



For immediate release

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Los Angeles County Federation of Labor's Statement on MTA negotiations

(Los Angeles) – *Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, Executive Secretary-Treasurer Maria Elena Durazo issued the following statement today about the announcement that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority could not reach an agreement with manufacturer AnsaldoBreda to build light rail cars for Los Angeles.*

"The 800,000 workers represented by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor strongly believe that local tax dollars should support the creation of strong middle-class jobs here in the Los Angeles area, not overseas.

"Last night's development between AnsaldoBreda and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority is a disappointment. However, it has not derailed our hope and insistence on building an environmentally friendly light rail manufacturing plant in Los Angeles that will create thousands of good-paying jobs where workers have health benefits, retirement security and a voice on the job. We expect the mayor and most of the directors on the MTA Board are still on track toward reaching that goal.

"We are proud of the work we've done on this project. Our members will continue to speak at MTA board meetings and write letters as we make the case that our hard earned tax dollars, especially the sales tax generated through Measure "R" should stay within our community."

*The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, is the chartered Central Labor Council (CLC) of the AFL-CIO in Los Angeles County and is the second largest in the country, representing more than 800,000 workers through over 350 unions. Its mission is to promote a voice for workers so they can remain in the middle class, move themselves out of poverty by joining a union, encourage active participation in the political process by electing pro-union and pro-worker officials and to advance public policies that support workers and their families. As the coordinating center for labor's political activity, the Federation believes that in educating and mobilizing workers to be politically active they can create and sustain healthy communities, and **FIGHT FOR GOOD JOBS that REBUILD THE LOS ANGELES MIDDLE CLASS.** Visit the Federation at www.launionaflcio.org.*

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