

MEASURE R TRANSPORTATION SALES TAX PROJECTS IN SAN MARINO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CONCERN	FACTS
Why should we do anything?	Traffic and congestion are unavoidable and getting worse as time goes on. This is an opportunity to change what we can in order to make a difference for San Marino residents with the tax money that residents are already paying for transportation.
What are the benefits to San Marino residents and taxpayers of utilizing this money?	The primary benefit is that <i>the City Council leads the effort to improve traffic flow through San Marino</i> instead of South Pasadena, Alhambra, San Gabriel or the County. We will also get a chance to fix the safety and parking in front of the schools.
What happens if we don't take the Metro money?	If the City rejects the Measure R funds, those funds will be reallocated to South Pasadena, Alhambra, San Gabriel, etc., for their projects. The surrounding cities will build their projects and San Marino will have no control over the traffic they may direct our way.
The City is supporting and/or plans to approve the Metro projects shown in the 710 North environmental document.	<u>False.</u> The 710 North environmental document was written by Metro, not San Marino, and does not govern how we spend the funds, if at all. At this stage of the process, Metro is allowing the City (the residents and the City Council) to substitute our own designs about what will work for us <i>instead of the Metro projects</i> as long as our projects deal with efficient traffic flow. San Marino is not tied to the projects described in the environmental document.
I heard that the Council has to make a decision right away.	<u>False.</u> <i>There is no immediate urgency.</i> Metro wants San Marino to fully develop those projects that will work for us and they won't be ready to approve our projects until late this summer, <u>at the earliest.</u>
I heard that there are strings to Metro money. What are they?	The only Metro requirement is that the City must spend it on projects that are car-centric – not transit, traffic calming, bike lanes, etc.
I heard we'd have to pay back Metro if the projects don't work.	<u>False.</u> We do not need to pay Metro back for any project that they've approved, even if it doesn't work. (Of course, if we decide we don't like a project, we'd have to pay to get it removed.)
I heard that South Pasadena and Alhambra rejected the money.	<u>False.</u> South Pasadena and Alhambra have not rejected the money. They are instead asking Metro for authorization to utilize the funds on projects that are not car-centric. The discretion is Metro's, but it seems likely that those requests will be denied.



The City wants to eliminate parking on Huntington Drive.	<u>False.</u> No parking removals are proposed or supported. The only proposal the City is considering is to move the parking away from the #3 lane of Huntington Dr. to create a safer loading/unloading zone for our children. We would also like to use this funding to partner with the school district to improve the entrances into the school sites.
Traffic signal synchronization will increase speeds.	<u>False.</u> Signal synchronization can be set to a speed we select that would get cars efficiently through town without stopping at a signal.
Why do we even have to do anything about synchronization? Doesn't the County runs our traffic signals?	<u>No.</u> All the traffic signals in San Marino are owned and operated by the City. Some time ago, the County did some signal timing work for the City, which is now outdated.
I'm worried about pedestrians crossing Huntington Drive and Sierra Madre Boulevard.	The traffic signal work would include upgraded pedestrian crossing signals, pushbuttons, signs and indicators.
Can you stop the traffic on Oak Knoll Avenue?	No; we can't stop traffic coming south into San Marino from Pasadena with this money. But we <i>can</i> try to help! The City is considering restricting or limiting left turns onto Oak Knoll during commute hours in a way that would send that traffic to Sierra Madre Boulevard, a more suitable road.
Can you stop the traffic on Los Robles Avenue?	No, we can't fully stop it. But if San Marino leads this project (as is currently proposed), we can work to ensure that our community's needs are at the forefront. The City's intention is to with South Pasadena and Alhambra to make changes to the Atlantic/Garfield/Los Robles/Huntington intersection to help minimize traffic in this neighborhood.

For more information please contact

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