



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

June 26, 2025

Ms. Stephanie Wiggins
Chief Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

I am writing regarding the continued focus of the U.S. Department of Transportation (Department) on safe travel in Los Angeles. To protect the safety of passengers and workers, and in turn, promote public confidence in transit, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) must ensure a secure and clean environment, reduce crime and fare evasion, and maintain a safe operating system.

Based on the Department's ongoing focus on safety and security, and pursuant to its oversight authority, FTA directs LACMTA to provide information about agency practices and expenditures. See FTA Master Agreement section 3(h)(2)(iii). Of key importance is documentation of actions and funding that ensure effective security for passengers and workers on the LACMTA system.

For this FTA review of LACMTA's actions, please provide FTA with the following information:

1. LACMTA's actions and plans to reduce crime and fare evasion on the transit system. Please include information about fare evasion trends and previous actions.
2. LACMTA's funds from all sources that are programmed to improve the security of passengers and workers. This should include information about all LACMTA fiscal year 2025 budgeted and fiscal year 2026 planned funds to reduce crime and fare evasion on the transit system, including a comparison to prior year funding for such expenses. Please also include:
 - a. Security - Expenditures and budgeted funds that meet the Federal transit program security capital projects set aside requirement for Urbanized Area Formula Grants (49 U.S.C. § 5307(c)(1)(J)(i)).
 - b. Safety - Expenditures and budgeted funds that meet the Federal transit program safety set aside requirement for Urbanized Area Formula Grants (49 U.S.C. § 5329(d)(4)(B)).
 - c. Non-FTA funds - Information about funds from other Federal government agencies directed to the safety and security of LACMTA passengers and workers. This should include any Department of Homeland Security funds.

Please submit this information to FTA's Region 9 Administrator, Ray Tellis, no later than July 10, 2025.

Also, please recognize that Federal transit law explicitly allows recipients to use capital grants for capital expenses related to crime prevention and security activities. See 49 U.S.C. § 5321. LACMTA should target Federal resources expeditiously and appropriately for these eligible activities.

People traveling on the LACMTA system to reach their jobs, education, health care, and other critical services need to feel secure and travel in a safe environment free of crime; and workers who operate the system need to be sure of a safe operating environment to provide transportation service. The transit riders and workers of Los Angeles deserve nothing less.

I appreciate your prompt attention to this matter to avoid further consequences, up to and including redirecting or withholding funding. If I can provide further information or assistance, please reach out or contact Joe DeLorenzo, Associate Administrator for Transit Safety and Oversight and Chief Safety Officer, at (202) 366-5080 or via email at joseph.delorenzo@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S.P. Duffy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sean P. Duffy