August 15, 2019

via email

Mr. Scott Hartwell, Metro Project Manager &
Metro Board of Directors
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: North Hollywood to Pasadena Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Project

Dear Mr. Hartwell and the Metro Board of Directors,

The Eagle Rock Association (TERA) has been a community leader on ambitious and forward-thinking projects for Eagle Rock since its founding in 1988. We believe in robust, inclusive community discussion and collaboration to establish and achieve shared goals for a vibrant community.

In September of 2016, TERA expressed support for Metro’s goals of improved transit service for the Eagle Rock community, and our support for those goals of a better connected, accessible, and small business-friendly community has not changed. We recognize that there has been divisive, confusing, and at times misleading dialogue around Metro’s scope for the North Hollywood to Pasadena Bus Rapid Transit Corridor project. It appears that some of this confusion stems from a lack of clarity from Metro during this early phase in its project development. TERA believes the antidote to our community’s strain is more and better dialogue centered on community goals and driven by our community members themselves.

In 2011-2013, TERA led a broad coalition of community members and organizations to develop our vision for a safe, vibrant Colorado Boulevard, documenting that campaign in the Take Back The Boulevard Colorado Vision Plan (https://bit.ly/2OY8eeX). Take Back The Boulevard saw widespread support from neighborhood stakeholders, and from Metro itself in the form of funding through Metro’s Call for Projects. We hope that Metro will look towards this document as it moves into the Environmental process for the North Hollywood to Pasadena project and that it will use this document for guidance for any concepts and designs developed for Eagle Rock.

TERA’s efforts to convene community consensus and articulate a shared, collective voice continues today. Last week, with the help of Council District 14, we hosted an
event centered around updating Take Back The Boulevard, centered around new opportunities to refine and implement the community vision for Colorado and consider transportation and streetscape innovations that have become more common since the formation of that vision almost a decade ago. While we are still analyzing the feedback that we received at this meeting, it’s clear that community members continue to be interested in many of the fundamental goals of Take Back The Boulevard. Over 70 Eagle Rockers attended our meeting and provided feedback that included:

1. Expand access for people on all modes while maintaining existing access  
2. Support for our local small businesses  
3. Improve the quality and use of active transportation options  
4. Increase landscaping and tree cover, and  
5. Enhance the full length of Colorado Boulevard

This conversation will continue and refine over the next few months, and we ask for Metro’s participation in our community dialogue as it develops its proposal for this BRT project.

Sincerely,

Greg Merideth  
President

c: Supervisor Hilda Solis, L.A. County Board of Supervisors, 1st District  
Waqas Raman, Office of County Supervisor Hilda Solis  
Martin Reyes, Office of County Supervisor Hilda Solis  
Julia Salinas, Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Edna Degollado, Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti  
Councilmember Jose Huizar, L.A. Council District 14  
Lucy Aparicio, L.A. Council District 14  
Michele Jackson, Metro Board Secretary