



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

Measure M Local Return Motion

1 message

Jay Weitzler <jcw@weitzlerlaw.com>
Reply-To: jcw@weitzlerlaw.com
To: Adam.Lid@lacity.org

Wed, Mar 29, 2017 at 3:49 PM

Subject: Measure M Local Return Motion

From: Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association
Re: Measure M Local Return Opinion

Dear Mr. Lid,

On behalf of the Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association and its over 2,200 members, I would like to make it quite clear that the San Fernando Valley in general, and Sherman Oaks in particular, expects to receive an equal share of funds available under Measure M relative to all other areas of the City of Los Angeles. **The disbursement of the funds will be best accomplished by an equal division amongst the Council districts at regular intervals.**

There has been a clear history of the Valley being short changed in receiving tax money for public transit as a brief review of the completed and proposed systems reveals. The benefits of many of the proposals made for the future pursuant to Measure M only perpetuate this reality as this area does not realize concrete benefits for many years and the transit improvements to our area are far less than many other parts of the City.

We live in a region that includes many hillside areas. Those locations have a unique topography that requires continued maintenance in order to keep from quickly falling into serious disrepair. The movement of the mountains, the flow of water and the cross-mountain commuters put a great strain on our streets. It is far cheaper to properly maintain these streets than to allow them to deteriorate to the point where complete replacement is needed. Maintenance requires money. The allocation of our share of Measure M funds will allow us to make certain our very heavily traveled streets help, rather than hinder, the flow of traffic.

We are also home to Ventura Boulevard, one of the most heavily traveled major streets in the City, one that is needed to be kept in proper operating condition and with proper monitoring systems in order to avoid gridlock affecting hundreds of thousands of people. Appropriate funds are constantly needed to ensure the boulevard continues to function properly.

I would also like to clear up the misconception that the San Fernando Valley does not need the street maintenance other areas of the City require. There are many parts of our community that are quite old and have reached a point where they are, quite frankly, falling apart. This goes beyond embarrassment in appearance but directly affects public safety. I happen to be a bicyclist and can personally attest to the danger to cycling many of our Valley streets present, with their

many serious cracks, potholes and other flaws. Bicycles are an important part of the City's long range transportation solution and should be encouraged, not discouraged, by having dangerous surfaces upon which to ride.

Sherman Oaks residents pay taxes. We expect our elected representatives to disburse those tax funds in a manner that enables us to use our own money to keep our community safe and well maintained. The most equitable way to do this is to release funds equally among the Council Districts since each district has its own unique set of problems. The idea that some parts of the City should receive more money than others at any given time requires constant reviews of infrastructure that can only result in more political maneuvering and higher administrative costs. The simplest solution is often the best solution and in order to ensure all taxpayers receive their share of taxes paid, the disbursement of equal share between each District is the most equitable.

Jay Weitzler

Board Member, Sherman Oaks Homeowner's Association

[\(310\)490-4084](tel:(310)490-4084)



Virus-free. www.avast.com