

# Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2

What is Light Rail Transit?



## What is Light Rail Transit (LRT)?

LRT is designed to provide residents and businesses safe, affordable, and efficient transportation options. LRT can run throughout the city to connect pedestrians with storefronts, sidewalk cafes, parks, and promenades. LRT rail cars run relatively quietly on electricity with three cars typically connected. LRT functions best as a local service with frequent station stops typically one mile apart.

LRT provides communities with a transportation option that reduces congestion and is dependable. Unlike automobiles and buses, LRT systems enjoy signal prioritization, dedicated routes, and can carry up to three times the passenger capacity of a bus. LRT riders can reach their destination faster without the stress of driving and, in turn, motorists may experience a smoother commute due to the reduced number of automobiles on the road.

LRT technology isn't new. Used extensively around the world and throughout the U.S., LRT has a proven track record. For example, in Los Angeles County, the old street car and electric interurban railways provided service from the 1890s through World War II. Today, newer and more environmentally friendly LRT cars are providing service again throughout Los Angeles County, including the Metro Gold Line, Blue Line, and Green Line.

## LRT is Safe!

Metro uses federal and state standards, as well as accepted industry standards for LRT designs and operations.

LRT is a proven safe and reliable mode of travel. When traveling in local streets, trains follow posted speed limits and traffic signs and have synchronized signal timing to allow them to pass safely through intersections. Stations are designed with platforms that have large loading areas for people entering and exiting the trains, including pedestrian walkways that connect to the nearest public sidewalks. Elevated stations provide elevators, stairs and ramps that can handle both persons with disabilities and/or special emergency needs.



## Don't Be Confused...

It is common for people to think rail projects are all the same, however, nothing could be further from the truth.

LRT service is different from “commuter rail,” which includes Metrolink and Amtrak. Though both modes usually use standard gauge tracks, commuter rail usually involves larger trains with regional stations spaced several miles apart.

Commuter rail trains are designed for faster speeds, and longer distance commuter service between counties. Another operational difference involves frequency of service. While LRT and commuter rail both provide high frequency service during peak morning and evening hours, only LRT maintains 15-20 minute intervals throughout the entire day.

### *Commuter Rail*



*Metrolink*

### *Light Rail*



*Los Angeles*




*Utah*




*Portland*

## Contact Us

For additional information, please use the following contact tools to access more project information, ask questions or provide comments.

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