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City Officials and Community Celebrate Opening of Figueroa Corridor Streetscape Project

LOS ANGELES, CA (August 30, 2018)

Mayor Eric Garcetti, Councilmembers José Huizar (District 14) and Curren D. Price Jr. (District 9), along with LADOT, Metro Bike Share, and the Figueroa Corridor community cut the ribbon and celebrate the opening of the Figueroa Corridor Streetscape Project – MyFigueroa. Figueroa Street is transformed into a multimodal thoroughfare serving all users more efficiently, with protected bike lanes, new bus boarding platforms, wider sidewalks, new street trees, additional street lighting, and many more amenities for everyone traveling on Figueroa.

The project area extends 2.5 miles along Figueroa from Wilshire Boulevard to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, with additional improvements on 11th Street (from Figueroa Street to Broadway) and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard (from Figueroa Street to Vermont Avenue), and totaling 4.25 miles of bike lanes. MyFigueroa connects residents to many important destinations along the way, including Exposition Park, University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles Trade Technical College, LA Live, the Los Angeles Convention Center, and more. The project also connects to three existing Metro Rail lines and the future Metro Regional Connector, as well as many bus lines.

“Our city streets are bustling with life, and we owe it to Angelenos to make sure they are safe, vibrant places that everyone can enjoy,” said Mayor Garcetti. “The MyFigueroa project is a major upgrade to more than four miles of our busiest streets -- making the trip from Downtown to South L.A. a safer, more enjoyable experience for all.”

“As part of our DTLA Forward Initiative, MyFigueroa provides a key connection with other complete street projects we are executing, like Spring and Main Forward,” said Councilmember José Huizar. “As Downtown’s resurgence continues and the number of residential units, visitors and new businesses continue to grow, we need forward-thinking transportation options that allow all transit users to feel safe and to thrive, including our bike, pedestrian and public-transportation users.”

“Projects like MyFigueroa are the future of Los Angeles.” said Councilmember Curren D. Price Jr. “Now people living or working near Figueroa can take a bus to work in the morning, bike share or rideshare to downtown in the evening, and catch the Expo Line back home. We need to make safer streets and flexible transportation options available to all Angelenos, and MyFigueroa is a key step in that process.”

“MyFigueroa plants a powerful seed of public investment to inspire economic growth, connect neighborhoods, and





grow real choices for people no matter how they travel," said LADOT General Manager Seleta Reynolds. "MyFigueroa delivers a welcoming, organized, efficient, safe, and livable Figueroa Street for everyone."

"Downtown LA is evolving into an unparalleled destination where people can work, live, and enjoy world class entertainment. Figueroa Street is the backbone of its network of streets, bringing neighborhoods and people together to form a greener, safer, and more vibrant corridor," said Planning Director Vince Bertoni.

Also present at the MyFigueroa community celebration were representatives from Metro. "Projects like MyFigueroa open people's imagination to the possibilities of alternative transportation. By providing faster transit, bike facilities, and better sidewalks, people can choose to drive less, improving public health, the environment, and everyone's experience on our streets and highways. Metro is proudly supporting this year's bike safety workshops for USC students and expanding Metro Bike Share throughout the MyFigueroa project area," said Metro Board Chair Sheila Kuehl.

"When you have families who can't afford to live close to where they work, they're faced with one of two brutally tough choices: commute, literally for hours each day to and from work, or pay an insurmountable amount of their income toward rent; but today, housing and transportation come together and that's really exciting," said CA Department of Housing and Community Development Director, Ben Metcalf.

MyFigueroa was made possible by a \$20 million Infill Infrastructure Grant from the State of California funded by Prop 1C. Funding is provided to improve transportation options for the many new housing developments in the project area, many of which are now constructed. Proposition 1C funds infrastructure for new development in urban areas, with the goal of making streets, sidewalks, and transit more accessible for residents of affordable housing. The Prop 1C grant was originally executed under the custodianship of the Community Redevelopment Agency of Los Angeles (CRA/LA) with Deborah Murphy Urban Design + Planning overseeing the application.

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About LADOT

LADOT leads transportation planning, project delivery, and operations in the City of Los Angeles. We work together and collaborate to deliver a safe, livable, and well-run transportation system in the city and region. Our vision is for all people in Los Angeles to have access to safe and affordable transportation choices that treat everyone with dignity and support vibrant, inclusive communities.

