



Board Report

File #: 2025-0519, **File Type:** Informational Report

Agenda Number: 24.

FINANCE, BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE JULY 17, 2025

SUBJECT: CONSOLIDATED AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE the Consolidated Audit Financial and Compliance Reports completed by Vasquez and Company (Vasquez) and Simpson and Simpson (Simpson), certified public accountants, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 (FY24).

ISSUE

As the Regional Transportation Planner for Los Angeles County, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is responsible for planning, programming, and allocating transportation funding to Los Angeles County jurisdictions, transit operators, and other transportation programs. Metro has the fiduciary responsibility to provide assurance that recipients of funds included in the Consolidated Audit and Compliance Reports (Consolidated Audit) are adhering to the statutes, program guidelines, and/or agreements of each applicable funding source and that operations data used to allocate funds is fair and in accordance with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) guidelines.

The consolidated audit process includes financial and compliance audits of the following programs:

- Local Funding Program to 88 cities and Unincorporated Los Angeles County
 - Proposition A Local Return
 - Proposition C Local Return
 - Measure R Local Return
 - Measure M Local Return
 - Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3, and Article 8 Programs
 - Proposition A Discretionary Incentive Program
- Prop A Discretionary Incentive Grant
 - Antelope Valley Transit Authority
 - Pomona Valley Transportation Authority
- Transit System Operators of Commerce, Redondo Beach, and Torrance
 - Transit System Funds
 - Measure M 20%

- Measure R 20%
- Proposition A Growth Over Inflation (GOI) Fund to Burbank, Glendale, LADOT and Pasadena
- Low-Income Fare is Easy (LIFE) Program
- Metrolink Program
- EZ Transit Pass Program
- Access Services
- LADOT.

BACKGROUND

Metro allocates over \$1.2 billion annually to the stated programs and distributes them to the County of Los Angeles (the County), the 88 cities in Los Angeles County (the Cities), and other agencies. Annual audits of the programs ensure that the agencies comply with the applicable rules, regulations, policies, guidelines, and executed Memoranda of Understanding (MOU). The audits also serve as a program management tool for effectively managing and administering the programs.

Management Audit Services (MAS) contracted with the certified public accountant firms of Vasquez and Simpson to perform the financial and compliance audits and provide reasonable assurance to management that recipients of subsidies included in the Consolidated Audit are adhering to the statutes of each applicable funding source. The audits were conducted 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 issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the program guidelines.

DISCUSSION

The consolidated audit process includes financial and compliance audits of Local Return programs. With the exception of the Cities of Compton, Huntington Park, and South Pasadena, the County and Cities' financial statements were found to present fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The three Cities' Annual Comprehensive Financial Reporting (ACFR) audits were late, which delayed their bank reconciliations and closing processes for Local Return funds. However, the Cities are actively working to update their financial schedules. Although their FY24 closing processes were delayed, the Cities were able to meet other significant compliance requirements, e.g., they submitted all required budget and actual expenditure forms on time and obtained Metro's project approval prior to incurring expenditures. Below is a more detailed summary of the consolidated audit results:

Propositions A and C

Vasquez and Simpson found that the County and Cities complied, in all material respects, with the Ordinances and Guidelines requirements applicable to the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return programs for FY24.

The auditors identified 33 instances of non-compliance for Propositions A and C, consisting of 17 findings that did not result in questioned costs. Sixteen findings with questioned costs totaling

\$280,000 for Proposition A and \$1.2 million for Proposition C represent less than 1% of each total fund reviewed. There were 11 repeat findings from the prior fiscal year's audit as follows:

No.	Jurisdiction	Fund	Finding
1.	Artesia	Prop A	Exceeding 25% Budget Cap
2.	Artesia	Prop A	Late Recreational Transit Form
3.	Baldwin Park	Prop C	Exceeding 25% Budget Cap
4.	Huntington Park	Prop A	Closing Process
5.	Huntington Park	Prop C	Closing Process
6.	Huntington Park	Prop C	Late Recreational Transit Form
7.	La Habra Heights	Prop A	Exceeding 25% Budget Cap
8.	La Habra Heights	Prop A	No prior approval of project for \$24,322.
9.	Lynwood	Prop A	No prior approval of project for \$188,157
10.	Palmdale	Prop C	Lapsed funds of \$56,743.
11.	Palos Verdes Estates	Prop C	Lapsed funds of \$188,565.

As required by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) Reform and Accountability Act of 1998, the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return audit results were presented to the Independent Citizens' Advisory and Oversight Committee (ICAOC) on March 5, 2025. A Public Hearing was also conducted on June 4, 2025, to receive public input.

The Reports on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Proposition A and Proposition C Ordinances and Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines for FY24 are included as Attachment A-B.

Measure R

Vasquez and Simpson found that the County and Cities complied, in all material respects, with the requirements in the Ordinance and Guidelines that are applicable to the Measure R Local Return program for FY24.

The auditors found 10 instances of non-compliance for Measure R, consisting of four findings that did not result in questioned costs. Six findings with questioned costs totaling \$4.5 million for Measure R represent less than 3% of the total amount reviewed. There were two repeat findings from the prior fiscal year's audit as follows:

No.	Jurisdiction	Fund	Finding
1.	Huntington Park	Measure R	Closing Process
2.	South Gate	Measure R	No prior approval of project for \$1,769,793.

As required by the Ordinance, the Measure R Local Return audit results were presented to the MRITOC on March 5, 2025. A Public Hearing for MRITOC was also conducted on June 2, 2025, to receive public input. The Ordinance also requires the MRITOC to prepare an annual report for the Metro Board of Directors, presenting the results of the annual audit process and any findings made (Attachment C).

Measure M

Vasquez and Simpson found that the County and Cities complied, in all material respects, with the requirements in the Ordinance and Guidelines that are applicable to the Measure M Local Return program for FY24.

The auditors found 12 instances of non-compliance for Measure M, consisting of four findings that did not result in questioned costs. Eight findings with questioned costs totaling \$586,000 for Measure M represent less than 1% of the total amount reviewed. There was one repeat finding from the prior fiscal year's audit for the City of Huntington Park related to their year-end closing process.

As required by the Ordinance, the Measure M Local Return audit results were presented to the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (MMITOC) on March 5, 2025. A Public Hearing was also conducted on June 4, 2025, to receive public input. The Ordinance also requires the MMITOC to prepare an annual report for the Metro Board of Directors, presenting the results of the annual audit process and any findings made (Attachment D).

Non-Local Return

The consolidated audit process includes financial and compliance audits of Non-Local Return programs. The following is a summary of consolidated audit results:

The auditors found that, except for FAME Assistant Corporation (FAC) for the LIFE program, the schedules/financial statements for the other various programs included in the Consolidated Audit present fairly, in all material respects. They also found that the entities complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements of their respective guidelines. However, the auditors noted several compliance findings, including 33 findings for the TDA Article 3 program and one finding for Metrolink. There were six repeat findings for the TDA program from the prior fiscal year's audit related to unencumbered fund balances.

Simpson conducted agreed-upon procedures for the LIFE program administrators, FAC, and the

International Institute of Los Angeles (IILA), to assess compliance with eligibility verification requirements for two periods: July-December 2023 and January-June 2024. The engagements, conducted to assist Metro's program manager in effectively managing the program, found that while all sampled documentation was properly maintained, only 42% of patrons confirmed eligibility, with 4% refusing to submit documents, 17% submitting incomplete information, and 37% unresponsive - often due to homelessness or outdated contact details. Following discussions between MAS, the auditors, and the program manager, improvements were made, including the implementation of reminders for patrons to update their contact information. These efforts resulted in increased confirmed eligibility (from 36% to 48%) and a decrease in unresponsiveness (from 42% to 32%) in the second half of FY24.

On May 1, 2024, FAC filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy, resulting in the termination of its LIFE program operations, financial reporting activities, and administrative functions. Due to the lack of sufficient and appropriate audit evidence, the auditor issued a disclaimer of opinion on FAC's financial statements and compliance. FAC's LIFE program contract ended on June 30, 2024, and key staff transitioned to the remaining LIFE program administrator, IILA, to ensure continuity of services and program administration. As of July 1, 2024, IILA became the sole administrator of the LIFE program across all service areas.

Metro Program Managers continue to work with fund recipients to resolve the remaining open findings. The independent auditors will validate the resolution of all findings within next year's annual Consolidated Audit Financial and Compliance Report process.

Due to the considerable size of the documents, additional Consolidated Audit reports are accessible online.

The comprehensive financial and compliance audit reports issued by Vasquez are accessible online at:

[<https://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/FY24%20Consolidated%20Audit%20-%20Vasquez/>](https://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/FY24%20Consolidated%20Audit%20-%20Vasquez/)

The comprehensive financial and compliance audit reports issued by Simpson are accessible online at:

[<https://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/FY24%20Consolidated%20Audit%20-%20Simpson/>](https://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/FY24%20Consolidated%20Audit%20-%20Simpson/)

EQUITY PLATFORM

The Consolidated Audit, Financial, and Compliance Reports in this report support compliance with applicable ordinances and guidelines, as well as assist program managers in effectively managing and administering programs that serve all communities throughout the County. There are no known equity impacts or concerns associated with the audit services conducted to complete the FY24 Consolidated Audit.

VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED OUTCOME

VMT and VMT per capita in Los Angeles County are lower than national averages, the lowest in the SCAG region, and on the lower end of VMT per capita statewide, with these declining VMT trends due in part to Metro's significant investment in rail and bus transit.* Metro's Board-adopted VMT reduction targets align with California's statewide climate goals, including achieving carbon neutrality by 2045. To ensure continued progress, all Board items are assessed for their potential impact on VMT.

While this item does not directly encourage taking transit, sharing a ride, or using active transportation, it is a vital part of Metro operations, as it provides information on audits in support of Metro's various projects and programs. Because the Metro Board has adopted an agency-wide VMT Reduction Target, and this item generally supports the overall function of the agency, this item is consistent with the goals of reducing VMT.

*Based on population estimates from the United States Census and VMT estimates from Caltrans' Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) data between 2001-2019.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Approval of this item supports Metro Vision 2028 Goal #5: Provide responsive, accountable, and trustworthy governance within the Metro organization. The projects/programs developed with these funds directly or indirectly support all five Vision 2028 goals identified in Metro's Strategic Plan.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue to work with the respective jurisdictions to resolve the findings. As many of the findings are related to late form submittals and process updates, the auditors will validate the resolution of the findings within next year's annual Consolidated Audit process. Findings that are not resolved will be identified as repeat findings and will escalate in terms of materiality.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - FY24 Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Reports (Vasquez)

Attachment B - FY24 Proposition A and Proposition C Reports Local Return (Simpson)

Attachment C - FY24 Measure R Annual Report

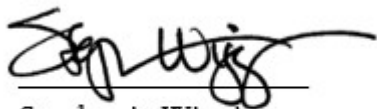
Attachment D - FY24 Measure M Annual Report

Prepared by: Monica Del Toro, Senior Manager, Audit, (213) 922-7494

Lauren Choi, Senior Director, Audit, (213) 922-3926

Kimberly Houston, Deputy Chief Auditor, (213) 922-4720

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Step Wiggins', written over a horizontal line.

Stephanie Wiggins
Chief Executive Officer



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
WITH THE REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO PROPOSITION A
AND PROPOSITION C ORDINANCES AND PROPOSITION A
AND PROPOSITION C 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 PROPOSITION A
AND PROPOSITION C ORDINANCES AND PROPOSITION A
AND PROPOSITION C 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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
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 APPLICABLE TO PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C ORDINANCES AND PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITON C LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES	1
List of Package A 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



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 PROPOSITION A
AND PROPOSITION C ORDINANCES AND PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C
LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

**To the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
and Proposition A and Proposition C
Independent Citizen's Advisory and 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 Proposition A and Proposition C Ordinances enacted through a Los Angeles County voter-approved law in November 1980 and November 1990, respectively; Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, issued by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), approved by its Board of Directors in FY 2006-07 (collectively, the Guidelines); and the respective Assurances and Understandings Regarding Receipt and Use of Proposition A and Proposition C 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 Compliance Area Tested and 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 the Requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return programs 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 Proposition A Local Return program and Proposition C 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 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 #2024-015. 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 may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

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. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2) as Findings #2024-004 and #2024-009 to be material weaknesses.

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 #2024-002, #2024-008 and #2024-010 to be significant deficiencies.

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 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.



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.

Vasquez & Company LLP

Glendale, California
December 31, 2024

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Compliance Area Tested
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

1. Uses the State Controller's Uniform System of Accounts and Records or has established a separate Proposition A and Proposition C Local Transit Assistance Account for local return purposes.
2. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Proposition A and/or Proposition C Local Return Account.
3. Funds were expended with Metro's approval and were not substituted for property tax.
4. Timely use of funds.
5. Administrative expenses are within the 20% cap.
6. Expenditures that exceeded 25% of approved project budget have approved amended Project Description Form (Form A) or electronic equivalent.
7. Annual Project Update Report (Form B) or electronic equivalent was submitted on time.
8. Annual Expenditure Report (Form C) or electronic equivalent was submitted on time.
9. Pavement Management System (PMS) is in place and being used for Street Maintenance or Improvement Projects Expenditures.
10. Local Return Account is credited for reimbursable expenditures.
11. Where Proposition A 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. Self-Certification was completed and submitted for Intelligent Transportation Systems projects and elements.
13. A separate account was established for Capital reserve funds, Capital reserve was approved by Metro and current status is reported in the Annual Project Update (Form B) or electronic equivalent.
14. Recreational transit form was submitted on time.
15. Fund exchanges (trades, loans, or gifts) were approved by Metro.
16. Proposition C Local Return Funds were used to augment, not supplant existing local revenues being used for road improvement purposes.
17. All on-going and carryover projects were reported on Form B or electronic equivalent.
18. Cash or cash equivalents are maintained.
19. Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Summary of Compliance Findings
Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2024**

The audits of the County of Los Angeles and the 39 cities have resulted in 15 findings. The table below summarizes these findings:

Compliance Areas	# of Findings	Responsible Cities/ Finding No. Reference	Questioned Costs		Resolved During the Audit
			PALRF	PCLRF	
Funds were expended with Metro's approval and were not substituted for property tax.	6	Baldwin Park (See Finding #2024-001)	\$ -	\$ 151,000	\$ 151,000
		Culver City (See Finding #2024-006)	-	29,962	29,962
		Lynwood (See Finding #2024-010)	188,157	-	188,157
		Montebello (See Finding #2024-011)	-	20,343	20,343
		Santa Monica (See Finding #2024-012)	5,818	-	5,818
		South Gate (See Finding #2024-013)	-	441,633	441,633
Timely use of funds.	1	Westlake Village (See Finding #2024-015)	-	25,362	25,362
Expenditures that exceeded 25% of approved project budget have approved amended Project Description Form (Form A) or electronic equivalent.	4	Baldwin Park (See Finding #2024-002)	-	None	None
		Calabasas (See Finding #2024-003)	None	-	None
		Hidden Hills (See Finding #2024-007)	-	None	None
		South Gate (See Finding #2024-014)	-	None	None
Recreational transit form was submitted on time.	2	Cudahy (See Finding #2024-005)	None	None	None
		Huntington Park (See Finding #2024-008)	None	-	None
Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.	2	Compton (See Finding #2024-004)	None	None	None
		Huntington Park (See Finding #2024-009)	None	None	None
Total Findings and Questioned Costs	15		\$ 193,975	\$ 668,300	\$ 862,275

Details of the above findings are presented in Schedule 2.

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Finding #2024-001: PCLRF	City of Baldwin Park
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City claimed expenditures under the following projects prior to approval from Metro. a. Project code 105, Existing Fixed Route Service, totaling \$60,000; and b. Project code 107, Dial-A-Ride Service, totaling \$91,000. Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, these projects had no prior approval from Metro.
Cause	The City did not anticipate incurring eligible expenditures for these projects. The City was not able to submit a budget request for Metro's approval until after June 30, 2024.
Effect	The City claimed expenditures totaling \$151,000 of Proposition C 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 projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted a budget request via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budgets for said projects on August 1, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said projects was obtained via LRMS on August 1, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-002: PCLRF	City of Baldwin Park
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that, "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for: 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City exceeded Metro's approved budget by more than 25 percent prior to obtaining approval through a revised Form A or a budget request via LRMS for the PCLRF's Project code 705, Street Maintenance. The amount in excess of 25 percent of the approved budget was \$24,821. Projects with greater than 25 percent change from the approved project budget should be amended by submitting a Project Description Form (Form A) or a budget request via LRMS. The City submitted the budget request through LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the project from Metro Program Manager. This is a repeat finding from the prior year.
Cause	The City did not anticipate incurring eligible expenditures for more than the approved budget for this project. The City was not able to submit a request to increase the budget for Metro's approval until after June 30, 2024.
Effect	The City's PCLRF project expenditure exceeded 25 percent of the approved project budget prior to Metro's approval, which resulted in the City's noncompliance with the Guidelines.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-002: PCLRF (Continued)	City of Baldwin Park
Recommendation	We recommend the City submit a revised Form A or submit a budget request via LRMS to obtain Metro's approval for the change in the project budget and implement internal controls to ensure compliance with this requirement at all times.
Management's Response	The City agrees with the finding and will submit a revised budget via LRMS prior to the end of the fiscal year to obtain Metro's approval for the change in the project budget and implement internal controls to ensure compliance with this requirement at all times. The City submitted a budget request to Metro Program Manager and obtained retroactive approval of the budget for said project on July 30, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive approval of the said project on July 30, 2024. No additional follow up is required.

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Finding #2024-003: PALRF	City of Calabasas
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that, "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for: 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City exceeded Metro's approved budget by more than 25 percent prior to obtaining approval through a revised Form A or a budget request via LRMS for PALRF's Project code 110 Public Transit Fueling. The amount in excess of 25 percent of the approved budget was \$21,801. Projects with greater than 25 percent change from the approved project budget should be amended by submitting a Project Description Form (Form A) or a budget request via LRMS. The City submitted the budget request through LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the project from the Metro Program Manager.
Cause	The City did not anticipate incurring eligible expenditures for more than the approved budget for this project. The City was not able to submit a request to increase the budget for Metro's approval until after June 30, 2024.
Effect	The City's PALRF project expenditure exceeded 25 percent of the approved project budget prior to Metro's approval, which resulted in the City's noncompliance with the Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City submit revised Form A's or submit budget requests via LRMS to obtain Metro's approval for changes in project budgets and implement internal controls to ensure compliance with this requirement at all times.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-003: PALRF (Continued)	City of Calabasas
Management's Response	The City agrees with the finding and will submit a revised budget via LRMS prior to the end of the fiscal year to obtain Metro's approval for the change in the project budget and implement internal controls to ensure compliance with this requirement at all times. The City submitted a budget request to the Metro Program Manager and obtained retroactive approval of the budget for said project on November 20, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive approval of the said project on November 20, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-004: PALRF and PCLRF	City of Compton
Compliance Reference	Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines Section V, states that, "It is the jurisdictions' 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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-004: PALRF and PCLRF (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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Finding #2024-005: PALRF and PCLRF	City of Cudahy
Compliance Reference	Section III(A) Reporting Requirements for Jurisdictions, Annual Expenditure Report (Form C or Actuals Entry) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that, "For Jurisdictions with Recreational Transit projects, Jurisdictions are required to annually submit an accounting of Recreational Transit trips, destinations and costs. This information should be submitted along with the Form C or Actuals Entry, no later than October 15 after the fiscal year".
Condition	The City submitted its Recreational Transit Certification on November 21, 2024, 37 days after the due date of October 15, 2024.
Cause	Due to changes in Public Works department staffing, there was a transition period that affected the changeover of communication of required reporting with Metro.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the reporting requirements of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that the Recreational Transit Certification is submitted by October 15 th as required by the Guidelines.
Management's Response	The City will ensure the Recreational Transit Certification is submitted in a timely manner by October 15 th for each fiscal year.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	The City subsequently submitted the Recreational Transit Certification on November 21, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-006: PCLRF	City of Culver City
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City claimed expenditure under Proposition C Project code 303, Network-wide Signal System Synch, totaling \$29,962, prior to 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 budget request.
Effect	The City claimed expenditure totaling \$29,962 of Proposition C 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 projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted a budget request via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budget for said project.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said project was obtained via LRMS on December 18, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-007: PCLRF	City of Hidden Hills
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that, "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for: 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City exceeded Metro's approved budget by more than 25 percent prior to obtaining approval through a revised Form A or a budget request via LRMS for PCLRF's Project code 806 Round Meadow Road and Mureau Road Landscape Maintenance. The amount in excess of 25 percent of the approved budget was \$5,421. Projects with greater than 25 percent change from the approved project budget should be amended by submitting a Project Description Form (Form A) or a budget request via LRMS. The City submitted the budget request through LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the project from the Metro Program Manager.
Cause	The City did not anticipate incurring eligible expenditures for more than the approved budget for this project. The City was not able to submit a request to increase the budget for Metro's approval until after June 30, 2024.
Effect	The City's PCLRF project expenditure exceeded 25 percent of the approved project budget prior to Metro's approval, which resulted in the City's noncompliance with the Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City submit revised Form A's or submit budget requests via LRMS to obtain Metro's approval for changes in project budgets and implement internal controls to ensure compliance with this requirement at all times.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-007: PCLRF (Continued)	City of Hidden Hills
Management's Response	The City agrees with the finding and will submit a revised budget via LRMS prior to the end of the fiscal year to obtain Metro's approval for the change in the project budget and implement internal controls to ensure compliance with this requirement at all times. The City submitted a budget request to the Metro Program Manager and obtained retroactive approval of the budget for said project on July 9, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive approval of the said project on July 9, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-008: PALRF	City of Huntington Park
Compliance Reference	Section III(A) Reporting Requirements for Jurisdictions, Annual Expenditure Report (Form C or Actuals Entry) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that, "For Jurisdictions with Recreational Transit projects, Jurisdictions are required to annually submit an accounting of Recreational Transit trips, destinations and costs. This information should be submitted along with the Form C or Actuals Entry, no later than October 15 after the fiscal year".
Condition	The City submitted its Recreational Transit Certification for PALRF on December 11, 2024, 57 days after the due date of October 15, 2024. This is a repeat finding from prior year.
Cause	The City inadvertently missed the filing deadline.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the reporting requirements of the Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that the Recreational Transit Certification is submitted by October 15 th as required by the Guidelines.
Management's Response	The City will ensure the Recreational Transit Certification is submitted in a timely manner by October 15 th for each fiscal year.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	The City subsequently submitted the Recreational Transit Certification on December 11, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-009: PALRF and PCLRF	City of Huntington Park
Compliance Reference	Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines Section V, states that, "It is the jurisdictions' 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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-009: PALRF and PCLRF (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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Finding #2024-010: PALRF	City of Lynwood
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that, "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for: 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City claimed expenditures under Proposition A Project code 610, Liability Insurance, totaling \$188,157, prior to approval from Metro. Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, this project had no prior approval from Metro. This is a repeat finding from prior year.
Cause	The City did not anticipate incurring eligible expenditures 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 expenditures totaling \$188,157 of Proposition A funds prior to approval by Metro. The City did not comply with the Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that approval is obtained from Metro prior to spending on Local Return-funded projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted a budget request to Metro Program Manager and obtained a retroactive approval of the budget for said project on November 13, 2024.
Finding Resolved During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted a retroactive approval of the said project on November 13, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-011: PCLRF	City of Montebello
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that, "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for: 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City claimed expenditure prior to approval from Metro under Project code 620, Administrative Overhead, totaling \$20,343. 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 \$20,343 of Proposition C 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 it on Local Return-funded projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted a budget request to Metro Program Manager and obtained retroactive approval of the budget for said project on September 3, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive approval of the budget for said project on September 3, 2024. No additional follow up is required.

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Finding #2024-012: PALRF	City of Santa Monica
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City claimed expenditures prior to approval from Metro under Project code 610, Direct Administration – Prop A, totaling \$5,818. 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 expenditures 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 \$5,818 of Proposition A 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 it on Local Return-funded projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted a budget request via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budget for said project on July 30, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said project was obtained via LRMS on July 30, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Finding #2024-013: PCLRF	City of South Gate
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City claimed expenditures under the following Proposition C projects prior to approval from Metro. c. Project code 302, Replacement of Damaged Traffic Signal Poles at the Intersections, totaling \$194,198; and d. Project code 705, Citywide Roadway Maintenance by City Forces, totaling \$247,435. Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, these projects had no prior approval from Metro.
Cause	The City did not anticipate incurring eligible expenditures for these projects. The City was not able to submit a budget request for Metro's approval until after June 30, 2024.
Effect	The City claimed expenditures totaling \$441,633 of Proposition C 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 projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted budget requests via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budgets for said projects on October 15, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said projects was obtained via LRMS on October 15, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Finding #2024-014: PCLRF	City of South Gate
Compliance Reference	Section I(C) Project Description Form (Form A) of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that, "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form (Form A) or its electronic equivalent prior to the expenditure of funds for: 1) a new project; 2) a new route; 3) a 25 percent change (increase or decrease) in route or revenue vehicle miles for an established LR funded transit service; 4) a 0.75 miles or greater service change that duplicates/overlays an existing transit service; or 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City exceeded Metro's approved budget by more than 25 percent prior to obtaining approval through a revised Form A or a budget request via LRMS for the PCLRF's Project code 715, Illuminated Street Name Sign Replacement. The amount in excess of 25 percent of the approved budget was \$24,139. Projects with greater than 25 percent change from the approved project budget should be amended by submitting a Project Description Form (Form A) or a budget request via LRMS. The City submitted the budget request through LRMS and obtained a retroactive approval of the project via LRMS.
Cause	The City did not anticipate incurring eligible expenditures for more than the approved budget for this project. The City was not able to submit a request to increase the budget for Metro's approval until after June 30, 2024.
Effect	The City's PCLRF project expenditure exceeded 25 percent of the approved project budget prior to Metro's approval, which resulted in the City's noncompliance with the Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City submit revised Form A's or submit budget requests via LRMS to obtain Metro's approval for the changes in project budget and implement internal controls to ensure compliance with this requirement at all times.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-014: PCLRF (Continued)	City of South Gate
Management's Response	The City agrees with the finding and will submit a revised budget via LRMS prior to the end of the fiscal year to obtain Metro's approval for the change in project budget and implement internal controls to ensure compliance with this requirement at all times. The City submitted a budget request via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budget for said project.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said project was obtained via LRMS on November 7, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

**Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)**

Finding #2024-015: PCLRF	City of Westlake Village
Compliance Reference	Section I(B) Timely Use of Funds of the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines states that, "Jurisdictions have three years to expend LR funds. Funds must be expended within three years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated. Therefore, by method of calculation, each Jurisdiction has the Fiscal Year of allocation plus three years to expend Proposition A and/or Proposition C funds."
Condition	The City has unused Proposition C funds amounting to \$25,362 which lapsed as of June 30, 2024.
Cause	The City programmed Prop C funding as part of the street work project for FY 2023-24. That work was advertised for bids on February 12, 2024. However, the bid was unsuccessful and the project had to be re-bid on April 24, 2024. This project has subsequently been completed at the beginning of FY 2024-25 and is currently in a close-out process.
Effect	The City did not comply with Proposition C LR Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend the City establish procedures and internal controls to ensure that Proposition C funds are used timely.
Management's Response	The City has already expended these Proposition C funds during FY 2024/25 after the successful re-bid was completed. 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 November 21, 2024, Metro granted an extension of the use of the funds remaining with the City through June 30, 2025. No 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
PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C ORDINANCES AND
PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C
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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
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 PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C ORDINANCES AND PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C 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 PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C ORDINANCES AND
PROPOSITION A AND PROPOSITION C LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

To: Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and
Proposition A and Proposition C Independent Citizen's Advisory and 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 Proposition A and Proposition C Ordinances enacted through a Los Angeles County voter-approved law in November 1980 and November 1990, respectively; Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, issued by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), approved by its Board of Directors in FY 2006-07 (collectively, the Guidelines); and the respective Assurances and Understandings Regarding Receipt and Use of Proposition A and Proposition C 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 Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return programs 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.





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 Proposition A Local Return program and Proposition C 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 #2024-018. 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

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 may exist that have not been identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

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. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2) as Findings #2024-002, #2023-007 and #2023-012 to be material weaknesses.

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, #2024-006, and #2024-010 to be significant deficiencies.

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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Compliance Area Tested
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

1. Uses the State Controller's Uniform System of Accounts and Records or has established a separate Proposition A and Proposition C Local Transit Assistance Account for local return purposes.
2. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Proposition A and/or Proposition C Local Return Account.
3. Funds were expended with Metro's approval and were not substituted for property tax.
4. Timely use of funds.
5. Administrative expenses are within the 20% cap.
6. Expenditures that exceeded 25% of approved project budget have approved amended Project Description Form (Form A) or electronic equivalent.
7. Annual Project Update Report (Form B) or electronic equivalent was submitted on time.
8. Annual Expenditure Report (Form C) or electronic equivalent was submitted on time.
9. Pavement Management System (PMS) is in place and being used for Street Maintenance or Improvement Projects Expenditures.
10. Local Return Account is credited for reimbursable expenditures.
11. Where Proposition A 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. Self-Certification was completed and submitted for Intelligent Transportation Systems projects and elements.
13. A separate account was established for Capital reserve funds, Capital reserve was approved by Metro and current status is reported in the Annual Project Update (Form B) or electronic equivalent.
14. Recreational transit form was submitted on time.
15. Fund exchanges (trades, loans, or gifts) were approved by Metro.
16. Proposition C Local Return Funds were used to augment, not supplant existing local revenues being used for road improvement purposes.
17. All on-going and carryover projects were reported on Form B or electronic equivalent.
18. Cash or cash equivalents are maintained.
19. Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Summary of Compliance Findings
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

The audit of the 49 cities have resulted in eighteen (18) findings. The table below summarizes these findings:

Compliance Areas	# of Findings	Responsible Cities/ Finding No. Reference	Questioned Costs		Resolved During the Audit
			PALRF	PCLRF	
Funds were expended with Metro's approval and were not substituted for property tax.	3	Diamond Bar (#2024-004)	\$ -	\$ 51,265	\$ 51,265
		La Habra Heights (#2024-006)	24,322	-	24,322
		Lancaster (#2024-008)	-	6,802	6,802
Timely use of funds.	6	Bradbury (#2024-003)	722	-	722
		Palmdale (#2024-010)	-	56,743	56,743
		Palos Verdes Estates (#2024-012)	-	188,565	188,565
		San Dimas (#2024-013)	-	81,288	81,288
		Signal Hill (#2024-015)	51,315	-	51,315
		South Pasadena (#2024-018)	-	115,558	115,558
Expenditures that exceeded 25% of approved project budget have approved amended Project Description Form (Form A) or electronic equivalent.	4	Artesia (#2024-001)	None	-	None
		La Habra Heights (#2024-007)	None	-	None
		Palos Verdes Estates (#2024-011)	None	-	None
		San Gabriel (#2024-014)	-	None	None
Recreational transit form was submitted on time.	2	Artesia (#2024-002)	None	-	None
		Manhattan Beach (#2024-009)	None	-	None
Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.	3	Glendora (#2024-005)	None	None	None
		South Pasadena (#2024-016)	None	None	None
		South Pasadena (#2024-017)	9,375	-	None
Total Findings and Questioned Cost	18		\$ 85,734	\$ 500,221	\$ 576,580

Details of the above findings are presented in Schedule 2.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

PALRF Finding #2024-001	City of Artesia
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section I (C) Project Description Form (Form A), "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form prior to the expenditure of funds for: 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved Local Return project budget or scope on all operating or capital Local Return projects."
Condition	The City exceeded more than 25 percent of Metro's approved budget on the Project Code 155, Youth and Senior Recreation Transportation Services, in the amount of \$17,680. However, the City submitted a request to increase the budget and was approved by Metro in the amount of \$53,169 for the PALRF's Youth and Senior Recreation Transportation Services Project on December 13, 2024. This is a repeat finding from fiscal year 2022.
Cause	This was an oversight on the part of the City due to understaffing.
Effect	The City did not comply with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish procedures to ensure that project expenditures are within the 25 percent cap of Metro's approved budget and any projects exceeding the 25 percent or greater change are identified and updated in the Local Return Managements System (LRMS) to obtain Metro's approval for the change in project budget prior to the expenditures of funds.
Management's Response	The overbudget was due to an oversight. In the future, management will ensure that budget amendments are inputted in a timely manner.
Corrected During the Audit	The City subsequently entered the required information in the LRMS on December 13, 2024. No follow up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF Finding #2024-002	City of Artesia
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section II.A.1.3, Recreational Transit Service, "Jurisdictions shall submit a Listing of Recreational Transit Services no later than October 15 after the fiscal year."
Condition	The City did not meet the October 15, 2024 deadline for submitting the Recreational Transit Form to Metro. However, the City submitted the Recreational Transit Form on December 13, 2024. This is a repeat finding from fiscal years 2022 and 2023.
Cause	This was an oversight on the part of the City due to understaffing.
Effect	The City did not comply with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City take the necessary steps to ensure that new administrative staff and management are fully aware of the compliance requirements. This includes ensuring the timely submission of all required forms and documentation.
Management's Response	The City was understaffed in the program department. In the future, management will ensure that the Recreational Transit Form is submitted before the deadline.
Corrected During the Audit	The City's Recreational Transit Form was submitted to Metro on December 13, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF Finding #2024-003	City of Bradbury
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section IV (E), Timely Use of Funds: “Jurisdictions have three years to expend LR funds. Funds must be expended within three years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated. Therefore, by method of calculation, each Jurisdiction has the Fiscal Year of allocation plus three years to expend Proposition A and/or Proposition C funds.”
Condition	The City’s fiscal year 2021 ending fund balance of Proposition A funds (PALRF) in the amount of \$722 was not fully expended within 3 years as of June 30, 2024, and was not reserved for capital projects as required by the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Cause	This was an oversight on the part of the City.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish a procedure where the City staff review the estimated annual fund balance so that funds are expended timely or a capital reserve account can be established.
Management’s Response	The City accepts the finding and will ensure the remaining funds are used in fiscal year 2025. The City has requested an extension from Metro.
Corrected During the Audit	On November 12, 2024, Metro approved an extension on the usage of lapsed funds until June 30, 2025. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PCLRF Finding #2024-004	City of Diamond Bar
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section I (C), Project Description Form (Form A): "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form prior to the expenditure of funds."
Condition	The expenditures for the PCLRF's Annual Battery Back-Up and CCTV Replacement Program Project Code 304 (Project) in the total amount of \$51,265 were incurred prior to Metro's approval. However, the City subsequently received an approved budget in the amount of \$61,000 from Metro on October 15, 2024.
Cause	An oversight occurred in requesting budget approval from Metro for expenditures incurred to the Project was due to a recent transition in staffing within the Finance Department, specifically, the resignation of the Finance Supervisor who was responsible for overseeing Metro expenditures and reporting.
Effect	The City did not comply with the Guidelines as expenditures for the PCLRF 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 Proposition C Local Return projects, properly enters the budgeted amount for each project in the Local Return Management System (LRMS) and submits before the requested due date so that the City's expenditures of Proposition C Local Return Funds are in accordance with Metro's approval and the Guidelines.
Management's Response	The City proactively identified the non-compliance issue when Finance staff discovered that expenditures for the Project had occurred prior to receiving Metro's approval. Upon recognizing this oversight, City management promptly sought and obtained retroactive approval from Metro on October 15, 2024, ensuring compliance with the funding requirements. To prevent similar issues in the future, City management is implementing enhanced coordination processes between departments to ensure project carryovers are flagged, and Metro approvals are secured, well in advance of deadlines. This proactive approach reflects the City's commitment to maintaining compliance and improving internal controls.
Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive budget approval in the amount of \$61,000 for said project on October 15, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF and PCLRF Finding #2024-005	City of Glendora
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A & C Local Return Guidelines, Section V, "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 are 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 is 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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF Finding #2024-006	City of La Habra Heights
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section I (C), Project Description Form (Form A): "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form prior to the expenditure of funds."
Condition	The City incurred expenditures prior to receiving approval from Metro for Proposition A Local Return Fund (PALRF) Project Code 107, Dial-A-Ride, in the amount of \$24,322. However, the City subsequently received an approved budget in the amount of \$16,000 from Metro for the PALRF project on November 18, 2024. This is a repeat finding from fiscal year 2023.
Cause	This was an oversight by the City due to personnel turnover among administrative staff and management.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines in obtaining an approval from Metro prior to the expenditure of funds.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City take necessary steps to ensure that new administrative staff and management are fully aware of compliance requirements so that the City can obtain approval from Metro before implementing any Proposition A Local Return projects. Additionally, the City should properly enter the budgeted amount for each project in the LRMS and submit it before the requested due date. This ensures that the City's expenditures align with Metro's approval and adhere to the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Management's Response	The City will establish procedures to review and ensure that the City obtains prior Metro approval before expenditures are incurred.
Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted a retroactive budget approval of said project on November 18, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF Finding #2024-007	City of La Habra Heights
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section I (C), Project Description Form (Form A): "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form prior to the expenditure of funds for 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City exceeded Metro's approved budget for PALRF Project Code 107, Dial-A-Ride, by more than 25 percent, amounting to an excess of \$4,322. Subsequently, the City submitted a request to increase the budget from \$16,000 to \$24,322 to Metro, which was approved on December 11, 2024. This is a repeat finding from fiscal years 2022 and 2023.
Cause	This was an oversight by the City due to personnel turnover among administrative staff and management.
Effect	The City's PALRF project expenditure exceeded 25 percent of Metro's approved budget. The City was not in compliance with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City take necessary steps to ensure that new administrative staff and management are fully aware of the compliance requirements. This includes ensuring project expenditures are within 25 percent cap of Metro's approved budget and any projects exceeding the 25 percent or greater change are identified and updated in the LRMS to obtain Metro's approval for any budget change prior to the expenditure of funds.
Management's Response	The City will establish procedures to review and ensure that all budget approvals for all projects are for the proper budget amounts, and any projects exceeding the 25 percent or greater change are identified and updated in the LRMS for Metro's approval.
Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive budget approval of \$24,322 for the said project on December 11, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PCLRF Finding #2024-008	City of Lancaster
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section I (C), Project Description Form (Form A): "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form prior to the expenditure of funds."
Condition	The expenditures for the PCLRF's Project Code 720 - 2 Way Stop Round About Conversion Project, in the total amount of \$6,802, were incurred prior to Metro's approval. However, the City subsequently received an approved budget in the amount of \$2,400,000 from Metro on October 10, 2024.
Cause	This was an oversight on the part of the City.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines in obtaining an approval from Metro prior to the expenditure of funds.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City take necessary steps to ensure that new administrative staff and management are fully aware of compliance requirements so that the City can obtain approval from Metro before implementing any PCLRF projects. Additionally, the City should properly enter the budgeted amount for each project in the LRMS and submit it before the requested due date. This ensures that the City's expenditures align with Metro's approval and adhere to the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Management's Response	The City will establish procedures to ensure that it obtains Metro's approval before expenditures incurred.
Corrected During the Audit	The City subsequently entered the required information in the LRMS on October 10, 2024. No follow up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF Finding #2024-009	City of Manhattan Beach
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section II.A.1.3, Recreational Transit Service, "Jurisdictions shall submit a Listing of Recreational Transit Services no later than October 15 after the fiscal year."
Condition	The City did not meet the October 15, 2024 deadline for the submission of the Recreational Transit Form. Instead, the City submitted the Recreational Transit Form on December 5, 2024.
Cause	This was an oversight by the City in submitting the Recreational Transit Form before the due date.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City take the necessary steps to ensure that the Recreational Transit Form is properly prepared and submitted before the due date of October 15th in accordance with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Management's Response	The City will endeavor to submit the Recreational Transit Form on or before the due date.
Corrected During the Audit	The City's Recreational Transit Form was submitted on December 5, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PCLRF Finding #2024-010	City of Palmdale
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines Section IV. E. Timey Use of Funds, "...Jurisdictions have three years to expend LR funds. Funds must be expended within three years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated. Therefore, by method of calculation, each Jurisdiction has the Fiscal Year of allocation plus three years to expend Proposition A and/or Proposition C funds."
Condition	The City's fiscal year 2021 PCLRF ending fund balance in the amount of \$56,743 was not fully expended within 3 years as of June 30, 2024, and was not reserved for capital projects as required by the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines. This is a repeat finding from fiscal year 2023.
Cause	This was an oversight on the part of the City.
Effect	The City did not comply with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	In order to avoid future lapsed funds, we recommend that the City establish a procedure where the Finance staff review the estimated annual fund balance so that a capital reserve account can be established if warranted.
Management's Response	The City will establish procedures to ensure that all funds are appropriately expended or reserved in accordance with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Corrected During the Audit	On December 13, 2024, Metro granted the City an extension on the usage of the lapsed funds until June 30, 2025. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF Finding #2024-011	City of Palos Verdes Estates
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section I (C), Project Description Form (Form A): “Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form prior to the expenditure of funds for 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects.”
Condition	The City exceeded Metro's approved budget for PALRF Project Code 470, Member Dues – South Bay Cities COG FY20/21, by more than 25 percent, resulting in an excess of \$461. Subsequently, the City submitted a request to Metro for an increase in the budget from \$10,145 to \$13,142, which was approved on December 16, 2024.
Cause	This oversight by the City resulted from recent turnover in administrative staff and management, including the departure of the Public Works Director in early August 2024 and the vacant Finance Director position since March 2023.
Effect	The City’s PALRF project expenditures exceeded 25 percent of Metro’s approved budget. The City did not comply with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City take necessary steps to ensure that new administrative staff and management are fully aware of the compliance requirements. This includes ensuring project expenditures are within the 25 percent cap of Metro’s approved budget. Any projects exceeding this 25 percent cap should be identified and updated in the Local Return Management System (LRMS) to obtain Metro’s approval for any budget changes prior to the expenditure of funds.
Management’s Response	The City agrees with this finding. In the future, the City will review the budget approvals for all projects before submitting them to Metro to ensure that the proper budget amounts are requested.
Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive budget approval of \$13,142 for the project on December 16, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PCLRF Finding #2024-012	City of Palos Verdes Estates
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines Section IV. E. Timey Use of Funds, "...Jurisdictions have three years to expend LR funds. Funds must be expended within three years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated. Therefore, by method of calculation, each Jurisdiction has the Fiscal Year of allocation plus three years to expend Proposition A and/or Proposition C funds."
Condition	The City's fiscal year 2021 ending fund balance of PCLRF, in the amount of \$188,565, was not fully expended within 3 years as of June 30, 2024, and was not reserved for capital projects as required by the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines. However, on December 9, 2024, Metro granted the City an extension on the usage of lapsed funds until June 30, 2025. This is a repeat finding from fiscal years 2021, 2022, and 2023.
Cause	This oversight by the City resulted from recent turnover in administrative staff and management, including the departure of the Public Works Director in early August 2024 and the vacant Finance Director position since March 2023.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	In order to avoid future lapsed funds, we recommend that the City take the necessary steps to ensure that new administrative staff and management are fully aware of the compliance requirements. This includes ensuring that Finance staff review the estimated annual fund balance so that a capital reserve account can be established when warranted.
Management's Response	The City accepts the finding and will ensure the remaining funds are used in the fiscal year 2025. The City has requested an extension from Metro.
Corrected During the Audit	On December 9, 2024, Metro granted the City an extension on the usage of lapsed funds until June 30, 2025. No follow up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PCLRF Finding #2024-013	City of San Dimas
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and C Local Return Guidelines, Section IV.E.1, "Jurisdictions have three years to expend LR funds. Funds must be expended within three years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated."
Condition	The City's fiscal year 2021 ending fund balance in the amount of \$81,288 was not expended within 3 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 November 14, 2024.
Cause	Large road projects along bus routes were budgeted to be completed in the fiscal year 2023-24. However, due to extensive staff time dedicated to assisting with the completion of the Metro Gold Line extension, it caused the work on the street projects to be delayed until the fiscal year 2024-25, warranting the need for an extension. The reserved funds were spent this past summer, with the completion of the Lone Hill Avenue street project.
Effect	The Proposition C Local Return funds were not expended or reserved within the Timely Use period. The City did not comply with the Proposition A and Proposition C 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 Proposition C Local Return funds in conjunction with any eligible PCLRF projects and submit its Form B (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 Finance Department will work closely with the Public Works Department to determine the expected work completion of the budgeted projects. The City will pivot funding to address other needs that the City may have to utilize the lapsing funds in a timely manner prior to the end of the fiscal year.
Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted the City an extension for the use of lapsed Proposition C Local Return funds until June 30, 2025. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PCLRF Finding #2024-014	City of San Gabriel
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section I (C), Project Description Form (Form A): "Jurisdictions shall submit for approval a Project Description Form prior to the expenditure of funds for 5) a 25 percent or greater change in an approved LR project budget or scope on all operating or capital LR projects."
Condition	The City exceeded more than 25 percent of Metro's approved budget for PCLRF's Pavement Management System Project Code 765 in the amount of \$2,440. However, the City submitted a request to increase the budget and Metro approved it in the amount of \$29,000 on October 7, 2024.
Cause	The City received a late invoice in September 2024, which was an expenditure related to the fiscal year 2023-24. The invoice was not anticipated and was far past the deadline to request a budget adjustment approval from Metro.
Effect	The City's PCLRF project expenditures exceeded 25 percent of Metro's approved budget prior to Metro's approval and the City did not comply with the Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish procedures to ensure that project expenditures are within the 25 percent cap of the Metro's approved budget and any projects exceeding the 25 percent or greater change are identified and update in the LRMS to obtain Metro's approval for the change in project budget prior to the expenditure of funds.
Management's Response	If the expenditures of a project are expected to exceed the Metro-approved budget, the City will ensure to seek approval for a budget increase before incurring any additional costs in the future.
Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive budget approval of said project on October 7, 2024. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF Finding #2024-015	City of Signal Hill
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines, Section IV (E), Timely Use of Funds: “Jurisdictions have three years to expend LR funds. Funds must be expended within three years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated. Therefore, by method of calculation, each Jurisdiction has the Fiscal Year of allocation plus three years to expend Proposition A and/or Proposition C funds.”
Condition	The City’s fiscal year 2021 ending fund balance of Proposition A funds (PALRF) in the amount of \$51,315 was not fully expended within 3 years as of June 30, 2024, and was not reserved for capital projects as required by the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Cause	This was an oversight on the part of the City.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with the Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish a procedure where the City staff review the estimated annual fund balance so that funds are expended timely or a capital reserve account can be established.
Management’s Response	On January 19, 2024, the City received an email from Metro regarding the potential lapsing calculations in the LRMS and believed it aligned with the requirements to avoid lapsing funds. Subsequently, Metro granted an extension on the usage of the lapsed funds. While the LRMS serves as an informational tool, the City will continue to conduct internal reviews of the lapsing status to ensure it remains on track, funds are utilized in a timely manner, and compliance with guidelines is maintained.
Corrected During the Audit	On November 14, 2024, Metro approved an extension on the usage of lapsed funds until June 30, 2025. No follow-up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF and PCLRF Finding #2024-016	City of South Pasadena
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A & C Local Return Guidelines, Section V, "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) The beginning fund balances for PALRF and PCLRF were not reconciled with the prior year's audited financial statements. (b) A detailed breakdown of expenditures charged to the PALRF for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 was not provided. (c) 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. Ensure that all beginning fund balances are reconciled with the prior year's audited financial statements. 2. Provide a detailed breakdown of expenditures charged to the local return funds for the fiscal year, along with the necessary supporting documentation for verification. 3. 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
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF and PCLRF Finding #2024-016 (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, along with the necessary adjustments, is expected to be completed by February 2025.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF Finding #2024-017	City of South Pasadena
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A & C Local Return Guidelines, "It is the jurisdictions' responsibility to maintain proper accounting records and documentation to facilitate the performance of the audit prescribed in these Guidelines."
Condition	To ensure the propriety of expenditures charged to the Proposition A Local Return Funds, payroll expenses should be adequately supported by payroll registers, timesheets, activity or labor distribution reports, or other official documentation that provides sufficient detail regarding the nature of the charges. However, we identified discrepancies between the employees' recorded working hours on the timesheets, the hourly rates listed on the Employee Action Form (EAF), and the amounts recorded in the general ledger. These discrepancies resulted in a total variance of \$9,375 for the following pay periods: (a) August 13, 2023: A difference of \$1,964 (b) December 3, 2023: A difference of \$1,276 (c) February 11, 2024: A difference of \$4,600 (d) April 21, 2024: A difference of \$1,535
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	The payroll cost claimed under the Proposition A Local Return Fund projects may include expenditures which may not be allowable to Proposition A project expenditures. This resulted in questioned costs of \$9,375 for the PALRF.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City reimburse \$9,375 to the PALRF account in accordance with the Guidelines. Additionally, we recommend that the City revise its labor cost reporting procedures to ensure that all labor charges to the PALRF are supported by proper documentation, including timesheets, Employee Action Forms (EAFs), and other relevant records reflecting both actual working hours and the accurate hourly rates used for calculation.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PALRF and PCLRF Finding #2024-017 (Continued)	City of South Pasadena
Management's Response	The City has engaged an external CPA firm to assist with year-end closing activities, including resolving payroll-related issues, performing account analyses, 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, along with the necessary adjustments, is expected to be completed by February 2025.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Proposition A and Proposition C Local Return Funds
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

PCLRF Finding #2024-018	City of South Pasadena
Compliance Reference	According to Proposition A and C Local Return Guidelines, Section IV.E.1, "Jurisdictions have three years to expend LR funds. Funds must be expended within three years of the last day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated."
Condition	The City's fiscal year 2021 ending fund balance in the amount of \$115,558 was not expended within 3 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 PCLRF 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 Proposition C Local Return funds were not expended or reserved within the Timely Use period. The City did not comply with the Proposition A and Proposition C 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 Proposition C Local Return funds in conjunction with any eligible PCLRF projects and submit its Form B (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 Proposition C Local Return funds until June 30, 2025 on December 16, 2024. No follow-up is required.



Metro®

**MANAGEMENT
AUDIT SERVICES**

MEASURE R INDEPENDENT TAXPAYERS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE OF METRO ANNUAL REPORT ON FY24 MEASURE R AUDITS

INTRODUCTION

On November 4, 2008, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure R which imposed an additional half-cent transactions and use tax to fund transportation improvements in the County. Measure R, also known as the Traffic Relief and Rail Expansion Ordinance establishes an Independent Taxpayers Oversight Committee and an oversight process to ensure that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) complies with the terms of the Ordinance. The oversight process requires that annual audits be conducted within six months after the end of the fiscal year to determine compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance related to the receipt and expenditure of sales tax revenues during the fiscal year. The audit reports must be provided to the Oversight Committee so that it can determine whether Metro and local subrecipients have complied with the Measure R requirements (see Exhibit 1) and communicate its findings to the Metro Board.

In compliance with the Ordinance, Metro contracted with BCA Watson Rice, LLP (BCA) to perform the independent audit of the Measure R Special Revenue Fund. Metro also contracted with two firms to conduct the audits of Measure R sales tax revenues used by the County of Los Angeles (County) as well as the 88 cities (Cities). The report prepared by Vasquez & Company, LLP covers the audits of the County as well as 39 of the Cities, and the report prepared by Simpson & Simpson covers the audits of 49 of the Cities. The audit reports are attached as Exhibits 2, 3, and 4.

THE AUDITS

The Independent Auditor's reports on the Measure R Special Revenue Fund found that Metro complied, in all material respects, with the requirements that are applicable to the Measure R revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

The audits of compliance with the Measure R Local Return Guidelines of the County and 88 Cities found ten (10) instances of non-compliance within ten (10) jurisdictions. Audit findings were in three basic categories as follows:

- **Failure to Obtain Approval Before Incurring Expenses:** Five (5) cities failed to obtain approval before incurring expenditures. Cities are required to obtain project approval prior to expending funds by submitting the project name, amount of Measure R Local Return funds to be budgeted for the project, project description, and justification, which is necessary for the project to be reviewed by Metro for Measure R Local Return eligibility per the Local Return Guidelines. The findings have been resolved as the Cities subsequently submitted the required forms and obtained retroactive approvals from Metro.
- **Timely Use of Funds:** One (1) City not spending funds within the five-year period allotted. The finding has been resolved as the City was granted an extension to utilize the lapsed funds.
- **Inadequate accounting procedures, record keeping, and/or documentation:** Three (3) cities failed to complete year-end accounting closing processes. One (1) city failed to conduct a timely bank reconciliation process. Cities are required to maintain proper accounting records and documentation. The Cities are in the process of correcting their procedures and the auditors will verify whether corrective actions have been properly implemented by the Cities during the fiscal year 2025 audit.

MEASURE R OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REVIEW

The Measure R Oversight Committee received the audit reports in February 2025. Each member of the Committee reviewed the reports, and the Committee met on March 5, 2025, during which the Committee received a formal presentation from the three contracted auditor firms on their respective audit reports.

The Committee asked about and received satisfactory responses regarding Cities' failure to complete the year-end financial closing process. The Committee was satisfied with the audit reports.

MEASURE R OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FINDINGS

- 1) The audits were performed in accordance with the Ordinance that the voters approved in 2008;
- 2) Metro complied, in all material respects, with the requirements applicable to the Measure R revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024; and
- 3) The County and Cities complied, in all material respects, with the Measure R Ordinance and guidelines that are applicable to the Measure R Local Return program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

The audits resulted in 10 instances of non-compliance in 10 local jurisdictions including two (2) material weaknesses and one (1) significant deficiency in internal controls over compliance.

**RESOLUTION OF THE INDEPENDENT TAXPAYERS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MAKING
FINDINGS REGARDING THE ANNUAL AUDIT
PURSUANT TO THE MEASURE R ORDINANCE**

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2008, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure R that imposed an additional half-cent transactions and use tax to fund transportation improvements in the County; and

WHEREAS, Measure R, also known as the Traffic Relief and Rail Expansion Ordinance establishes an Independent Taxpayers Oversight Committee and an oversight process to ensure that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) complies with the terms of the Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the oversight process requires that an annual audit be conducted within six months after the end of the fiscal year to determine compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance related to the receipt and expenditure of sales tax revenues during the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the audits must be provided to the Oversight Committee so that the Oversight Committee can determine whether Metro and local subrecipients have complied with the Measure R requirements; and

WHEREAS, under contract with Metro, BCA Watson Rice LLP performed the independent audit of the Measure R Special Revenue Fund, and Vasquez & Company, LLP and Simpson & Simpson audited the compliance of the County of Los Angeles (County) and the 88 cities (Cities);

NOW, THEREFORE, the Measure R Independent Taxpayers Oversight Committee of Metro finds that:

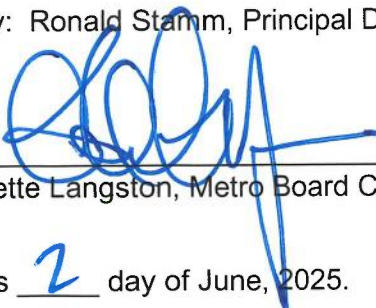
The audits were performed in accordance with the Ordinance that the voters approved in 2008;

Metro complied, in all material respects, with the requirements applicable to the Measure R revenues and expenditures for the year ending June 30, 2024; and

The County and Cities complied with the Ordinance requirements that are applicable to the Measure R Local Return program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, however, the audits found two (2) material weaknesses and one (1) significant deficiency in internal control over compliance. All but four (4) compliance issues have been resolved. Metro staff is working with the jurisdictions to resolve the remaining issues.

Prepared by: Ronald Stamm, Principal Deputy County Counsel

Signed:



Collette Langston, Metro Board Clerk

Adopted this 2 day of June, 2025.

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

**Independent Auditor's Report
On Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures
For
Measure R 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 R Special Revenue Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures:	
Measure R Special Revenue Fund Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures	4
Notes to the Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures for Measure R Special Revenue Fund	5
Required Supplemental Information (Unaudited):	
Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures - Budget and Actual 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 R Revenues and Expenditures in Accordance with the <i>Traffic Relief and Rail Expansion Ordinance</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 R Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying Schedule of Measure R 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 R 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 the financial audit 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 R Fund is intended to present the revenues and expenditures attributable to the Measure R 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.

Responsibility of Management for the Schedule of Measure R 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 R 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 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

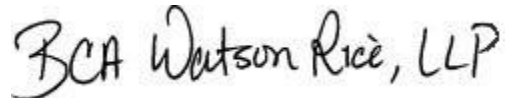
Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information be presented to supplement the basic Schedule. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic Schedule, is required by the Governmental 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.

Prior Year Comparative Information

We have previously audited the Schedule of Measure R 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, CA
December 2, 2024

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R 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)

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Revenues		
Sales tax	\$ 1,092,876	\$ 1,110,713
Intergovernmental	58,922	81,047
Investment income	40,005	18,857
Net appreciation (decline) in fair value of investments	8,843	(6,994)
Other	7,273	-
Total revenues	<u>1,207,919</u>	<u>1,203,623</u>
Expenditures		
Administration and other	318,095	277,352
Transportation subsidies	416,533	423,951
Capital outlay - long-term lease arrangement	779	-
Debt and interest expenditures:		
Principal	9	1,571
Interest and fiscal charges	3	18
Total expenditures	<u>735,419</u>	<u>702,892</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>472,500</u>	<u>500,731</u>
Other financing sources (uses)		
Transfers in	120,185	353,110
Transfers out	(617,662)	(374,868)
Long-term lease arrangement issued	779	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(496,698)</u>	<u>(21,758)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses	<u>\$ (24,198)</u>	<u>\$ 478,973</u>

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

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R 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 R

Measure R, also known as the Traffic Relief and Rail Expansion Ordinance is a special revenue fund used to account for the proceeds of the voter-approved one-half percent sales tax that became effective on July 1, 2009, and continuing on for the next 30 years. Revenues collected are required to be allocated in the following manner: 1) 2% for rail capital improvements; 2) 3% for Metrolink capital improvement projects within Los Angeles County; 3) 5% for rail operations for new transit project operations and maintenance; 4) 15% for local return; 5) 20% for county-wide bus service operations, maintenance, and expansion; 6) 20% for highway capital projects; and 7) 35% for transit capital specific projects.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures for the Measure R Special Revenue Fund have been 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 R 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 regarding 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 R 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 R 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 R fund had an investment income of \$40,005 and a net appreciation in fair value of investments of \$8,843. The net appreciation in the fair value of 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/>.

Leases

In FY 2022, LACMTA implemented GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, which addresses accounting and financial reporting for leases by governments. GASB Statement No. 87, requires the recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows of resources or outflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this Statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities.

LACMTA is a lessee for a noncancellable lease of office space recorded under the Measure R fund. At the commencement of a lease, LACMTA initially measures the lease liability at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term. Subsequently, the lease liability is reduced by the principal portion of lease payments made. The lease asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for lease payment made at or before the lease commencement date, plus certain indirect costs. Subsequently, the leased asset is amortized on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term or its useful life.

LACMTA determines the discount rate it uses to discount the expected lease payments to the present value. LACMTA uses the interest rate charged by the lessor as the discount rate. When the interest rate is not provided in the lease agreement, LACMTA uses its estimated incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate for leases. The future lease payments expected to be made are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease agreement given an average lease term of 5 to 7 years. The lease terms and lease payments used are those that are stated in the executed agreement. The lease term includes the noncancellable period of the lease. Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are composed of fixed payments and purchase option price that the LACMTA is reasonably certain to exercise.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R 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)

Leases (continued)

LACMTA monitors changes in circumstances that would require a remeasurement of its lease and will remeasure the lease assets and liability if certain changes occur that are expected to significantly affect the amount of the lease liability.

The aforementioned accounting practice is in conformity with GASB 87, *Leases*.

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.

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

The Schedule is intended to reflect the revenues and expenditures of the Measure R 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. Intergovernmental Transactions

Any transaction conducted with a governmental agency outside the complete jurisdiction of LACMTA will be recorded in an account designated as Intergovernmental.

5. 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 R Special Revenue Fund have been made in accordance with all expenditure requirements of the Measure R Ordinance.

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

6. Leases

LACMTA, as a lessee, has entered into a lease agreement involving office space/building. In fiscal year 2024, LACMTA recorded at present value a lease liability and right-to-use lease assets of \$779 and \$779, respectively, related to a newly executed lease contract using the current fiscal year's discount rate of 2.59%. During the year, LACMTA recorded principal and interest payments of \$9 and \$3, respectively, representing the total amount of periodic lease payments per executed contract.

As of June 30, 2024, LACMTA has 1 active lease agreement with an outstanding lease liability of \$770 and a right-to-use lease asset recognized at present value, net of accumulated amortization, of \$759, presented in the LACMTA's government-wide financial statement.

At June 30, 2024, the principal and interest requirements to maturity for this lease are presented below:

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 50	\$ 19	\$ 69
2026	61	18	79
2027	66	16	82
2028	71	15	86
2029	76	13	89
2030-2034	446	29	475
Total	<u>\$ 770</u>	<u>\$ 110</u>	<u>\$ 880</u>

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

The Measure R fund at June 30, 2024 had a deficiency of revenues under expenditures and other financing uses of \$24,198 primarily due to the transfers out for operating, planning, and capital projects. This factor resulted in a decrease in Measure R's fund balance from \$1,002,167 to \$977,969.

8. Audited Financial Statements

The audited financial statements for the Measure R 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.

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

10. Subsequent Events

In preparing the Schedule of Measure R 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 R Special Revenue Fund
Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures – Budget and Actual
For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024
(Amounts expressed in thousands)

	Budget Amounts			Variance with
	Original	Final	Actual	Final Budget
Revenues:				
Sales tax	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,092,876	\$ (107,124)
Intergovernmental	210,785	210,785	58,922	(151,863)
Investment income	-	-	40,005	40,005
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	-	-	8,843	8,843
Other	-	-	7,273	7,273
Total revenues	<u>1,410,785</u>	<u>1,410,785</u>	<u>1,207,919</u>	<u>(202,866)</u>
Expenditures:				
Administration and other	559,322	554,351	318,095	236,256
Transportation subsidies	573,886	568,419	416,533	151,886
Capital outlay - long-term lease arrangement issued	-	-	779	(779)
Debt and interest expenditures:				
Principal	-	-	9	(9)
Interest and fiscal charges	-	-	3	(3)
Total expenditures	<u>1,133,208</u>	<u>1,122,770</u>	<u>735,419</u>	<u>387,351</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	277,577	288,015	472,500	184,485
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in	240,087	240,087	120,185	(119,902)
Transfers out	(494,274)	(494,274)	(617,662)	(123,388)
Long-term lease arrangement issued	-	-	779	779
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(254,187)</u>	<u>(254,187)</u>	<u>(496,698)</u>	<u>(242,511)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses	<u>\$ 23,390</u>	<u>\$ 33,828</u>	<u>\$ (24,198)</u>	<u>\$ (58,026)</u>



2355 Crenshaw Blvd. Suite 150
Torrance, CA 90501

Telephone: 310.792.4640
Facsimile: 310.792.4331
www.bcawr.com

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 R 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 R 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 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



2355 Crenshaw Blvd. Suite 150
Torrance, CA 90501

Telephone: 310.792.4640
Facsimile: 310.792.4331
www.bcawr.com

**Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to
Measure R Revenues and Expenditures in Accordance with the
*Traffic Relief and Rail Expansion Ordinance No. 08-01***

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

Report on Compliance

Opinion on Measure R Revenues and Expenditures

We have audited the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (LACMTA) compliance with the *Traffic Relief and Rail Expansion Ordinance No. 08-01* (the Ordinance) applicable to LACMTA's Measure R 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 R 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); 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 R 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 R 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 R 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 R 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 R 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 R 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 R 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 R ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE R 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 R ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE R 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 R 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 R ORDINANCE AND MEASURE R LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES	1
List of Package A 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



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 R ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE R LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

**To the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
and Measure R Independent Taxpayers 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 R Ordinance enacted through a Los Angeles County voter-approved law in November 2008; Measure R Local Return Guidelines, issued by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), approved by its Board of Directors on October 22, 2009 (collectively, the Guidelines); and the respective Assurances and Understandings Regarding Receipt and Use of Measure R 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 Compliance Area Tested and 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 R 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

Management 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 R 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 #2024-006. Our opinion is not modified with respect to these matters.

Government Auditing Standards require 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

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 have not been identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiency in internal control over compliance that we consider to be a material weakness and a significant deficiency.

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. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2) as Findings #2024-002 and #2024-004 to be a material weakness.

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 deficiency in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Schedule 2) as Finding #2024-006 to be a significant deficiency.

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.

Vasquez & Company LLP

Glendale, California
December 31, 2024

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

1. Funds were expended for transportation purposes.
2. Separate Measure R Local Return Account was established.
3. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Measure R 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 One or electronic equivalent) was submitted on time.
9. Annual Expenditure Report (Form 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 R 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 were approved by Metro.
16. Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R 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 six (6) findings. The table below summarizes these findings:

Compliance Areas	# of Findings	Responsible Cities/ Finding No. Reference	Questioned Costs	Resolved During the Audit
Funds were expended with Metro's approval.	4	Carson (See Finding #2024-001)	\$ 757,313	\$ 757,313
		Culver City (See Finding #2024-003)	73,479	73,479
		Maywood (See Finding #2024-005)	61,524	61,524
		South Gate (See Finding #2024-006)	1,769,793	1,769,793
Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.	2	Compton (See Finding #2024-002)	None	None
		Huntington Park (See Finding #2024-004)	None	None
Total Findings and Questioned Costs	6		\$ 2,662,109	\$ 2,662,109

Details of the above findings are presented in Schedule 2.

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

Finding #2024-001	City of Carson
Compliance Reference	Section B (II)(1) Expenditure Plan (Form One) of Measure R Local Return Program Guidelines state that, "To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure R LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdiction shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (Form One) or its electronic equivalent, annually, by August 1st of each year. "Expenditure Plan (Form One) provides a listing of projects funded with Measure R LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year. For both operating and capital projects, Part I is to be filled out. For capital projects (projects over \$250,000), Part II is required. Pursuant to AB2321, Metro will provide LR funds to a capital project or program sponsor who submits the required expenditure plan."
Condition	The City claimed expenditures prior to approval from Metro under Project code 730, PW1617 - Leonardo Drive, totaling \$757,313. Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, this project had no prior approval from Metro.
Cause	The budget was reset and reprogrammed to carryover for FY 23-24 at year end since no expenditures were incurred in FY2022-23. 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 \$757,313 of Measure R 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 projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted a budget request to Metro Program Manager and obtained retroactive approval of the budget for said project on September 17, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Metro Program Manager granted retroactive approval of the budget for said project on September 17, 2024. No additional follow up is required.

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

Finding #2024-002	City of Compton
Compliance Reference	Measure R Local Return Guidelines Section VII states that, "It is the jurisdictions' 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 analysis, 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 R Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-002 (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 R 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 B (II) Expenditure Plan (Form One) of Measure R Local Return Program Guidelines states that, "To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure R LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdiction shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (Form One), annually, by August 1st of each year. "Expenditure Plan (Form One) provides a listing of projects funded with Measure R LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year. For both operating and capital projects, Part I is to be filled out. For capital projects (projects over \$250,000), Part II is required. Pursuant to AB2321, Metro will provide LR funds to a capital project or program sponsor who submits the required expenditure plan."
Condition	The City claimed expenditure under Project code 705, Culver City Street Improvements, totaling \$73,479, prior to 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 budget request. This project was included in the budget request for FY 2022-2023. Due to the resignation of a key staff member, the project was not added to the FY 2023-2024 budget request.
Effect	The City claimed expenditure totaling \$73,479 of Measure R 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 R-funded projects.
Management's Response	The City submitted a budget request via LRMS on December 11, 2024. Moving forward, the City will ensure that budget requests are made timely to Metro and match the City's approved construction in progress (CIP) budget.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said project was obtained via LRMS on December 18, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

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

Finding #2024-004	City of Huntington Park
Compliance Reference	Measure R Local Return Guidelines Section VII states that, "It is the jurisdictions' 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 R Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-004 (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 R Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-005	City of Maywood
Compliance Reference	Section B (II)(1) Expenditure Plan (8/1 Table) of the Measure R Local Return Program Guidelines states that “To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure R LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdiction shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (8/1 Table), annually, by August 1st of each year.” “Expenditure Plan (8/1 Table) provides a listing of projects funded with Measure R LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year. For both operating and capital projects, Part I is to be filled out. For capital projects (projects over \$250,000), Part II is required. Pursuant to AB2321, Metro will provide LR funds to a capital project or program sponsor who submits the required expenditure plan.”
Condition	The City claimed expenditures under the following projects prior to approval from Metro. a. Project code 302, HSIP Cycle 11 Traffic Signal Improvements, totaling \$51,524; and b. Project code 780, Gateway COG I-710 Corridor planning FY 23-24, totaling \$10,000. Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, these projects had no prior approval from Metro.
Cause	The City did not anticipate incurring eligible expenditures for these projects. The City was not able to submit a budget request for Metro’s approval until after June 30, 2024.
Effect	The City claimed expenditures totaling \$61,524 of Measure R 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 projects.
Management’s Response	The City submitted a budget request via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budgets for said projects on September 25, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said projects was obtained via LRMS on September 25, 2024. No additional follow-up is required.

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

Finding #2024-006	City of South Gate
Compliance Reference	Section B (II) Expenditure Plan (Form One) of Measure R Local Return Program Guidelines state that, "To maintain legal eligibility and meet Measure R LR program compliance requirements, Jurisdiction shall submit to Metro an Expenditure Plan (Form One), annually, by August 1st of each year. "Expenditure Plan (Form One) provides a listing of projects funded with Measure R LR funds along with estimated expenditures for the year. For both operating and capital projects, Part I is to be filled out. For capital projects (projects over \$250,000), Part II is required. Pursuant to AB2321, 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 MRLRF projects with no prior approval from Metro: a. Project code 715, Citywide Residential Resurfacing Phase II, totaling \$83,643; b. Project code 720, Firestone Blvd Median Island Alameda/LA, totaling \$1,369,552; and c. Project code 730, Alameda St. Complete Street, totaling \$316,598. Although we found the expenditures to be eligible for Local Return funding, these projects had no prior approval from Metro. This is a repeat finding from prior year.
Cause	The projects were inadvertently not included in the submitted Expenditure Plan (Form One).
Effect	The City claimed expenditures totaling \$1,769,793 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 R-funded projects.

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

Finding #2024-006 (Continued)	City of South Gate
Management's Response	The City submitted budget requests via LRMS and obtained retroactive approval of the budgets for said projects on October 15, 2024.
Finding Corrected During the Audit	Retroactive approval of the said projects 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 R ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE R 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 R 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 R ORDINANCE AND MEASURE R 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 R ORDINANCE
AND MEASURE R LOCAL RETURN GUIDELINES**

To: Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
and Measure R Independent Taxpayers 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 R Ordinance enacted through a Los Angeles County voter-approved law in November 2008; Measure R Local Return Guidelines, issued by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), approved by its Board of Directors on October 22, 2009 (collectively, the Guidelines); and the respective Assurances and Understandings Regarding Receipt and Use of Measure R 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 R 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.



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 R 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 #2024-004. 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 R 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 GLENORA | 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 R Local Return Fund
Compliance Area Tested
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

1. Funds were expended for transportation purposes.
2. Separate Measure R Local Return Account was established.
3. Revenues received including allocations, project generated revenues and interest income was properly credited to the Measure R 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 One or electronic equivalent) was submitted on time.
9. Annual Expenditure Report (Form 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 R 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 were approved by Metro.
16. Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

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

The audit of the 49 cities have resulted in four (4) findings. The table below summarizes these findings:

Compliance Areas	# of Findings	Responsible Cities/ Finding No. Reference	Questioned Costs	Resolved During the Audit
Funds were expended with Metro's approval.	1	Lancaster (#2024-003)	\$ 31,949	\$ 31,949
Timely use of funds.	1	Glendale (#2024-001)	1,800,946	1,800,946
Accounting procedures, record keeping and documentation are adequate.	2	Glendora (#2024-002)	None	None
		South Pasadena (#2024-004)	None	None
Total Findings and Questioned Costs	4		\$ 1,832,895	\$ 1,832,895

Details of the above findings are presented in Schedule 2.

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

Finding #2024-001	City of Glendale
Compliance Reference	According to Measure R Local Return Guidelines, Section B (III), Timely Use of Funds, “Measure R LR funds have five (5) years to be expended. Funds must be expended within five years of the first day of the fiscal year in which funds were originally allocated or received.”
Condition	The City's fiscal year 2018-19 lapsed fund balance in the amount of \$1,800,946 was not fully expended within 5 years as of June 30, 2024, and was not reserved for capital projects as required by the Measure R Local Return Guidelines. However, the City received an extension approval from Metro to spend the lapsed funds until June 30, 2025 on December 10, 2024.
Cause	This was an oversight by the City for not tracking the timely use of funds.
Effect	The City was not in compliance with Measure R Local Return Guidelines.
Recommendation	We recommend that the City establish a procedure requiring City staff to review the estimated annual fund balance so that funds are expended in a timely manner or a capital reserve account can be established.
Management's Response	The City will program the funding to ensure the lapsed amount is spent in a timely manner.
Corrected During the Audit	On December 10, 2024, Metro granted the City an extension on the usage of the lapsed funds until June 30, 2025.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R 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 R Local Return Guidelines, Section VII, "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 are 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 is 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 R Local Return Fund
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Continued)

Finding #2024-003	City of Lancaster
Compliance Reference	According to Measure R Local Return Guidelines, Section B.VII.A, Financial and Compliance Provisions, "The Measure R 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 the MRLRF's Project Code 720, 16ZZ001 - Safer Street Action Plan, in the amount of \$31,949, were incurred prior to Metro's approval. However, the City subsequently received an approved budget amount of \$1,057,000 from Metro for said MRLRF project on October 10, 2024.
Cause	This was an oversight on the part of the City.
Effect	The City did not comply with the Measure R Local Return Guidelines as expenditures for the MRLRF 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 MRLRF 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 MRLRF are in accordance with Metro's approval and the Measure R Local Return 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	The City subsequently entered the required information in the LRMS on October 10, 2024. No follow up is required.

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Measure R 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 R Local Return Guidelines, Section VII, "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) The beginning fund balance for MRLRF was not reconciled with the prior year's audited financial statement. (b) A detailed breakdown of expenditures charged to the MRLRF for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 was not provided. (c) 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. Ensure that all beginning fund balances are reconciled with the prior year's audited financial statements. 2. Provide a detailed breakdown of expenditures charged to the local return funds for the fiscal year, along with the necessary supporting documentation for verification. 3. 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 R 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.



Metro[®]

**MANAGEMENT
AUDIT SERVICES**



Metro®

**MANAGEMENT
AUDIT SERVICES**

MEASURE M INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE OF METRO ANNUAL REPORT ON FISCAL YEAR 2024 MEASURE M AUDITS

INTRODUCTION

On November 8, 2016, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure M, which imposed a one-half of one percent (.5%) transactions and use tax to fund transportation improvements in the County. The rate of this tax will increase to one percent (1.0%) on July 1, 2039, immediately upon the expiration of the .5% tax imposed by Ordinance No. 08-01 of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Measure R).

Measure M, also known as the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan ("Ordinance"), establishes an Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee and an oversight process to ensure that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) complies with the terms of the Ordinance. The oversight process requires that annual audits be conducted within six months after the end of the fiscal year to determine compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance related to the receipt and expenditure of sales tax revenues during the fiscal year. The audit reports must be provided to the Oversight Committee to determine whether Metro and local subrecipients have complied with the Measure M requirements (see Exhibit 1) and communicate its findings to the Metro Board.

In compliance with the Ordinance, Metro contracted with BCA Watson, LLP to perform the independent audit of the Measure M Special Revenue Fund. Metro also contracted with two firms to conduct the audits of Measure M sales tax revenues allocated to the Local Return program used by the County of Los Angeles (County) and the 88 cities (Cities) within the County. The report prepared by Vasquez & Company LLP covers the audits of the County and 39 of the Cities, and the report prepared by Simpson & Simpson LLP covers the audits of 49 of the Cities. (These Audits are attached as Exhibits 2, 3, and 4.)

THE AUDITS

The Independent Auditors' reports on the Measure M Special Revenue Fund found that Metro, the County, and the Cities complied in all material respects with the Ordinance requirements applicable to the Measure M revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

The audits of compliance with the Measure M Local Return Guidelines of the County and 88 Cities found twelve (12) instances of non-compliance within eleven (11) jurisdictions. Audit findings were in three basic categories as follows:

- **Failure to Obtain Approval Before Incurring Expenses:** Five (5) cities failed to obtain approval before incurring expenditures. Cities are required to obtain project approval prior to expending funds by submitting a Form M-One which lists the project name, amount of Measure M Local Return funds to be budgeted for the project, project description, and justification, which is necessary for the project to be reviewed by Metro for Measure M Local Return eligibility per the Local Return Guidelines. The findings have been resolved as the Cities subsequently submitted the required forms and obtained retroactive approvals from Metro.
- **Timely Use of Funds:** Three (3) findings of Cities not spending funds within the five-year period allotted. The findings have been resolved as the Cities were granted extensions to utilize the lapsed funds.

- Inadequate accounting procedures, record keeping, and/or documentation: Three (3) cities failed to complete year-end accounting closing processes. One (1) city failed to conduct a timely bank reconciliation process. Cities are required to maintain proper accounting records and documentation. The Cities are in the process of correcting their procedures and the auditors will verify whether corrective actions are properly implemented by the Cities during the fiscal year 2025 audit.

MEASURE M OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE REVIEW

The Measure M Oversight Committee received the three audit reports in February 2025. The Committee reviewed the reports and met on March 5, 2025. At that meeting, the Committee received a formal presentation of the audit reports from each of the three audit firms.

The Committee asked about and received satisfactory responses regarding Cities' failure to complete the year-end financial closing process, as well as whether there are any actions staff can take to ensure compliance. The Committee was satisfied with the audit reports.

MEASURE M OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FINDINGS

(1) The audits were performed in accordance with the Ordinance that the voters approved in 2016;

(2) Metro complied, in all material respects, with the Ordinance requirements applicable to the Measure M revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024; and

(3) The County and Cities complied in all material respects with the Measure M Ordinance and guidelines that are applicable to the Measure M Local Return program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

The audits found twelve (12) instances of non-compliance within eleven (11) local jurisdictions, which have been resolved or are in the process of being resolved.

**RESOLUTION OF THE INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MAKING
FINDINGS REGARDING THE ANNUAL AUDIT
PURSUANT TO THE MEASURE M ORDINANCE**

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2016, Los Angeles County voters approved Measure M that imposed a one-half of one percent (.5%) transactions and use tax to fund transportation improvements in the County; and

WHEREAS, Measure M, also known as the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan, establishes an Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee and an oversight process to ensure that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) complies with the terms of the Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the oversight process requires that annual audits be conducted within six months after the end of the fiscal year to determine compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance related to the receipt and expenditure of sales tax revenues during the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the audits must be provided to the Oversight Committee so that the Oversight Committee can determine whether Metro and local sub-recipients have complied with the Measure M requirements; and

WHEREAS, under contract with Metro, BCA Watson Rice, LLP (BCA) performed the independent audit of the Measure M Special Revenue Fund, and Vasquez & Company, LLP and Simpson & Simpson LLP audited the compliance of the County of Los Angeles (County) and the 88 cities (Cities) with regard to the Measure M Local Return program;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee of Metro finds that:

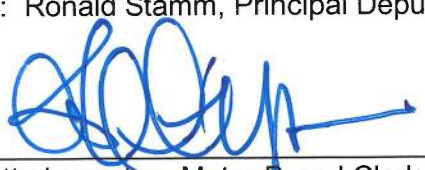
The audits were performed in accordance with the Ordinance that the voters approved in 2016;

Metro complied, in all material respects, with the Ordinance requirements applicable to the Measure M revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024;

The County and Cities complied with the Ordinance requirements that are applicable to the Measure M Local Return program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The audits found twelve (12) instances of non-compliance in eleven (11) local jurisdictions, including two (2) material weaknesses in internal controls over compliance. All but four (4) compliance issues have been resolved. Metro staff is working with the jurisdictions to resolve the remaining issues.

Prepared by: Ronald Stamm, Principal Deputy County Counsel

Signed:



Collette Langston, Metro Board Clerk

Adopted this 4 day of June 2025.

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	<u>17,759</u>	<u>3,455</u>	<u>14,304</u>
	Total	<u><u>\$ 1,251,381</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,127,666</u></u>	<u><u>123,715</u></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	
	Program:									
<i>Transit Operating & Maintenance</i>	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.



Metro[®]

**MANAGEMENT
AUDIT SERVICES**

Fiscal Year 2024 Consolidated Audit

Finance, Budget and Audit Committee

July 17, 2025

Kimberly Houston, Deputy Chief Auditor

Lauren Choi, Senior Director, Audit



MANAGEMENT AUDIT SERVICES

Issue



Consolidated Audit Financial and Compliance Reports completed by Vasquez and Company and Simpson and Simpson, certified public accountants, for FY24



Metro must provide assurance that recipients of funds are adhering to the statutes, program guidelines, and/or agreements of each applicable funding source

Highlights of Requirements

Guidelines for Propositions A&C and Measures R&M Local Return Funds

1. Determine if funds expended with Metro Project Manager's approval.
2. Confirm expenditure Plan/Budget Form submitted by August 1st of the fiscal year.
3. Confirm Annual Expenditure Report submitted by October 15th following the past fiscal year.
4. Evaluate jurisdictions are maintaining proper accounting procedures and records.

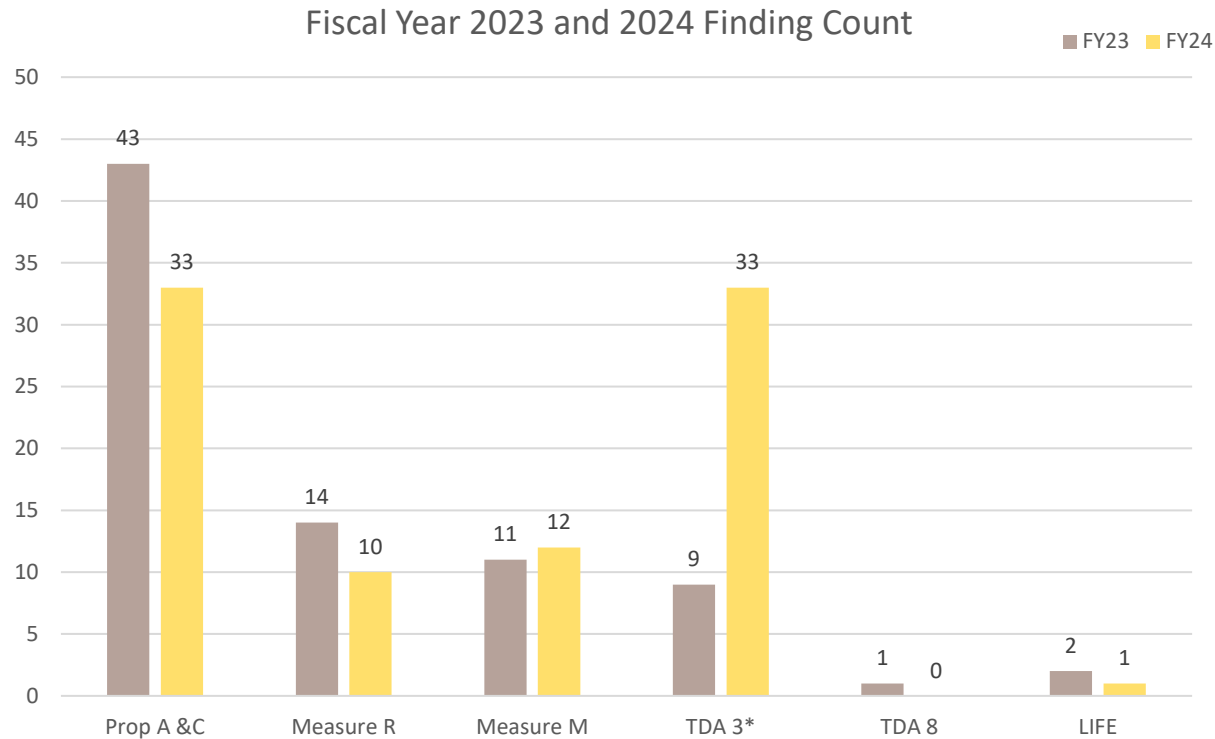
General Assessment

With the exceptions of the Cities* of Compton, Huntington Park and South Pasadena and FAME Assistant Corporation (FAC**) for the LIFE program, the auditors concluded that the County, Cities, transit operators, and other agencies complied, in all material respects, with the guidelines and requirements that could have a direct and material effect on the Local Return and other applicable programs for FY24.

* The Cities were late in completing their Comprehensive Financial Audit Reports, which delayed the closing process for the Local Return programs.

** FAC filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy and was not able to provide audit documents.

Findings



*Local Programming in collaboration with ITS implemented the online Local Return Management System (LRMS) and also conducted the Consolidated Audit Workshop on 5/28/2025 to train and help jurisdictions to comply with the guidelines/requirements.

Questions
