet accounts including bank accounts were not yet completed. • Cut-off procedures relating to year-end accruals were inadequate to ensure the recording of transactions in the proper period. This resulted in the City's adjustments which affected the prior period's account balances. • Beginning fund balances were not reconciled with the prior year's audited reports. The audits of the City's financial statements for the fiscal years 2023 and 2024 had not yet been completed because of the clean-up and closing process currently being done. Further, we noted that the separate local return fund bank accounts were combined into the City's pooled cash and investments accounts during FY2024. This violated Metro's mandate to maintain separate bank accounts for local return funds.
Cause	During the fiscal years 2017 through 2021, the City lost several key employees in the Finance and Accounting department. As such, there were delays in the closing of the City's books for the fiscal year 2024 and prior years. As of December 24, 2024, the accounting personnel and support staff were working towards closing the books and providing the closing entries, trial balances, schedules, reconciliations, account analyses, and other financial reports needed by management and the auditors.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the audit requirements of the Local Return Guidelines.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-001 (Continued)	City of Compton
Recommendation	We recommend the City implement a monthly and year-end closing process in a timely manner. We also recommend that the City establish and document proper closing and reconciliation procedures and assign responsibility for completing the procedures to specific City personnel. The closing procedures should be documented in a checklist that indicates who will perform each procedure and when completion of each procedure is due and is accomplished. The timing of specific procedures could be coordinated with the timing of management's or the auditor's need for the information. These reconciliations will provide assurance that financial statements are complete and accurate. We further recommend that the City reinstate the maintenance of individual bank accounts for its local return funds to comply with Metro's mandate. This will also help in monitoring and tracking the activities and balances of local return funds.
Management's Response	The City is in the process of catching up on all accounting processes that have not been completed due to staff turnover and various other reasons. The new management team in the Finance and Accounting Department is putting procedures in place to ensure monthly and annual year-end closing processes are well documented and occur on time. The City acknowledges the finding and will recommend to the City Council to reinstate the maintenance of individual bank accounts for its local return funds to comply with Metro's mandate.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-002	City of Cudahy
Compliance Reference	Section XXV Lapsing Requirements of Measure M Local Return Guidelines states that "Measure M LR funds have five (5) years to be expended. Funds must be expended within five years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated or received. A First- In-First-Out (FIFO) method of calculation will be used to determine any lapsing of funds. The Measure M LR allocation, interest income and other income earned from LR projects (such as revenues from advertising) which are not expended within the allocated time, will consequently lapse, and be returned to Metro upon request, for reallocation to Jurisdictions on a per capita basis."
Condition	The City has unused Measure M funds amounting to \$119,107 which lapsed as of June 30, 2024.
Cause	Due to changes in Public Works department staffing there was a transition period that affected the timing of certain funding sources claims.
Effect	The City did not comply with the Measure M Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that Measure M funds are used timely.
Management's Response	On December 13, 2024, the City requested an extension for the use of the funds from the LA Metro Program Manager.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	On December 18, 2024, Metro Program Manager granted an extension for the use of the lapsed funds on or by June 30, 2025. No additional follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-003	City of Culver City
Compliance Reference	Section XXV Administrative, Reporting Requirements, Expenditure Plan (8/1 Table) of the Measure M Local Return Guidelines states that, "To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure M LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdiction shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (8/1 Table), annually, by August 1st of each year". "Expenditure Plan (Form M-One) provides a listing of projects funded with Measure M LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year. For both operating and capital projects, Part I is to be filled out. Part II is to be filled out for capital projects (projects over \$250,000). Metro will provide LR funds to a capital project or program sponsor who submits the required expenditure plan".
Condition	The City claimed expenditures for the following MMLRF projects with no prior approval from Metro: a. Project code 715, Traffic Signal Fiber Optic Upgrades, totaling \$37,584; and b. Project code 780, Bicycle/Pedestrian Action Plan Implementation, totaling \$274,366. Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, these projects had no prior approval from Metro.
Cause	The projects were inadvertently not included in the submitted budget request.
Effect	The City claimed expenditures totaling \$311,950 of Measure M LR funds prior to approval by Metro. The City did not comply with the Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that approval is obtained from Metro prior to spending on Measure M-funded projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted budget requests via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budgets for said projects.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said projects was obtained via LRMS on December 18, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-004	City of Hidden Hills
Compliance Reference	Section XXV Lapsing Requirements of Measure M Local Return Guidelines states that "Measure M LR funds have five (5) years to be expended. Funds must be expended within five years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated or received. A First- In-First-Out (FIFO) method of calculation will be used to determine any lapsing of funds. The Measure M LR allocation, interest income and other income earned from LR projects (such as revenues from advertising) which are not expended within the allocated time, will consequently lapse, and be returned to Metro upon request, for reallocation to Jurisdictions on a per capita basis."
Condition	The City has unused Measure M funds amounting to \$20,019 which lapsed as of June 30, 2024.
Cause	The Round Meadow Road/Mureau Road Intersection Pedestrian and Bikepath Landscaping project was not started. Due to the unexpected late start of this project, funds were not spent as expected.
Effect	The City did not comply with the Measure M Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that Measure M funds are used timely.
Management's Response	The City expects to use up the Measure M funds during FY 2024/25. The City requested and obtained an extension for the use of the funds from the LA Metro Program Manager.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	On July 5, 2024, Metro Program Manager granted an extension for the use of the lapsed funds on or by June 30, 2025. No additional follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-005	City of Huntington Park
Compliance Reference	Measure M Local Return Guidelines Section XXV states that, "It is each Jurisdiction's responsibility to maintain proper accounting records and documentation to facilitate the performance of the audit as prescribed in these Guidelines".
Condition	As of the date of audit fieldwork, on December 24, 2024, the City's year-end closing process was still ongoing for fiscal year 2024. The following critical observations were identified: • Cut-off procedures relating to year-end accruals were inadequate to ensure the recording of transactions in the proper period. This resulted in the City's adjustments which affected the prior period's account balances. • The beginning fund balances were not reconciled with the prior year's audited reports. • A system issue was discovered, causing balances to not roll over correctly. Accordingly, the audit of the City's financial statements for the fiscal year 2024 was started late because of the ongoing clean-up and closing process. This is a repeat finding from prior year.
Cause	During the fiscal years 2021 through 2024, the City lost several key employees, particularly in the Finance and Accounting Department. This resulted in delays in closing the City's books for the fiscal year 2024 and prior years. As of December 24, 2024, the accounting personnel and support staff were working towards closing the books and providing the closing entries, trial balances, schedules, reconciliations, account analyses, and other financial reports needed by management and the auditors.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the audit requirements of the Local Return Guidelines.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-005 (Continued)	City of Huntington Park
Recommendation	We recommend the City implement a monthly and year-end closing process in a timely manner. We also recommend that the City establish and document proper closing and reconciliation procedures and assign responsibility for completing the procedures to specific City personnel. The closing procedures should be documented in a checklist that indicates who will perform each procedure and when completion of each procedure is due and is accomplished. The timing of specific procedures should be coordinated with the timing of management's or the auditor's need for the information. These reconciliations will provide assurance that financial statements are updated and provided timely to the users.
Management's Response	The City is in the process of catching up on all accounting processes that have not been completed due to staff turnover and various other reasons. The new management team in the Finance and Accounting Department is putting procedures in place to ensure monthly and annual year-end closing processes are well documented and occur on time.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-006	City of Maywood
Compliance Reference	Section XXV of Measure M Guidance states "To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure M LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdictions shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (Form M-One), annually, by August 1 of each year. A sample of Form M-One is shown in Attachment C.2. Form M-One provides a listing of projects funded with Measure M LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year."
Condition	The City claimed expenditure prior to approval from Metro under Project code 180, Orange Line Development Authority Membership, totaling \$2,288. Although we found the expenditure to be eligible for Local Return funding, this project had no prior approval from Metro.
Cause	The City did not anticipate incurring eligible expenditure for this project. The City was not able to submit a budget request for Metro's approval until after June 30, 2024.
Effect	The City claimed expenditure totaling \$2,288 of Measure M LR funds prior to approval by Metro. The City did not comply with the Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that approval is obtained from Metro prior to spending on Local Return-funded project.
Management's Response	The City submitted a budget request via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budgets for said project on September 25, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said project was obtained via LRMS on September 25, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-007	City of South Gate
Compliance Reference	Section XXV Administrative, Reporting Requirements, Expenditure Plan (8/1 Table) of the Measure M Local Return Guidelines states that, "To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure M LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdiction shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (8/1 Table), annually, by August 1st of each year". "Expenditure Plan (Form M-One) provides a listing of projects funded with Measure M LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year. For both operating and capital projects, Part I is to be filled out. Part II is to be filled out for capital projects (projects over \$250,000). Metro will provide LR funds to a capital project or program sponsor who submits the required expenditure plan".
Condition	The City claimed expenditure for MMLRF Project code 640, Administrative Allocation, totaling \$9,123 with no prior approval from Metro. Although we found the expenditure to be eligible for Local Return funding, this project had no prior approval from Metro.
Cause	The project was inadvertently not included in the submitted Expenditure Plan (Form M-one).
Effect	The City claimed expenditures totaling \$9,123 with no prior approval from Metro. Lack of prior approval results in noncompliance.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that approval is obtained from Metro prior to spending on Measure M-funded projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted a budget request via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budget for said project on October 15, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said project was obtained via LRMS on October 15, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.



www.vasquez.cpa

655 N Central Avenue, Suite 1550 • Glendale, California 91203-1437 • +1.213.873.1700



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
WITH THE REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MEASURE M ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

**TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024



Simpson & Simpson, LLP
Certified Public Accountants

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Consolidated Audit Report
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MEASURE M ORDINANCE AND MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES	1
List of Package B Jurisdictions	5
Compliance Area Tested	6
Summary of Audit Results	
Schedule 1 – Summary of Compliance Findings	7
Schedule 2 - Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs	8



SIMPSON & SIMPSON
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
FOUNDING PARTNERS
BRAINARD C. SIMPSON, CPA
MELBA W. SIMPSON, CPA

U.S. BANK TOWER
633 WEST 5TH STREET, SUITE 3320
LOS ANGELES, CA 90071
(213) 736-6664 TELEPHONE
(213) 736-6692 FAX
www.simpsonandsimpsoncpas.com

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
WITH THE REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MEASURE M ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE M LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

To: Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
and Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee

Report on Compliance

Opinion

We have audited the compliance of the forty-nine (49) Cities (the Cities) identified in the List of Package B Jurisdictions, with the types of compliance requirements described in the Measure M Ordinance enacted through a Los Angeles County voter-approved law in November 2016; Measure M Local Return Guidelines, issued by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), approved by its Board of Directors on June 22, 2017 (collectively, the Guidelines); and the respective Assurances and Understandings Regarding Receipt and Use of Measure M Local Return Funds, executed by Metro, the respective Cities for the year ended June 30, 2024 (collectively, the Requirements). Compliance area tested and related findings are identified in the accompanying Compliance Area Tested and Summary of Audit Results, Schedule 1 and Schedule 2.

In our opinion, the Cities complied, in all material respects, with the Guidelines and the Requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the Measure M Local Return program for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the Guidelines. Our responsibilities under those standards and the Guidelines are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the Cities and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance with the Guidelines. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Cities' compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.



The CPA. Never Underestimate The Value.™



Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management of the Cities are responsible for their compliance with the Guidelines and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to each City's Measure M Local Return program.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the Cities' compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Guidelines will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the Cities' compliance with the requirements of the Guidelines as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Guidelines, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the Cities' compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the Cities' internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Guidelines, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cities' internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.



Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed instances of noncompliance, which are required to be reported in accordance with the Guidelines and the Requirements and which are described in the accompanying Summary of Compliance Findings (Schedule 1) and Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2) as Findings #2024-001 through #2024-005. Our opinion is not modified with respect to these matters.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Cities' responses to the noncompliance findings identified in our compliance audits described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2). The Cities' responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with the Guidelines on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with the Guidelines will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with the Guidelines that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.



Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Cities' responses to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audits described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2). The Cities' responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Guidelines. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simpson & Simpson".

Los Angeles, California
December 31, 2024

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
List of Package B Jurisdictions
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. CITY OF ALHAMBRA | 31. CITY OF PALMDALE |
| 2. CITY OF ARCADIA | 32. CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES |
| 3. CITY OF ARTESIA | 33. CITY OF PARAMOUNT |
| 4. CITY OF AVALON | 34. CITY OF PASADENA |
| 5. CITY OF BELLFLOWER | 35. CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES |
| 6. CITY OF BRADBURY | 36. CITY OF REDONDO BEACH |
| 7. CITY OF BURBANK | 37. CITY OF ROLLING HILLS |
| 8. CITY OF CERRITOS | 38. CITY OF ROLLING HILLS ESTATES |
| 9. CITY OF CLAREMONT | 39. CITY OF SAN DIMAS |
| 10. CITY OF COVINA | 40. CITY OF SAN GABRIEL |
| 11. CITY OF DIAMOND BAR | 41. CITY OF SAN MARINO |
| 12. CITY OF DOWNEY | 42. CITY OF SANTA CLARITA |
| 13. CITY OF DUARTE | 43. CITY OF SIERRA MADRE |
| 14. CITY OF EL SEGUNDO | 44. CITY OF SIGNAL HILL |
| 15. CITY OF GLENDALE | 45. CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA |
| 16. CITY OF GLENDORA | 46. CITY OF TEMPLE CITY |
| 17. CITY OF HAWAIIAN GARDENS | 47. CITY OF TORRANCE |
| 18. CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH | 48. CITY OF WEST COVINA |
| 19. CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE | 49. CITY OF WHITTIER |
| 20. CITY OF LA HABRA HEIGHTS | |
| 21. CITY OF LA MIRADA | |
| 22. CITY OF LA VERNE | |
| 23. CITY OF LAKEWOOD | |
| 24. CITY OF LANCASTER | |
| 25. CITY OF LOMITA | |
| 26. CITY OF LONG BEACH | |
| 27. CITY OF LOS ANGELES | |
| 28. CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH | |
| 29. CITY OF MONROVIA | |
| 30. CITY OF NORWALK | |

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Compliance Area Tested
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

1. Funds were expended for transportation purposes.
2. Separate Measure M Local Return Account was established.
3. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Measure M Local Return Account.
4. Funds were expended with Metro's approval.
5. Funds were not substituted for property tax and are in compliance with the Maintenance of Effort.
6. Timely use of funds.
7. Administrative expenses are within the 20% cap.
8. Expenditure Plan (Form M-One or electronic equivalent) was submitted on time.
9. Expenditure Report (Form M-Two or electronic equivalent) was submitted on time.
10. Where funds expended were reimbursable by other grants or fund sources, the reimbursement was credited to the Local Return Account upon receipt of the reimbursement.
11. Where Measure M funds were given, loaned or exchanged by one jurisdiction to another, the receiving jurisdiction has credited its Local Return Account with the funds received.
12. A separate account was established for Capital reserve funds and Capital reserve was approved by Metro.
13. Funds were used to augment, not supplant existing local revenues being used for transportation purposes unless there is a fund shortfall.
14. Recreational transit form was submitted on time.
15. Fund exchanges (trades, loans, or gifts) were approved by Metro.
16. Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Summary of Compliance Findings
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

The audit of the 49 cities have resulted in five (5) findings. The table below summarize these findings:

Compliance Area	# of Findings	Responsible Cities/ Finding No. Reference	Questioned Costs	Resolved During the Audit
Funds were expended with Metro's approval.	2	Artesia (#2024-001)	\$ 981	\$ 981
		Temple City (#2024-005)	14,000	14,000
Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.	2	Glendora (#2024-002)	None	None
		South Pasadena (#2024-004)	None	None
Timely use of funds.	1	South Pasadena (#2024-003)	108,778	108,778
Total Findings and Questioned Costs	5		\$ 123,759	\$ 123,759

Details of the above findings are presented in Schedule 2

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Finding #2024-001	City of Artesia
Compliance Reference	According to Measure M Local Return Guidelines, Section XXV Administrative, Form Submission Timeline, “New, amended, ongoing and carryover projects must file an Expenditure Plan Form M-One by August 1st.” In addition, the Audit Requirements, Financial and Compliance Provisions of the section states, “The Measure M LR Audits shall include, but not limited to, verification of adherence to the following financial and compliance provisions of this guidelines:... Verification that funds were expended with Metro’s approval.”
Condition	The expenditures for MMLRF's Project Code 630, General Program Administration, in the amount of \$981, were incurred prior to Metro’s approval. However, the City subsequently received budget approval from Metro for the same amount on December 13, 2024.
Cause	This was an oversight on the part of the City due to understaffing.
Effect	The City did not comply with the Guidelines as expenditures for the MMLRF project were incurred prior to Metro’s approval.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish procedures to ensure that it obtains approval from Metro prior to implementing any Measure M Local Return projects, properly enters the budgeted amount for each project in the LRMS and submits it before the requested due date so that the City’s expenditures of Measure M Local Return Funds are in accordance with Metro’s approval and the Guidelines.
Management’s Response	The City will establish procedures to ensure that it obtains Metro's approval before expenditures are incurred.
Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive budget approval of said project on December 13, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-002	City of Glendora
Compliance Reference	According to Measure M Local Return Guidelines, Section XXV, "It is the jurisdictions' responsibility to maintain proper accounting records and documentation to facilitate the performance of the audit prescribed in these guidelines..." In addition, Government Auditing Standards Section 5.26 lists examples of matters that may be reportable conditions: "e.g.: evidence of failure to perform tasks that are part of internal control, such as reconciliations not prepared or not timely prepared." Good internal controls require that cash be reconciled at least monthly and material reconciling items be properly supported.
Condition	The bank reconciliation process was significantly delayed. As of the date of the audit, December 21, 2024, the bank reconciliation had only been completed through November 2023.
Cause	The preparation of the bank reconciliations was delayed due to staff turnover in several supervisory and lead positions within the Finance Department, as well as the transition to a new financial system in mid-December 2023.
Effect	The delay in preparing the bank reconciliations increases the risk of inaccuracies in the financial records, which could lead to misstated financial statements. This also limits the ability to ensure the integrity of cash balances and properly support financial reporting.
Recommendation	We recommend that the Finance Department implement a more structured process for preparing bank reconciliations, ensuring that they are completed on a timely basis. This should include assigning clear responsibilities and deadlines for staff, as well as providing adequate training on the new financial system. Additionally, management should prioritize the reconciliation process to ensure it is aligned with financial reporting timelines and that any discrepancies are identified and resolved promptly.
Management's Response	The Finance Department is actively working to address the delays in the bank reconciliation process. The City has engaged additional staff resources to assist with the reconciliations and is implementing a more structured approach to ensure timely completion moving forward. The department is also providing additional training on the new financial system to ensure staff are equipped with the necessary tools and knowledge. Management is committed to prioritizing the reconciliation process and aligning it with the overall financial reporting schedule to ensure that all reconciliations are completed accurately and on time.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-003	City of South Pasadena
Compliance Reference	According to Measure M Local Return Guidelines, Section XXV Local Return Administrative, Lapsing Requirement, "Measure M LR funds have five (5) years to be expended. Funds must be expended within five years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated or received."
Condition	The City's fiscal year 2019 ending fund balance in the amount of \$108,778 was not expended within 5 years as of June 30, 2024 and was not reserved for capital projects as required by Local Return guidelines. The City subsequently received an extension from Metro to spend the lapsed funds until June 30, 2025 on December 16, 2024.
Cause	The City had requested a capital reserve for MMLRF project in February 2024. Due to the City's misunderstanding of the potential lapsed balance, the amount placed on capital reserve fell short, resulting in an untimely use of funds.
Effect	The Measure M Local Return funds were not expended or reserved within the Timely Use period. The City did not comply with the Measure M Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish a policy in place where the City Manager, City Engineer and Finance Department discuss the availability of Measure M Local Return funds in conjunction with any eligible MMLRF projects and submit its Form M-II (Annual Project Update Form) by entering the budgeted expenditures in the Local Return Management System (LRMS) on time. Alternative measures would include requesting a Capital Reserve Agreement with Metro.
Management's Response	The City will continue to monitor and communicate with Metro regularly to ensure lapsed funding will not occur in the future. If there is potential for lapsing of funds, the City will request Metro for the extension of the use of lapsed funds in a timely manner.
Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted the City an extension for the use of lapsed Measure M Local Return funds until June 30, 2025 on December 16, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-004	City of South Pasadena
Compliance Reference	According to Measure M Local Return Guidelines, Section XXV, "It is the jurisdictions' responsibility to maintain proper accounting records and documentation to facilitate the performance of the audit prescribed in these Guidelines."
Condition	As of the date of the audit, December 18, 2024, the City's year-end closing process was still ongoing. We noted the following critical observations including: (a) A detailed breakdown of expenditures charged to the MMLRF for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 was not provided. (b) No bank reconciliation was prepared as of June 30, 2024.
Cause	During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, management experienced significant turnover in key personnel within the Finance and Public Works departments. This disruption impacted the oversight of the local return funds and Metro-related projects, leading to delays in critical reconciliations, account analyses, and the preparation of necessary documentation required by both management and the auditors.
Effect	Without supporting documentation and reconciliations, variances remained between amounts recorded in the City's general ledger and those reported to Metro. This increases the risk of: (a) Inaccurate or misstated financial records and reports. (b) Noncompliance with applicable local return guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that management prioritize and complete the year-end closing process promptly to address the identified issues. Specifically, management should: 1. Provide a detailed breakdown of expenditures charged to the local return funds for the fiscal year, along with the necessary supporting documentation for verification. 2. Complete all required bank reconciliations for the fiscal year. Management should implement a structured approach with clear responsibilities and timelines to ensure that these tasks are completed accurately and in a timely manner. Regular process reviews and oversight should be conducted to ensure all necessary actions are taken before finalizing the year-end closing.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-004 (Continued)	City of South Pasadena
Management's Response	The City has engaged an external CPA firm to assist with year-end closing activities, including preparing bank reconciliations and supporting the City during the audit process. Management is prioritizing this effort, recognizing its significant impact on all the funds within the City's general ledger. While some progress has been made, the year-end closing process and necessary adjustments are expected to be completed by February 2025.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure M Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-005	City of Temple City
Compliance Reference	According to Measure M Local Return Guidelines, Section XXV Administrative, Form Submission Timeline, “New, amended, ongoing and carryover projects must file an Expenditure Plan Form M-One by August 1st. In addition, the Audit Requirements, Financial and Compliance Provisions of the section states, “The Measure M LR Audits shall include, but not limited to, verification of adherence to the following financial and compliance provisions of this guidelines: Verification that funds were expended with Metro’s approval.”
Condition	The City incurred expenditures prior to receiving approval from Metro for MMLRF’s Project Code 640, SGVCOG VMT Analysis, in the amount of \$14,000. However, the City subsequently received an approved budget in the amount of \$14,000 from Metro on September 27, 2024.
Cause	Due to the change in the City’s personnel, along with the oversight of management, the City was not able to request a budget approval from Metro prior to incurring expenditures on the project.
Effect	The City did not comply with the Guidelines as the expenditures for the MMLRF project were incurred prior to Metro’s approval.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish procedures to ensure that it obtains approval from Metro prior to implementing any Measure M Local Return projects, properly enters the budgeted amount for each project in the LRMS and submits before the requested due date so that the City’s expenditures of Measure M Local Return Funds are in accordance with Metro’s approval and the Guidelines.
Management’s Response	In the future, the City’s Director will coordinate with the staff and review the Metro budget to ensure all expenditures have the proper budget prior to the end of the fiscal year.
Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive approval of said project on September 27, 2024. No follow-up is required.

**FISCAL YEAR 2024
MEASURE M
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES AUDIT
WITH
INTERNAL CONTROLS AND COMPLIANCE REPORT**

P R E S E N T A T I O N T O

MEASURE M INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

MARCH 5, 2025



*2355 Crenshaw Blvd., Suite 150
Torrance, CA 90501
PH 310.792.4640*

Contents

- Auditor and LACMTA Management Responsibilities
- Summary of Audit Results
- Financial Highlights
- Required Communications
- Management Letter Comments

Responsibilities

☐ LACMTA Management Responsibilities

- Preparation of the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures.
- Design, implementation and maintenance of internal control – free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

☐ Auditor's Responsibilities

- To express an opinion on the fair presentation on the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures based on our audit.
- To express an opinion on compliance with the *Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan* (Measure M Ordinance).

Summary of Audit Results

- Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures Audit
 - Unmodified opinion or clean opinion.
- No internal control material weaknesses or significant deficiencies over financial reporting were identified.
- No significant internal control deficiencies over compliance were identified.
- LACMTA complied with the *Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan (Measure M Ordinance)*

Financial Highlights

- Sales tax revenue decreased by \$15.1 million compared to prior year (1.4% change from prior year).
- Actual expenditures increased by \$63.4 million compared to prior year (15.4% change from prior year) due primarily to an increase in transportation subsidies.
- Total other financing uses decreased by \$31.6 million compared to prior year (4.6% change from prior year). Decrease was mainly attributed to grant subsidies billed for the Commuter Rail project.
- Actual sales tax revenue was less than budgeted by \$108.9 million.
- Actual expenditures were less than budgeted by \$154.7 million mainly due to less professional and technical services compared to budgeted amounts for the I-105 ExpressLanes and K Line Northern Extension projects. Additionally, actual claims on planning projects such as LA River Bike Path and Transit Construction programs (Sepulveda Transit Corridor, East San Fernando Valley, Metro G Line BRT Improvements) came in lower than budgeted.
- Actual transfers out was more than budgeted by \$27.2 million mainly due to capital project costs coming in more than budgeted amounts.
- During fiscal year 2023-2024, the Measure M fund reported a surplus, with revenues exceeding expenditures and other financial uses by \$19.8 million. This resulted in an increase in the Measure M fund balance, growing from \$1.15 billion to \$1.17 billion as of June 30, 2024.

Required Communications

Items to be Communicated

Auditor's Responsibilities Under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

- To express an opinion on the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures.
- To provide reasonable, not absolute, assurance of detecting material misstatements.
- To gain a basic understanding of the internal control policies and procedures to design an effective and efficient audit approach.
- To inform LACMTA of any illegal acts that we become aware of.
 - None

Required Communications (Continued)

- Adoption/Change in accounting
 - None
- Significant or unusual transactions
 - None
- Alternative treatments discussed with management
 - None
- Significant issues discussed with management
 - None
- Difficulties encountered in performing the audit
 - We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Required Communications (Continued)

- Management consultations with other independent accountants
 - To our knowledge, there were no such consultation with other accountant.
- Discussions held prior to retention
 - No major issues were discussed as a condition to our retention.
- Disagreements with management
 - Professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the Schedule of Measure M Revenues and Expenditures or the auditor's report.
 - No such disagreements occurred during the audit.
- Management representation
 - We requested certain representations from management, which are included in the management representation letter dated December 2, 2024.

Management Letter Comments

- There are no management letter comments.

Audited Financial Statements for Measure M Special Revenue Fund

- Included in LACMTA's June 30, 2024
Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)

BCA Watson Rice LLP

Audit Engagement Team

- Marialyn Labastilla, Engagement Partner (mslabastilla@bcawr.com)
- Helen Chu, Quality Control Partner (hcu@bcawr.com)
- Ihab Fakhreddine, Audit Manager (ifakhreddine@bcawr.com)
- Kristen Reyes Reason, Senior Auditor (kreyes@bcawr.com)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Measure M Local Return Fund Audit Results
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Package B)**

Simpson & Simpson, LLP



Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee Meeting
Date: March 5, 2025

Agenda

- ❖ Presenters: Etta Hur, CPA, Partner
Austine Cho, Senior Audit Manager
 - Background
 - Summary of Findings
 - Analysis of Measure M Audit Results
 - S&S Contact Information
 - Questions



Background



Simpson and Simpson, LLP

- We have audited the compliance of the 49 cities (49 Jurisdictions under Package B).

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. CITY OF ALHAMBRA | 31. CITY OF PALMDALE |
| 2. CITY OF ARCADIA | 32. CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES |
| 3. CITY OF ARTESIA | 33. CITY OF PARAMOUNT |
| 4. CITY OF AVALON | 34. CITY OF PASADENA |
| 5. CITY OF BELLFLOWER | 35. CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES |
| 6. CITY OF BRADBURY | 36. CITY OF REDONDO BEACH |
| 7. CITY OF BURBANK | 37. CITY OF ROLLING HILLS |
| 8. CITY OF CERRITOS | 38. CITY OF ROLLING HILLS ESTATES |
| 9. CITY OF CLAREMONT | 39. CITY OF SAN DIMAS |
| 10. CITY OF COVINA | 40. CITY OF SAN GABRIEL |
| 11. CITY OF DIAMOND BAR | 41. CITY OF SAN MARINO |
| 12. CITY OF DOWNEY | 42. CITY OF SANTA CLARITA |
| 13. CITY OF DUARTE | 43. CITY OF SIERRA MADRE |
| 14. CITY OF EL SEGUNDO | 44. CITY OF SIGNAL HILL |
| 15. CITY OF GLENDALE | 45. CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA |
| 16. CITY OF GLEN DORA | 46. CITY OF TEMPLE CITY |
| 17. CITY OF HAWAIIAN GARDENS | 47. CITY OF TORRANCE |
| 18. CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH | 48. CITY OF WEST COVINA |
| 19. CITY OF LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE | 49. CITY OF WHITTIER |
| 20. CITY OF LA HABRA HEIGHTS | |
| 21. CITY OF LA MIRADA | |
| 22. CITY OF LA VERNE | |
| 23. CITY OF LAKEWOOD | |
| 24. CITY OF LANCASTER | |
| 25. CITY OF LOMITA | |
| 26. CITY OF LONG BEACH | |
| 27. CITY OF LOS ANGELES | |
| 28. CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH | |
| 29. CITY OF MONROVIA | |
| 30. CITY OF NORWALK | |



Simpson and Simpson, LLP

- We conducted our audits of compliance in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in government auditing standards, and the compliance requirements described in the Measure M Ordinance, the Measure M Local Return Guidelines and the respective Assurances and Understandings Regarding Receipt and Use of Measure M Local Return Funds.



Summary of Findings



Summary of Findings

- ❖ Audits were performed in all 49 jurisdictions.
 - Total dollar amounts associated with the findings increased from \$17,148 in FY2023 to \$123,759 in the FY2024 compliance audit.

Total Questioned Costs:

- \$123,759, approximately 0.1% of the FY2024 Measure M allocations, totaling \$130,415,136 under Package B.
- All questioned costs were resolved during the audits.

Types of Questioned Costs:

- a) \$14,981: Funds expended on Measure M eligible projects without prior approval from Metro (resolved during the audit).
- b) \$108,778: No timely use of funds (resolved during the audit).

Compliance Findings:

- **5 Non-Compliance Findings** identified.
- No Material Weaknesses and No Significant Deficiencies in internal control over compliance for FY2024.



Summary of Findings (Cont.)

Finding	# of Findings	Responsible Cities/ Finding Reference	Questioned Costs	Resolved During the Audit
Funds were expended with Metro's approval.	2	Artesia (#2024-001) Temple City (#2024-005)	\$ 981 14,000	\$ 981 14,000
Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.	2	Glendora (#2024-002) South Pasadena (#2024-004)	None None	None None



Summary of Findings (Cont.)

Finding	# of Findings	Responsible Cities/ Finding Reference	Questioned Costs	Resolved During the Audit
Timely use of funds.	1	South Pasadena (#2024-003)	\$ 108,778	\$ 108,778
Total Findings and Questioned Cost	5		\$ 123,759	\$ 123,759



Analysis of Measure M Audit Results



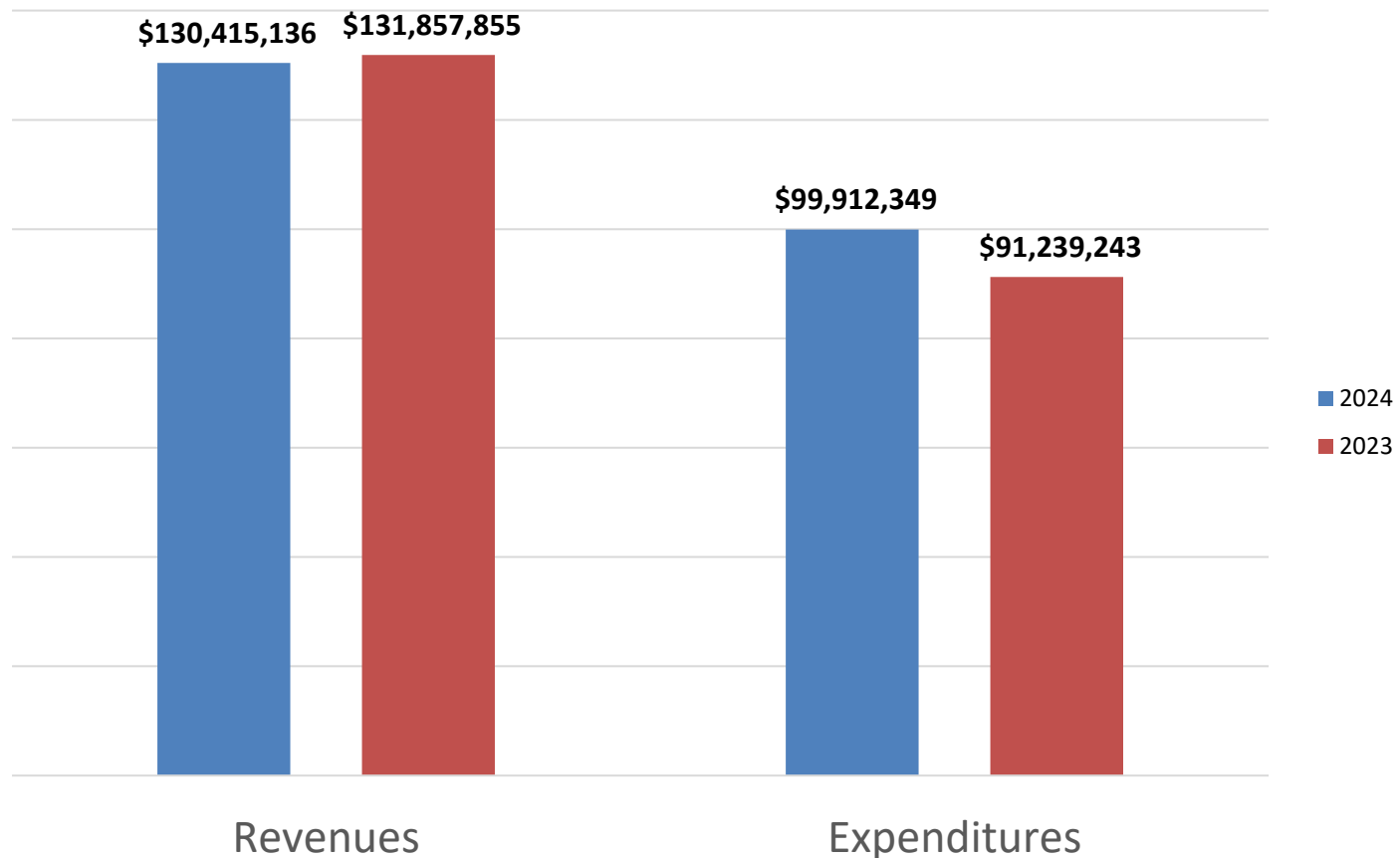
Material Weakness and Significant Deficiency In Internal Controls over Compliance

- **There were no material weaknesses and no significant deficiencies in internal control over Compliance noted during our audit in FY2024.**



Revenue and Expenditures of 49 Jurisdictions

FY 2024 & FY 2023 Revenues and Expenditures



Simpson & Simpson CPAs

Contact information

Team member	Contact information
Grace Yuen Lead Engagement Partner	Email: gyuen@simpsonllp.com
Etta Hur Engagement Partner	Email: ehur@simpsonllp.com
Melba Simpson Quality Control Partner	Email: msimpson@simpsonllp.com
Austine Cho Audit Senior Manager	Email: acho@simpsonllp.com
Samuel Qiu Managing Partner (SBE)	Email: samq@qiuaccountancy.com
Dulce Kapuno Audit Manager (SBE)	Email: dulcek@qiuaccountancy.com



Questions





Metro®

**PRESENTATION
TO THE MEASURE M
INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MEASURE M LOCAL
RETURN FUNDS
(Package A)**

March 5, 2025



/ Table of Contents

Scope of the Audits	2
Levels of Assurance, Compliance Criteria and Auditing Standards Utilized	4
Revenue and Expenditures of the County of Los Angeles and 39 Cities	6
Overview of the Audit Results	8
Details of Audit Results	10
Material Weaknesses in Internal Control over Compliance	14
Required Communications to the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee	17
Questions	22
Contact Information	23

/ Scope of the Audits



/ Scope of the Audits

Financial and Compliance Audits of Measure M Local Return Funds held by the County of Los Angeles and 39 Cities under Package A

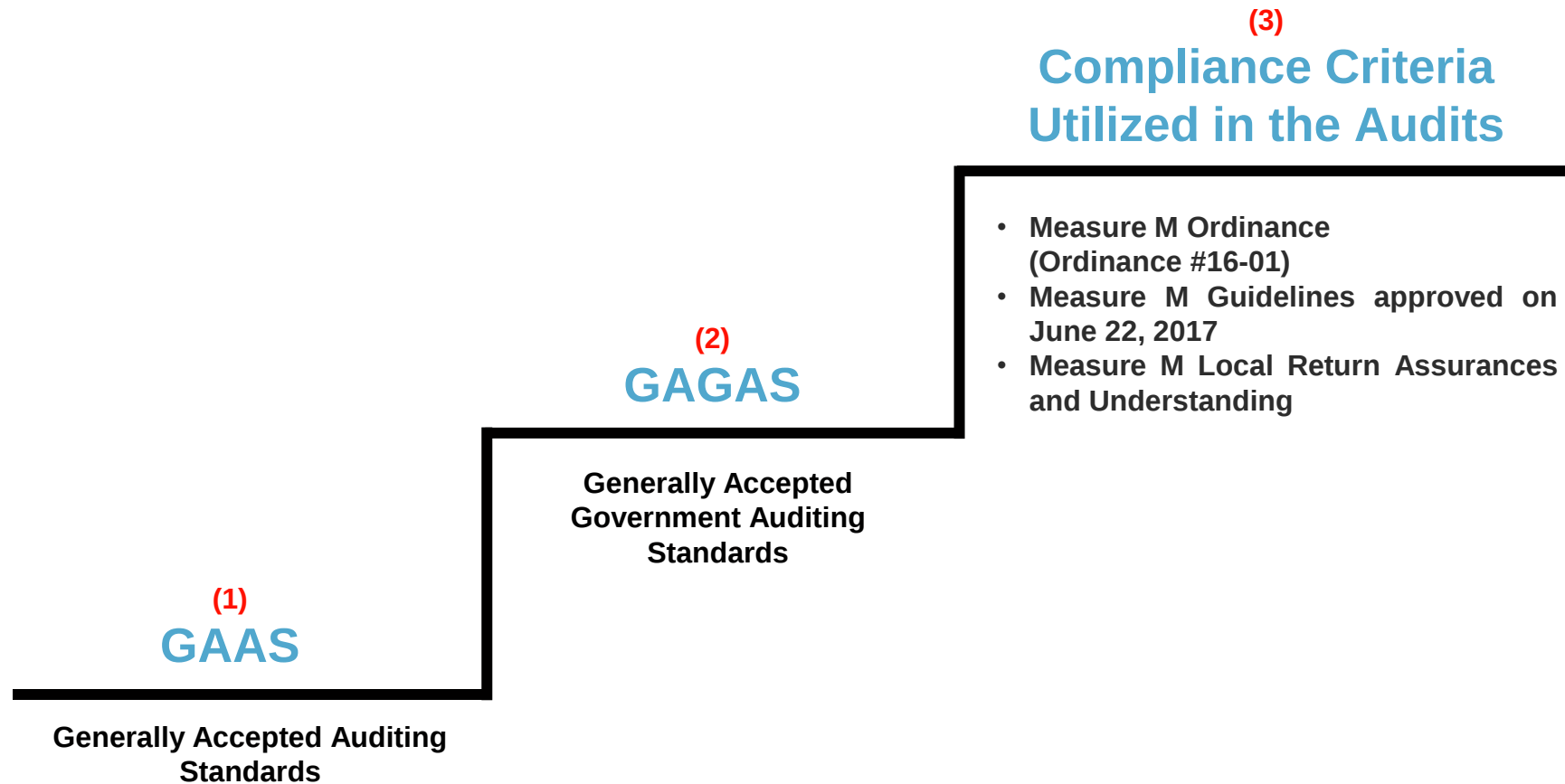
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. County of Los Angeles | 11. Compton | 21. Irwindale | 31. Rosemead |
| 2. Agoura Hills | 12. Cudahy | 22. La Puente | 32. San Fernando |
| 3. Azusa | 13. Culver City | 23. Lawndale | 33. Santa Fe Springs |
| 4. Baldwin Park | 14. El Monte | 24. Lynwood | 34. Santa Monica |
| 5. Bell | 15. Gardena | 25. Malibu | 35. South El Monte |
| 6. Bell Gardens | 16. Hawthorne | 26. Maywood | 36. South Gate |
| 7. Beverly Hills | 17. Hidden Hills | 27. Montebello | 37. Vernon |
| 8. Calabasas | 18. Huntington Park | 28. Monterey Park | 38. Walnut |
| 9. Carson | 19. Industry | 29. Pico Rivera | 39. West Hollywood |
| 10. Commerce | 20. Inglewood | 30. Pomona | 40. Westlake Village |



/ Levels of Assurance, Compliance Criteria and Auditing Standards Utilized



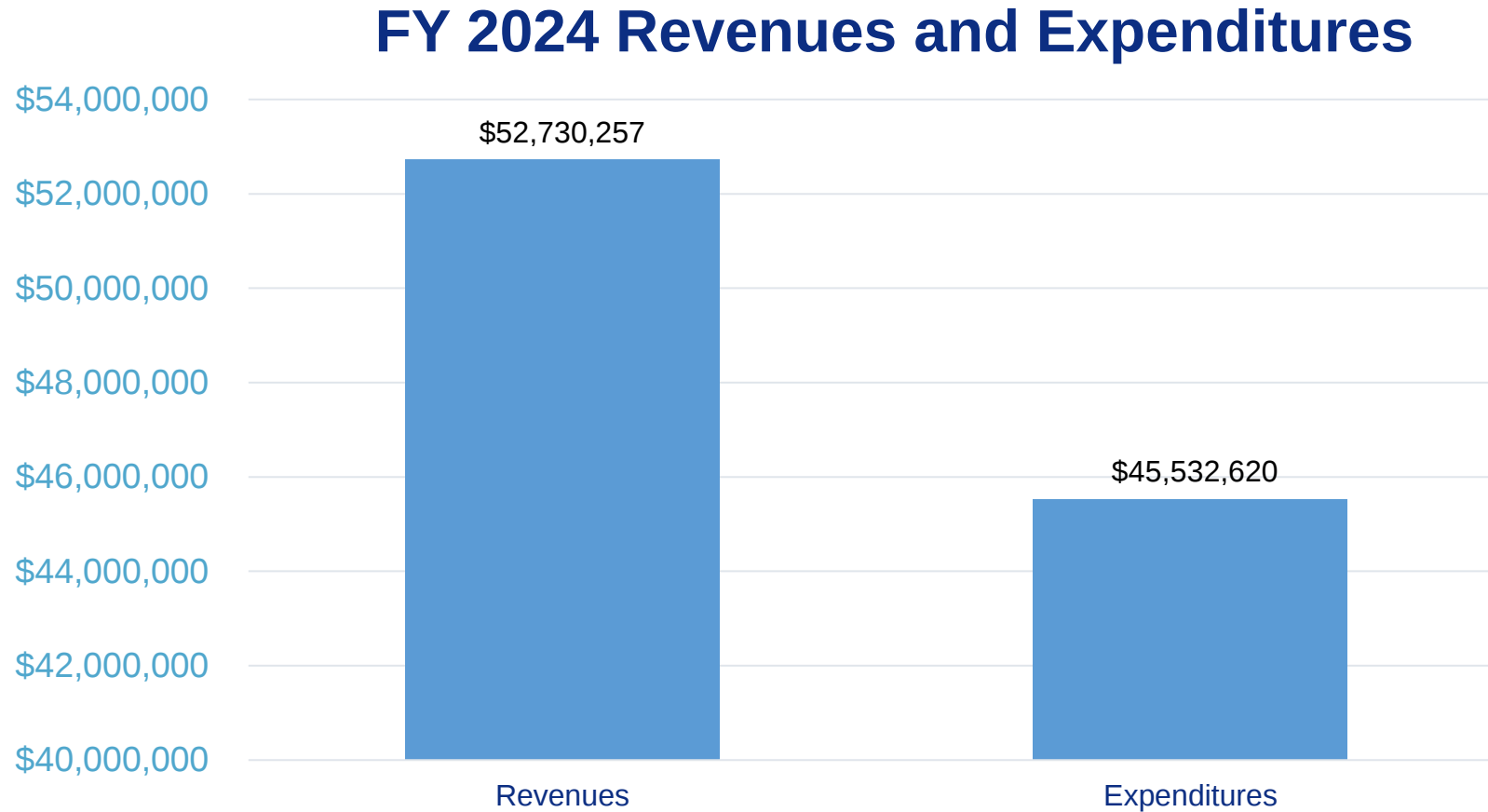
/ Levels of Assurance, Compliance Criteria and Auditing Standards Utilized



/ Revenue and Expenditures of the County of Los Angeles and 39 Cities



/ Revenue and Expenditures of the County of Los Angeles and 39 Cities



/ Overview of the Audit Results



/ Overview of the Audit Results

FY 2024 Summary of Audit Results

- Dollars associated with the findings have increased from \$0 in FY2023 to \$462,487 in FY2024 audit.
- This represents about 0.88% of the total Measure M FY2024 allocations of \$52,730,257 to the County of Los Angeles and the 39 cities under Package A.

Questioned Costs

- \$323,361 of the questioned costs relates to Measure M funds expended on eligible projects prior to Metro's approval.
- \$139,126 of the questioned cost relates to unused funds which lapsed as of June 30, 2024. The cities received a one-year extension to use the lapsed funds.

All of these were resolved during the audit.

/ Details of Audit Results



/ Details of Audit Results

Our findings are as follows:

A. Funds were expended prior to Metro's approval.

- Compliance Reference: Section XXV Administrative, Reporting Requirements, Expenditure Plan (8/1 Table) of the Measure M Local Return Guidelines states that, "To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure M LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdiction shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (8/1 Table), annually, by August 1st of each year".
- Number of cities involved: 3 of 39 cities
- Questioned costs for 2024:

	Total Expenditures Claimed for 2024	Questioned	Resolved During the Audit	Report Reference
1. Culver City	\$ 403,795	\$ 311,950	\$ 311,950	Finding #2024-003, Page 10
2. Maywood	1,300,200	2,288	2,288	Finding #2024-006, Page 14
3. South Gate	2,295,972	9,123	9,123	Finding #2024-007, Page 15
	<u>\$ 3,999,967</u>	<u>\$ 323,361</u>	<u>\$ 323,361</u>	

/ Details of Audit Results, continued

B. Funds were not used in a timely manner.

- Compliance Reference: Section XXV Lapsing Requirements of Measure M Local Return Guidelines states that “Measure M LR funds have five (5) years to be expended. Funds must be expended within five years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated or received. A First- In-First-Out (FIFO) method of calculation will be used to determine any lapsing of funds. The Measure M LR allocation, interest income and other income earned from LR projects (such as revenues from advertising) which are not expended within the allocated time, will consequently lapse, and be returned to Metro upon request, for reallocation to Jurisdictions on a per capita basis.”

Number of cities involved: 2 of 39 cities

Questioned costs for 2024:

	Total Expenditures Claimed for 2024	Questioned	Resolved During the Audit	Report Reference
1. Cudahy	\$ 38,270	\$ 119,107	\$ 119,107	Finding #2024-002, Page 9
2. Hidden Hills	-	20,019	20,019	Finding #2024-004, Page 11
	<u>\$ 38,270</u>	<u>\$ 139,126</u>	<u>\$ 139,126</u>	

The Cities were granted a one-year extension for the use of the lapsed funds.

/ Details of Audit Results, continued

C. Accounting procedures, recordkeeping and documentation were not adequate.

- Compliance Reference: Measure M Local Return Guidelines Section XXV, states that, “It is each Jurisdiction’s responsibility to maintain proper accounting records and documentation to facilitate the performance of the audit as prescribed in these Guidelines”.

Number of cities involved: 2 of 39 cities

- [City of Compton](#) (Finding #2024-001, page 7 of the report)
- [City of Huntington Park](#) (Finding #2024-005, page 12 of the report)

Questioned costs for 2024: None

/ Material Weaknesses in Internal Control Over Compliance



/ Material Weaknesses in Internal Control Over Compliance

City of Compton

Finding #2024-001

- During the fiscal years 2017 through 2021, the City lost several key employees in the Finance and Accounting department. As such, there were delays in the closing of the City's books for the fiscal year 2024 and prior years. As of December 24, 2024, the accounting personnel and support staff were working towards closing the books and providing the closing entries, trial balances, schedules, reconciliations, account analyses, and other financial reports needed by management and the auditors.
- A disclaimer of opinion was issued on the City's MMLRF financial statements as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024.

/ Material Weaknesses in Internal Control Over Compliance, continued

City of Huntington Park

Finding #2024-005

- During the fiscal years 2021 through 2024, the City lost several key employees, particularly in the Finance and Accounting Department. This resulted in delays in closing the City's books for the fiscal year 2024 and prior years. As of December 24, 2024, the accounting personnel and support staff were working towards closing the books and providing the closing entries, trial balances, schedules, reconciliations, account analyses, and other financial reports needed by management and the auditors.
- A qualified opinion was issued on the City's MMLRF financial statements as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024.

/ Required Communications to the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee



/ Required Communications to the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee



Professional standards require independent accountants to discuss with those in charge of governance matters of importance which arise during the course of their audit as well as significant matters concerning the audited jurisdictions' internal controls and the preparation and composition of the financial statements. We therefore present the following information required to be communicated to the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee based upon the results of our audit of the Measure M Local Return Funds of the County of Los Angeles and the 39 cities.

/ Required Communications to the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee, continued

Management's Responsibility

Management of the jurisdictions has primary responsibility for the accounting principles used, their consistency, application and clarity.

Consultations with Other Accountants

We are not aware of any consultations by management of the jurisdictions with other accountants about accounting or auditing matters.

Difficulties with Management

We did not encounter any difficulties with management of the jurisdictions while performing our audit procedures.

/ Required Communications to the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee, continued

Disagreements with Management

We encountered no disagreements with management of the jurisdictions on financial accounting and reporting matters.

Significant Accounting Policies

The jurisdictions' significant accounting policies are appropriate and were consistently applied.

Controversial Issues

No significant or unusual transactions or accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is lack of authoritative guidance or consensus were identified.

/ Required Communications to the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee, continued

Irregularities, Fraud or Illegal Acts

No irregularities, fraud or illegal acts came to our attention as a result of our audit procedures.

Management Representations

The jurisdictions provided us with signed copies of the management representation letters prior to issuance of our auditor's opinions.

Questions

/ Contact Information

Vasquez + Company LLP has over 50 years of experience in performing audit, tax, accounting, and consulting services for all types of nonprofit organizations, governmental entities, and private companies. We are the largest minority-controlled accounting firm in the United States and the only one to have global operations and certified as MBE with the Supplier Clearinghouse for the Utility Supplier Diversity Program of the California Public Utilities Commission.

We are clients of the **RSM Professional Services+ Practice**. As a client, we have access to the Professional Services+ Collaborative, a globally connected community that provides access to an ecosystem of capabilities, collaboration and camaraderie to help professional services firms grow and thrive in a rapidly changing business environment. As a participant in the PS+ Collaborative, we have the opportunity to interact and share best practices with other professional services firms across the U.S. and Canada.

Cristy Canieda, CPA, CGMA

O: +1.213.873.1720

ccanieda@vasquezcpa.com

Roger Martinez, CPA

O: +1.213-873-1703

ram@vasquezcpa.com

www.vasquez.cpa



**Thank you for your
time and attention!**

