AND HOLLY J. MITCHELL

## Amplifying Metro Public Transportation Benefits to Low-Income Youth and Young Adults in Los Angeles County

Transportation, unfortunately, continues to be a struggle and obstacle for transition age youth (TAY)<sup>1</sup>, youth and young adults who are no longer system-involved, and others that the Los Angeles County (County) departments and partners, such as the Departments of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Public Social Services (DPSS), and Youth Development (DYD), the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) serve. LA Metro has taken steps to ensure cost is not a barrier to public transportation through free and fare reduction programs and initiatives such as the Mobility Wallet pilot, GoPass, and the Low Income Fare is Easy (LIFE) programs. At LA Metro July 2024 Board meeting, an amendment by Supervisor Solis<sup>2</sup> was approved to direct LA Metro to expand its

|          | <u>MOTION</u> |
|----------|---------------|
| SOLIS    |               |
| MITCHELL |               |
| HAHN     |               |
| BARGER   |               |
| HORVATH  |               |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 193051.pdf (lacounty.gov)

https://boardagendas.metro.net/board-report/2024-0499/

Youth on the Move Program to all TAY, regardless of age or enrollment in the Independent Living Program.

Given the frequent contacts and role of the aforementioned departments in providing information, resources, and services to vulnerable and low-income residents, information regarding public transportation programs should also be part of conversation. Inability to access information, lack of awareness of these programs, or difficulty in applying due to language or literacy should be obstacles that the County lower and rid so that all can equitably access these public transportation benefits.

**I\_WE**, **THEREFORE**, **MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Departments of Children and Family Services, Public Social Services, Youth Development, and Economic Opportunity, and request Los Angeles County Office of Education and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to:

- Share and disseminate information about, in threshold languages, including assistance with applying to, Metro's Mobility Wallet Pilot expansion, GoPass, and Low Income Fare is Easy (LIFE) programs, among other discounted or free fare programs, to relevant clients;
- Assist LA Metro with improving its outreach to group homes, youth shelters, and other TAY serving entities; and
- 3. Establish a process for keeping up to date with LA Metro about discounted fare programs and sharing and collaborating on future opportunities and initiatives to target populations they serve and support and provide the Board with a report back, in writing, in 30 days on what the mechanism, process, or pathway will be.

HLS:el/bf