

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: October 25, 2018
CONTACT: Terry M. Walker, Mayor - (818) 790-1464
Ann Wilson, Division Manager - (818) 790-8880
SUBJECT: Sound Wall Funding for LCF Approved by Metro

XX

**METRO BOARD'S APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL
FUNDING PAVES THE WAY FOR NEW CITY SOUND WALLS**

On Thursday, October 25, 2018, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("Metro") Board of Directors, upon joint motion of Supervisor Kathryn Barger and Glendale City Council member Ara Najarian, gave its approval of an appropriation of \$3.288 million to be used by the City of La Cañada Flintridge to build much needed sound walls along the I-210 corridor. In addition, the Metro Board approved the advance of the City's Measure R Funds, in the amount of \$3.712 million, also to be used toward the building of sound walls. With the additional \$5 million allocation Senator Portantino was instrumental in securing through the SB1 legislation, that would bring LCF's total sound wall allocation to \$12 million.

"We are greatly appreciative of the efforts of Senator Portantino in leading this opportunity to secure \$12 million for our use to build sound walls", stated Mayor Terry Walker. The Senator was very creative in his amendments to the SB1 legislation that made our City eligible for this funding opportunity. Additionally, to meet the matching requirements of SB 1, Senator Portantino negotiated with the City, Metro and Supervisor Barger to secure the \$7 million needed to complete this \$12 million phase of sound walls." The Mayor added, "The City of La Cañada Flintridge is very fortunate to have representatives who truly go to bat for our interests. We extend our strong appreciation to Senator Portantino and Supervisor Barger in all that they have accomplished for our community."

"This is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when local, county and state officials work collaboratively to get needed infrastructure projects completed. I'm proud to represent our community and very grateful to Supervisor Barger, Metro and City staff for responding to this unique matching opportunity that was presented in the SB 1 negotiations," added Senator Portantino.

Ever since the completion of the I-210 freeway through the City of La Cañada Flintridge, the City has been lobbying the State for needed sound walls. Due to criteria established by Caltrans, the I-210 was never identified as a priority for sound walls. Through the City's efforts and the Citizens sound wall ad hoc committee appointed by then Mayor Portantino, La Canada Flintridge initiated and self-funded a Noise Barrier Sound Study Report (NBSSR). The City was able to not only show the current impacts of the freeway noise, but was ready to identify key sound wall segments and commence pre-engineering to be ready when the funding came. With the passage of Measure R (local ½-cent sales tax increase in L.A. County), the City was able to fund the first phase of sound walls for the community. Phase I included 3 segments. The City is currently working on phase II (1 segment) and, with this new funding, phase III will incorporate 4 additional segments to be designed and constructed soon. The overall project for the completion of 23 sound wall segments is estimated at \$40 million.