



June 29, 2016

Mr. Art Leahy  
Metrolink  
One Gateway Plaza, 12th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: METROLINK HORNS**

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*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President*  
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Fifth District, LA County  
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Dear Mr. Leahy:

On behalf of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), we would like to express our ongoing concern regarding the noise associated with Metrolink horns. It is our understanding that since December 2015, Metrolink has leased 40 locomotives from Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF). The horns on these trains are positioned higher and configured differently, with five chimes as opposed to three chimes. The additional noise associated with these horns has had a negative impact on the quality of life for those residents living adjacent to the Metrolink lines.

On April 11, Metrolink staff met with city managers from the cities of Covina, Baldwin Park and San Dimas and La Verne, and there was a commitment from Metrolink to take the following action:

- Change the configurations of early morning trains to provide noise relief during those hours; and
- Provide a definitive schedule for the rollout of the new Metrolink engines and closeout of the contract with BSNF for the leased engines, which was tentatively scheduled for October 2016.

We are requesting follow up on the status of these activities. Additionally, we respectfully request that Metrolink immediately begin meeting with leadership from all impacted cities to develop near-term solutions to address the concerns of impacted residents and businesses. The SGVCOG offers to assist in coordinating a joint meeting between Metrolink staff and City Managers, Planning Directors and Public Works Directors from impacted cities. We further request that Metrolink engage city leadership early in the planning process before making similar changes to service or operations.

The SGVCOG considers Metrolink a valuable transportation partner and we look forward to working with you to resolve this issue as quickly as possible. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (626) 457-1800.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Hawkey  
Executive Director  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

CC: Phil Washington, CEO, Metro  
SGV City Managers