



**FINAL REPORT**  
**MSRC Contract Number: MS-16039**

**“Installation of Eight (8) Electric Vehicle Charging Stations at the  
Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center”**

**October 5, 2023**

**Prepared for the Mobile Source Air Pollution Review Committee (MSRC)  
under AB 2766 Discretionary Fund Work Program**

**Acknowledgements:**



The Torrance Transit System acknowledges all the partners that contributed to the construction of the Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center in Torrance. Initiated in 2004, the project was accomplished through a combination of grant awards from the federal, state, and local level. Funding assistance was also provided from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Program (MSRC) to install eight (8) level two electric vehicle charging stations in the parking lot at the new transit center.

The construction of this multi-modal facility will reduce single occupancy vehicle trips with its park and ride capabilities, central location within Torrance, and close proximity to the I-405 and I-110 freeways. On June 9, 2023, Torrance Transit hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the opening of the new transit center with special guests including local elected officials, county, state and federal representatives.

The Torrance Transit System extends our thanks and appreciation to the following organizations for their assistance and contributions to the success of this project:

- Mobile Source Air Pollution Review Committee and representatives from the South Coast Air Quality Management District for their generous grant award
- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- South Bay Cities Council of Governments
- California Department of Transportation
- California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services
- Federal Transit Administration

This report was submitted in fulfillment of Contract ML16039 and the Level II Electric Vehicle Charging Stations project by the City of Torrance under the partial sponsorship of the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC). Work was completed on June 9, 2023.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Turner".

Kim Turner, Director  
Torrance Transit System

**Disclaimer:**

The statement and conclusion in this report are those of the contractor and not necessarily those of the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) or the South Coast Air Quality Management Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD). The mention of commercial products, their sources or their uses in connection with material reported is not to be construed as either an actual or implied endorsement of such products.

**Project Description and Work Performed:**

The Torrance Transit System values itself as: “The Little Transit Agency doing BIG things for our customers and the region.” For the last nineteen years, Torrance Transit has been working to design, construct and operate a multi-modal transit center in the South Bay Region of Los Angeles County. We understand that the first point of contact with our patrons is most likely a bus stop, bus shelter or Transit Station. Each in turn can have a lasting impression upon a bus rider, especially those who may be utilizing public transportation for the very first time.

The following report outlines the efforts undertaken to construct the Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center, the service and innovative amenities that this facility currently offers to its employees, the community, and our future plans to link with the regional light rail network in Los Angeles County and the Los Angeles World Airport.

This report highlights how the state-of-the-art Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center has helped to advance public transportation service through real-time travel information, wayfinding, and improved connectivity for our community that generates a positive image of public transit as a safe, reliable and preferred means of travel. The center balances technology and innovation with a plethora of services (public and private) and amenities that are readily available for the traveling public to utilize.

**Problems Encountered:**

In summer of 2004, Torrance Transit was asked to vacate a small transit depot that we had been operating since the 1970’s when new developers purchased the land in which it was located. This simple, eight-bay facility served as the main transportation hub for the South Bay area, and replacing it would prove most challenging. Situated on two acres of land, it housed the bus bays, a small transit office for the sale of fare media and approximately 100 parking spaces. A new location and the necessary funding to purchase the land and construct a new station was needed but not readily available in 2004.

The staff of Torrance Transit immediately began the effort to identify a new location for a Transit Center. Concurrently, staff aggressively competed for grant funding in which to purchase the required land and construct the facility. Under the leadership of Mary K. Giordano, Assistant City Manager and Kim Turner, Transit Director, seven locations were identified. The most viable was a 15-acre location at 465 Crenshaw Boulevard which was central to many things in the South Bay region and approximately 10 miles from Los Angeles World Airport. The Transit facility itself would only utilize five (5) acres, with the remaining acreage being utilized by the City of Torrance for other purposes or sold for private development.

Through the tireless work of Giordano, Turner and other City staff, the land was successfully acquired in 2010. At approximately the same time, Giordano and Turner also managed to secure \$18.1 Million in regional Measure R funds to initiate site clean-up and mitigation in preparation for construction of the five (5) acre transit station. Over the next few years, additional grant funding was secured through Prop 1B PTMISEA, CaLOES, and other state and regional funds, bringing the total construction budget to just under \$30 Million.

**Groundbreaking and Start of Construction – 2018**

The City officially broke ground on the project in 2018. Attending the event were dignitaries from the Federal, State and Local level. With the celebration and ceremony over, the real work began.



Torrance City Council breaking ground at the Regional Transit Center.



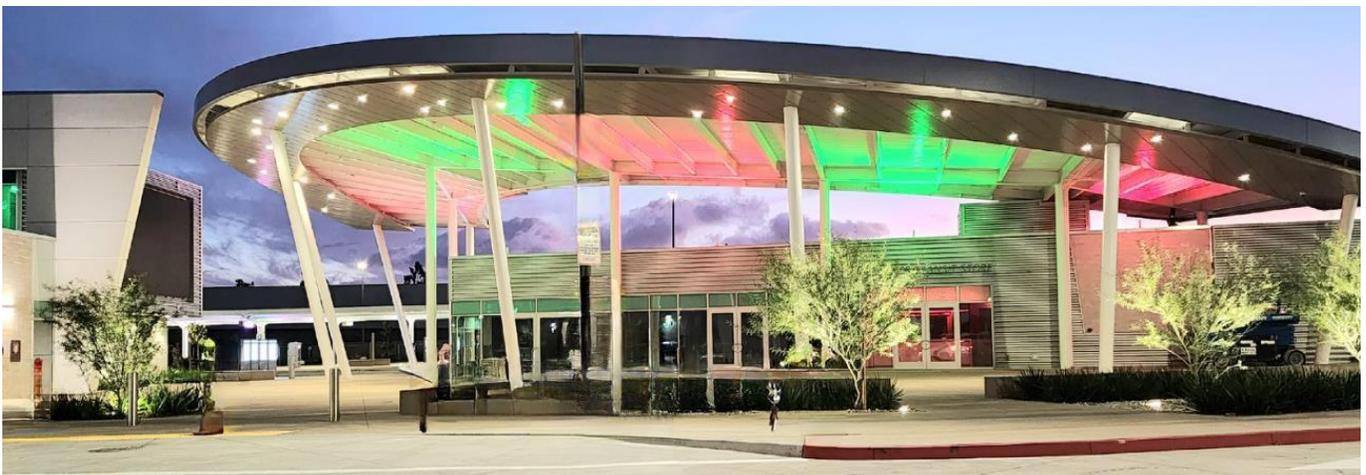
Governor Brown, Mayor Garcetti, Supervisor Hahn and Assembly Member Muratsuchi join Mayor Fuery and Kim Turner at the podium.



Original site/location before start of construction.

### **Project Construction – 2018 to 2023**

Originally scheduled for completion in July 2021, the project encountered numerous challenges with the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic. However, our team persevered and carried on despite of Countywide “Safer at Home” orders, work stoppages and manufacturing supply chain shortages. Progress was slow but steady for the next several years but gained serious momentum in early 2022.



## Loss of An Icon

On September 29, 2019, former Assistant City Manager, Mary K. Giordano passed away after a long illness. Transit staff felt it was only appropriate to name the facility in her honor, given how long and hard she had worked on this project, and for her dedication and support of public transportation. A special steel beam was inserted into the building's foundation bearing her name, and a special plaque was dedicated in her honor on July 8, 2022. The Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center (MKG RTC) now serves as the main transportation hub for the South Bay Region of Los Angeles County. However, the work on this facility, and the impact it will have on the region is only beginning.



## Project Completion

The MKG RTC was completed on June 9, 2023. To mark the occasion, a grand opening ceremony was conducted in which guests and dignitaries from all over the United States were invited to participate.



Official Ribbon Cutting at the Grand Opening Ceremony of the MKG RTC.

**Electric Vehicle Charging**

Located in the public parking lot for the the MKG RTC are eight (8) Level II EV Charging Stations that are available for patron use. The chargers were made available by a generous grant from the SCAQMD MSRC Grant Program. At least four to six of the charger are used every day. Patrons can pay to charge via credit card, debit card or by creating an account with ChargePoint.



**Emissions Benefits:**

Since the opening and start of operations, an average of approximately 900 individuals utilize the MKG RTC on a daily basis to accommodate their public transportation needs. By simple calculation, this could represent the removal of approximately 900 Single Occupancy Vehicle Trips or 225 shared vehicle rides (up to four individuals per vehicle) per day. The average trip length per passenger on Torrance Transit vehicles is estimated at five miles. This represents 4,500 miles that are saved daily on public streets and roads because the MKG RTC is helping to attract new ridership and enhance travel connectivity in the South Bay region.

Additionally, for the level-II EV chargers at the transit center, we can estimate the usage at about 197.5 kWh used per charging unit. This equates to approximately 7.92 lbs-NOx (nitrogen oxide) in emission reductions from using the EV chargers to date. At this rate, in five (5) years there should be a reduction of about 160 lbs-NOx in vehicle emissions from electric vehicles utilizing the charging stations at the transit center.

**Photographs and Outreach:**

The MKG RTC was envisioned to be a state-of-the-art, multi-modal transportation hub for our community, but it has quickly become more than that. Two additional phases are already underway to expand and enhance its service and capabilities in the near future. The second phase calls for the installation of solar panels and the construction of a multi-level parking structure with Smart Parking to accommodate future growth. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority has identified the MKG RTC as the future terminus for its upcoming C-Line, light-rail extension into the South Bay. The parking structure is scheduled to be completed in 2025, and the C-Line Extension is planned for 2030.

The MKG RTC is divided equipped with eight (8) bus bays, two office buildings, and a 250 car parking lot. The West Building contains two retail spaces, the Transit Store and a 24 hour Security Office. The East Building contains the aforementioned Training Room, Executive Conference Room, Operator Lounge, secondary Dispatch Office and Bus Operator Driving Simulator Training Classroom.



Facility Exterior showing East and West Building, LED Wall and Electronic Bike Lockers.



Bus Bay #5 – one of eight (8) bus bays that can accommodate 40' and 60' buses, with real-time bus information



View of the MKG RTC from the rear with security office to the left.

# Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Torrance Transit has been in continuous operation for over 82 years serving the needs of South Bay residents. The construction of this facility will reduce single occupancy vehicle trips due to its close proximity to the I-405 and I-110 and its park and ride facilities. In addition the Transit Terminal will improve regional mobility linking Torrance Transit routes with other regional providers in the Transit Terminal. The facility located on an approximately five (5) acre parcel of the fifteen (15) acre parcel at 465 Crenshaw Blvd. in City of Torrance, California.



The Transit Terminal at build-out shall include, but will not be limited to, the following:

- Connection hub for major Torrance Transit routes and other regional transit agencies.
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified Transit Terminal building (approximately 15,000+ square feet), with the ability to house areas for small retail use, Transit store for

monthly pass sales, infrastructure to house 2 ticket vending machines (TVMs), infrastructure for 2 real time passenger information technologies (RTPI), operator layover area & amenities, supervisor offices, security office/post communications room, training/conference room.

- Transit Terminal with eight bus berths, and the ability for three of them to serve 60-foot articulating buses.
- Sufficient amounts of layover space for buses to accommodate current and future demands.
- Approximately 250 space parking lot, with the ability to expand into an approximately 500 space parking structure.
- Passenger Drop-off Zone (Kiss-N-Ride).
- Miscellaneous passenger information kiosks (including real-time information) and security amenities (CCTV Systems).
- 8 outdoor bicycle lockers and bike racks.
- Infrastructure for electric car charging station.
- Anti-vandalism and anti-skating devices, and
- On-Site and Off-Site engineering design services for roadway, traffic signal, grading, drainage, sewer, water, electrical and communications, infrastructure to City standards to provide optimal on-site circulation for vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians.

The Regional Transit Center is scheduled to open on Sunday, June 11, 2023.

[Click here](#) to view current project status.

## News & Press Releases

# Press Release - Torrance Transit System Celebrates Grand Opening of the Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center

**Post Date:** 06/09/2023 3:01 PM

Torrance Transit, a municipally operated transit system in the heart of the South Bay celebrated the grand opening of the Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center today. Torrance Transit hosted a private ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the launch of the opening with special guests including local elected officials, county, state and federal representatives.

Named in honor of the late Mary K. Giordano, Assistant City Manager for the City of Torrance, this state-of-the-art multimodal facility will serve as a transportation hub for Torrance and the South Bay. The five-acre facility will also serve as the future terminus of the Metro C-Line light rail, allowing for greater access to public transportation service throughout Los Angeles County.

Initiated in 2004, this project was realized through a combination of several grant awards from the federal, state, and local levels. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the South Bay Cities Council of Governments awarded \$25.7 million in Measure R South Bay Highway Program Funds to be used for facility construction. The California Department of Transportation and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services also contributed \$2.5 million and \$115,470 toward construction and security measures such as electronic door locks and security cameras. Thanks to former House of Representative member Jane Harman, \$333,334 was earmarked for the installation of a bus training simulator; the State of California's Low Carbon Transit Operations Program provided \$29,743 for bike lockers to promote multimodal travel; and the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Mobile Source Air Quality Management Program awarded \$64,000 toward the construction of eight Level II Electric Vehicle Charging Stations. And thanks to Congresswoman Maxine Waters, representing California's 43rd Congressional District, Torrance Transit was awarded \$6.28 million in Federal Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Funds to purchase all-electric buses that will operate from the new facility as part of Torrance Transit's new "Torrance to Florence" service enhancement.

Transit Director Kim Turner said, "Torrance Transit is proud to have completed this incredible project. Thanks to the support of current and past elected officials, agencies and our allies at the local, state, and federal level who understand the importance of public transportation service in our region, we're finally seeing this vision come to life. We're thrilled to complete this project to continue serving those who live, work, and do business in Torrance and the South Bay region."

The public is invited to an Open House on Saturday, June 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Regional Transit Center is located at 465 Crenshaw Boulevard. For more information go to [Transit.TorranceCA.Gov \(/?navid=1446\)](https://www.torranceca.gov/?navid=1446).

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