

RESOLUTION NO. 17-4975

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD IN OPPOSITION TO
SB 268 (MENDOZA) LOS ANGELES COUNTY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION (METRO).

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD DOES
HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is the public transportation agency for the County of Los Angeles. Metro came to existence in 1993 after the merger of the Southern California Rapid Transit District (RTD) and the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission. It is chartered under state law as a regional transportation planning agency (RTPA); and

WHEREAS, existing law established the composition of the Board of Metro to be comprised of 14 members, consisting of all 5 members of the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, the Mayor of Los Angeles, 2 members of the public and one Los Angeles City Council Member, appointed by the Mayor of Los Angeles, 4 members selected by the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee, and 1 non-voting member appointed by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, SB 268 was introduced by Senator Tony Mendoza, (D-Artesia, SD 32) and proposes changing the Metro Board membership by reducing the number of County Supervisors on the Metro Board from five to two Supervisors, with one Supervisor representing the largest population of the unincorporated area within Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, SB 268 also removes the appointment of two public members to the Metro Board and increases Los Angeles City Councilmember appointments by the Los Angeles City Mayor from two to five; and

WHEREAS, SB 268 specifies that each Los Angeles City Councilmember must represent three contiguous groups of council districts; and

WEHEREAS, SB 268 specifies the Los Angeles City Council is to determine the grouped council districts; and

WHEREAS, SB 268 also increases from four to seven the number of Board appointments by the Los Angeles City Selection Committee, and requires all appointed members to the Metro board to serve four-year terms; and

WHEREAS, while SB 268 proposes to address gaps in representation, approval and implementation of SB 268 does not guarantee that the City of West Hollywood or any other small city that is not directly represented on the Metro Board, would be better off or gain additional representation; and

WHEREAS, a new Metro Board configuration may well be less sensitive to the needs of the Westside and the City of West Hollywood; and

WHEREAS, if SB 268 is enacted into law, and the Board of Metro is changed, any understanding that current Board members have about potential Metro rail line alignments serving the City of West Hollywood could be lost with a reconfiguration of the Metro Board; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these changes, the City's investment in and results of the outreach, information campaign, advocacy and partnership-building over the last 18 months around the Northern Extension of the Crenshaw/LAX Line would be diluted by reconfiguring the Metro Board at this time; and

WHEREAS, City staff has worked collaboratively with members of the Metro Board, including City of Inglewood Mayor James Butts and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' Deputy staff, and Metro staff for over three years to move the studies forward for a potential alignment through the City. Through this work, Metro has committed resources to make the study of such alignment a reality; and

WHEREAS, changing the composition of the Metro Board and abandoning these efforts is risky and potentially counterproductive just as Metro staff and the Metro Board are focusing on the Guidelines to implement Measure M, passed by over 71% of Los Angeles County voters in November 2016; and

WHEREAS, enactment SB 268 (Mendoza) would be disruptive to implementation of Measure M and potentially delay key regional transit projects such as the Northern Extension of the Crenshaw/LAX Line to serve West Hollywood; and

WHEREAS, If the current Metro Board fails to implement Measure M as approved by the voters, adopt and guidance in conformance with the provisions of Measure M a change in the composition of the Board can then be considered; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of West Hollywood hereby opposes SB 268 (Mendoza) LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION (METRO).

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held this 19th day of June, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:	Councilmember:	D'Amico, Horvath, Meister, Mayor Pro Tempore Duran, and Mayor Heilman.
NOES:	Councilmember:	None.
ABSENT:	Councilmember:	None.
ABSTAIN:	Councilmember:	None.



JOHN HEILMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



YVONNE QUARKER, CITY CLERK

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