

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025-2026 SIMULATION SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 62

Introduced by Senator Richardson

Co-sponsored by Senator Caroline Menjivar (D), Benjamin Allen (D), Sasha Pérez (D)

October 1, 2025

This bill would appropriate \$9 million from the General Fund to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan

Transportation Authority for safety and infrastructure upgrades at three key transit stations. These upgrades are intended to establish the Los Angeles Olympic Transit Safety & Access Pilot, improving safety, accessibility, and rider support at key Metro stations ahead of the 2028 Summer Olympics.

The bill would require the Authority to report progress to the Legislature and would take effect immediately as an appropriation measure.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SB 62, as introduced, Richardson. Los Angeles Olympic Transit Safety and Access Pilot.

Existing law, including Public Utilities Code Sections 99313, authorizes the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) and regional transit operators to allocate and administer funding for public transit infrastructure and operations. While there are currently several large-scale projects underway in preparation for the 2028 Summer Olympics, current law does not provide targeted funding for small scale safety and access upgrades at existing high traffic transit stations.

This bill would establish a pilot program to improve rider safety, accessibility, and comfort at three existing Metro stations expected to serve Olympic crowds and local communities alike. It would fund lighting upgrades, emergency call systems, ADA (Americans with Disabilities ACT) improvements, and the deployment of trained transit ambassadors. The bill would also set aside small grants for cities to improve how people get to and from transit stations, like adding shaded bus stops, bike racks, or safer sidewalks, and fund local nonprofits that help keep stations safe and support unhoused residents near transit areas. The California State Transportation Agency would oversee implementation in coordination with Metro and local partners to ensure the upgrades are being used effectively.

This bill modifies the current funding system by creating a dedicated funding source of \$9 Million for small scale safety and access upgrades at existing stations, something not currently supported by the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) or Section 99313 allocations.

Vote: Majority Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Committee: Yes Local Program: Yes

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Title

This Act shall be known and may be cited as the Los Angeles Olympic Transit Safety and Access Pilot.

SEC. 2. Station Safety and Comfort Upgrades - \$4,000,000:

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority shall prioritize improvements that enhance rider safety, accessibility, and crowd management capacity in anticipation of the 2028 Olympic Games. Upgrades may include lighting, surveillance, staffing, signage, and structural modifications

(a) The California State Transportation Agency shall establish a pilot program to improve safety and accessibility at the following existing Los Angeles Metro stations:

- (1) Expo/Crenshaw Station (E Line & K Line).
- (2) 7th Street/Metro Center Station (B, D, A, and E Lines).
- (3) Wilshire/Vermont Station (B and D Lines).

(b) Eligible improvements shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Lighting upgrades and emergency call systems.
- (2) ADA-compliant ramps, seating, tactile paving, and multilingual signage.
- (3) Deployment of trained transit ambassadors to assist riders and respond to safety concerns.

(c) Transit ambassadors shall complete a certified training program prior to deployment. This training shall include:

- (1) Public safety and de-escalation techniques.

(2) ADA support and rider assistance.

(3) Ability to communicate in multiple languages and work respectfully across cultures.

(d) The California State Transportation Agency shall publish publicly accessible quarterly reports on ambassador performance via the CalSTA website. These reports shall include:

(1) Rider feedback.

(2) Incident resolution data.

(3) Data on outreach efforts and public participation near transit stations.

(e) The sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) shall be appropriated from the General Fund for the purposes of this section.

SEC. 3. Community Mobility Microgrant Program - \$2,000,000:

(a) A Community Mobility Microgrant Program is established to support neighborhood-level improvements that help people safely reach and leave transit stations.

(b) Eligible uses shall include, but are not limited to the following:

(1) Shaded bus stops and seating.

(2) Bike racks and pedestrian safety features.

(3) Multilingual wayfinding signage and ADA curb ramps.

(c) Grants shall range from one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) and shall be awarded to local governments and transit agencies through a competitive application process.

(d) Priority shall be given to applicants that meet one or more of the following criteria:

(1) Serve communities with high transit dependency.

(2) Serve low-income populations.

(3) Are located within Olympic adjacent transit hubs.

(e) The California State Transportation Agency shall publish application guidelines and scoring criteria within 90 days of enactment.

(f) The sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) shall be appropriated from the General Fund for the purposes of this section.

SEC. 4. Outreach and Dignity Partnerships - \$1,000,000:

(a) The California State Transportation Agency shall coordinate with nonprofit organizations to provide outreach and support services near transit hubs, including engagement with unhoused individuals and vulnerable riders.

(b) Contracts shall prioritize organizations with experience in trauma informed care, housing navigation, and community trust building. Eligible partners may include, but are not limited to:

(1) The People Concern.

(2) PATH (People Assisting the Homeless).

(3) Downtown Women's Center.

(4) Urban Alchemy.

(5) Los Angeles Community Action Network (LA CAN).

(6) Other qualified organizations.

(c) Services may include:

(1) Mobile outreach and hygiene kits.

(2) Conflict de-escalation and rider support.

(3) Referrals to housing, health, and social services.

(d) Services shall be culturally responsive, and trauma informed.

(e) The sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) shall be appropriated from the General Fund for the purposes of this section.

SEC. 5. Oversight and Administration.

The Authority shall submit a progress report to the Legislature by July 1, 2027, detailing expenditures, construction milestones, and projected readiness for Olympic transit demand.

(a) The California State Transportation Agency shall oversee implementation of this act and ensure compliance with state and federal accessibility standards, including both physical and digital accessibility.

(b) A Transit Safety Oversight Panel shall be selected through public nomination and CalSTA appointment in order to review pilot outcomes and recommend adjustments. The panel shall include:

(1) Community members.

(2) Youth representatives.

(3) Disability advocates.

(4) Transit rider organizations.

(c) Funds shall be used for:

(1) Project management and coordination.

(2) Public reporting and transparency.

(3) Legal contracting and audit support.

(d) The sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) shall be appropriated from the General Fund for the purposes of this section.

SEC. 6.

This act shall take effect immediately as an appropriation measure