

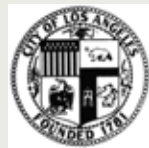
Wilshire Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Public Hearings for the Draft EIR/EA



Sponsoring Agencies

- EIR/EA prepared jointly by:
 - Federal Transit Administration (Lead Agency under NEPA)
 - Metro (Lead Agency under CEQA)
 - City of Los Angeles (Responsible Agency)
 - Los Angeles County (Responsible Agency)



State & Federal Environmental Review

- Satisfying CEQA (State Requirements):
Metro & LADOT determined that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is appropriate
- Satisfying NEPA (Federal Requirements):
Federal Transit Administration (FTA) determined that an Environmental Assessment (EA) is appropriate



Purpose of Tonight's Meeting

- Provide an overview of the draft EIR/EA
- Summarize the project, project alternatives, and impact determination
- Present the project schedule
- Listen to your comments so they can be considered in developing the Final EIR/EA

Responses to comments will be provided in writing in the Final EIR/EA




Wilshire Boulevard

- One of the most important transit corridors in Los Angeles County – over 80,000 boardings per day
- Peak hour bus speeds under 15 MPH along most areas
- Curb lane street conditions are very poor – only 15% of vehicles use the curb lanes
- Buses travel in all traffic lanes. Rapid buses often use center lanes between stops



Project Goals and Objectives

- 
- Encourage shift from automobile use to public transit
 - Improve bus passenger travel times
 - Improve bus service reliability
 - Improve traffic flow along Wilshire Boulevard
 - Repave the curb lanes along damaged portions of Wilshire Boulevard
 - Minimize impacts to existing on-street parking

Alternatives Evaluated

- Proposed Project
- Alternative A - Truncated Project, retain jut-outs.
- Alternative B – Truncated Project, not feasible, rejected
- Alternative C – Mini Bus Lanes, not feasible, rejected
- No Project Alternative

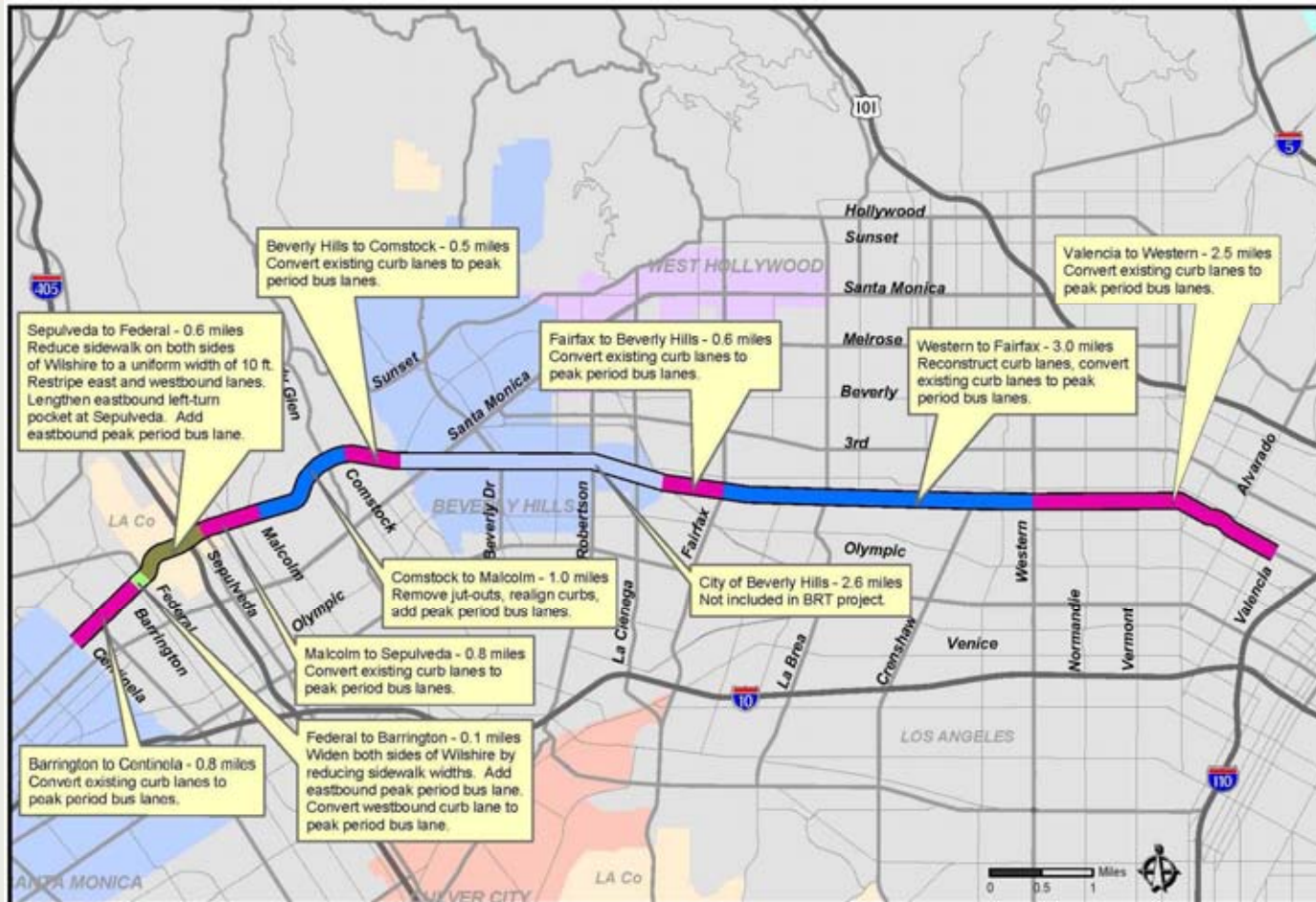
Proposed Project

- Convert existing curb lanes to peak period bus lanes
- Resurface or reconstruct significant portions of Wilshire Boulevard
- Widen Wilshire Boulevard in select areas
- Remove existing jut-outs and realign curbs between Malcolm Avenue and Comstock Avenue
- Construct a new eastbound peak period bus lane between Barrington Avenue and Bonsall Avenue
- Restripe existing traffic lanes as necessary
- Install traffic/transit signage and pavement markings



Metro

Proposed Project



Metro

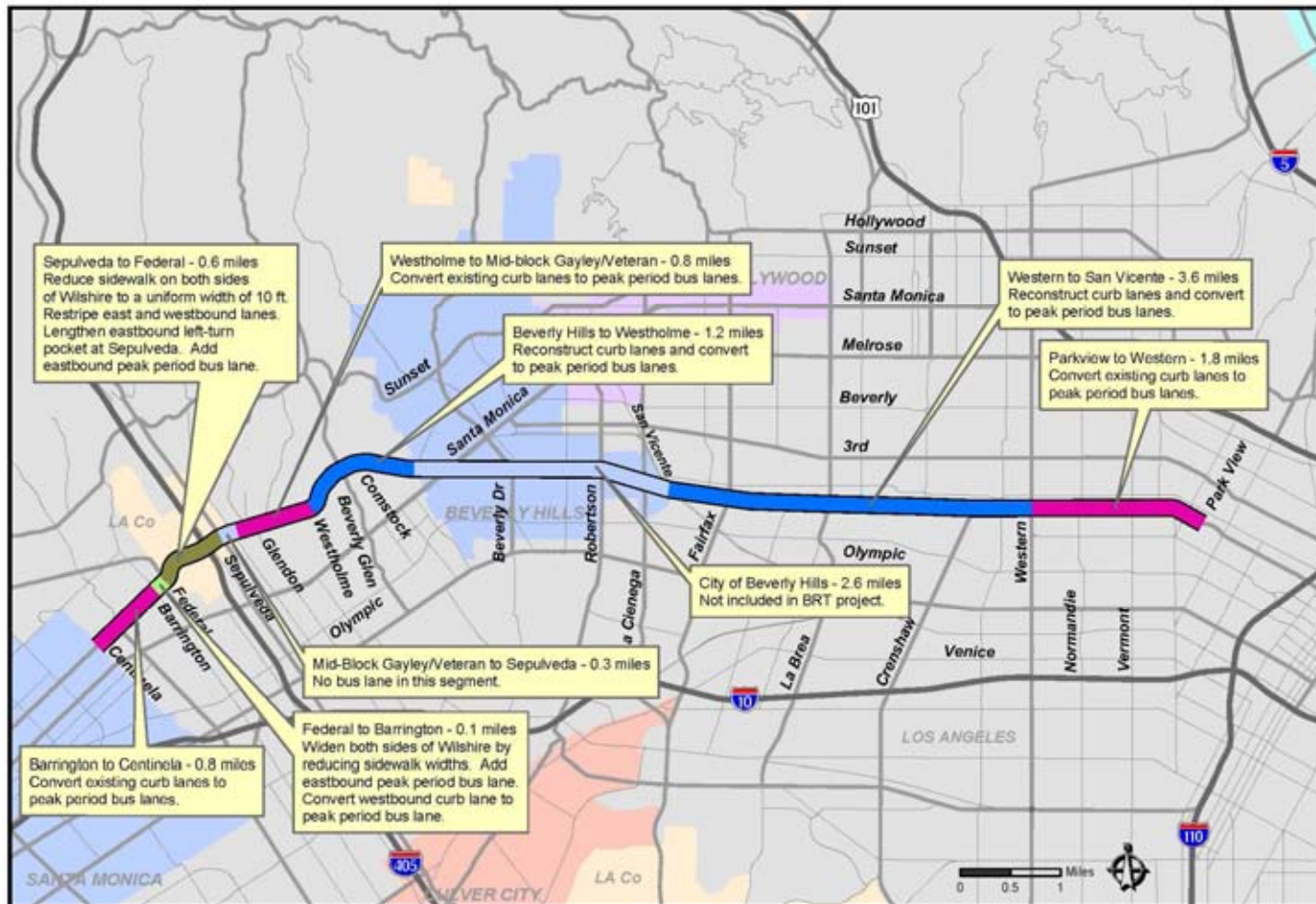


Alternative A: Truncated Project, Retain Jut-outs

- Eliminate bus lane between Valencia Street and S. Park View Street
- Eliminate bus lane from approximately 300 feet east of Veteran Avenue to the 405 freeway
- Retain jut-outs between Malcolm Avenue and Comstock Avenue
- Reconstruct additional portions of curb lanes:
 - Fairfax Avenue to San Vicente Boulevard
 - Western boundary of the City of Beverly Hills to Westholme Avenue



Alternative A: Truncated Project, Retain Jut-outs



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Bus Lanes in Operation

- Weekdays, 7-9 AM & 4-7 PM
- May be used by right turning traffic and bicycles
- Buses will be allowed to pass when necessary
- When not in operation, open to all traffic or for parking
- Special measures to ease transition across LA City/Beverly Hills city lines

Summary of Draft EIR/EA

- No Impact
 - Aesthetics (Scenic Vistas and Views)
 - Agricultural Resources
 - Biological Resources (Ecologically Sensitive Areas)
 - Geology and Soils
 - Hazards and Hazardous Materials
 - Hydrology and Water Quality
 - Mineral Resources
 - Population and Housing
 - Public Services
 - Recreation
 - Utilities



Summary of Draft EIR/EA

- Less Than Significant Impacts
 - Air Quality (Operational)
 - Cultural Resources (Historic, Archaeological, Paleontological)
 - Land Use
 - Noise
 - Circulation and Parking



Summary of Draft EIR/EA

- Less Than Significant Impacts with Mitigations
 - Aesthetics (Loss of Street Trees)
 - Air Quality (Construction)
 - Biological Resources (Nesting Birds)
- Significant Impacts
 - Traffic



EIR/EA Mitigation Measures

- Air Quality (Construction) Mitigations
 - Minimize, reuse, and recycle construction-related waste
 - Minimize grading, earth-moving, and other energy-intensive construction practices
 - Where possible, replace trees or landscaping
 - Where possible, use alternative fuel instead of diesel power generators

EIR/EA Mitigation Measures

- Noise (Construction) Mitigations
 - Where possible, use noise-reducing features on construction equipment
 - Where possible, use electrically powered equipment instead of pneumatic or internal combustion powered equipment
 - Use noise-producing signals for safety warning purposes only
 - No project-related public address or music system shall be audible at any adjacent receptor

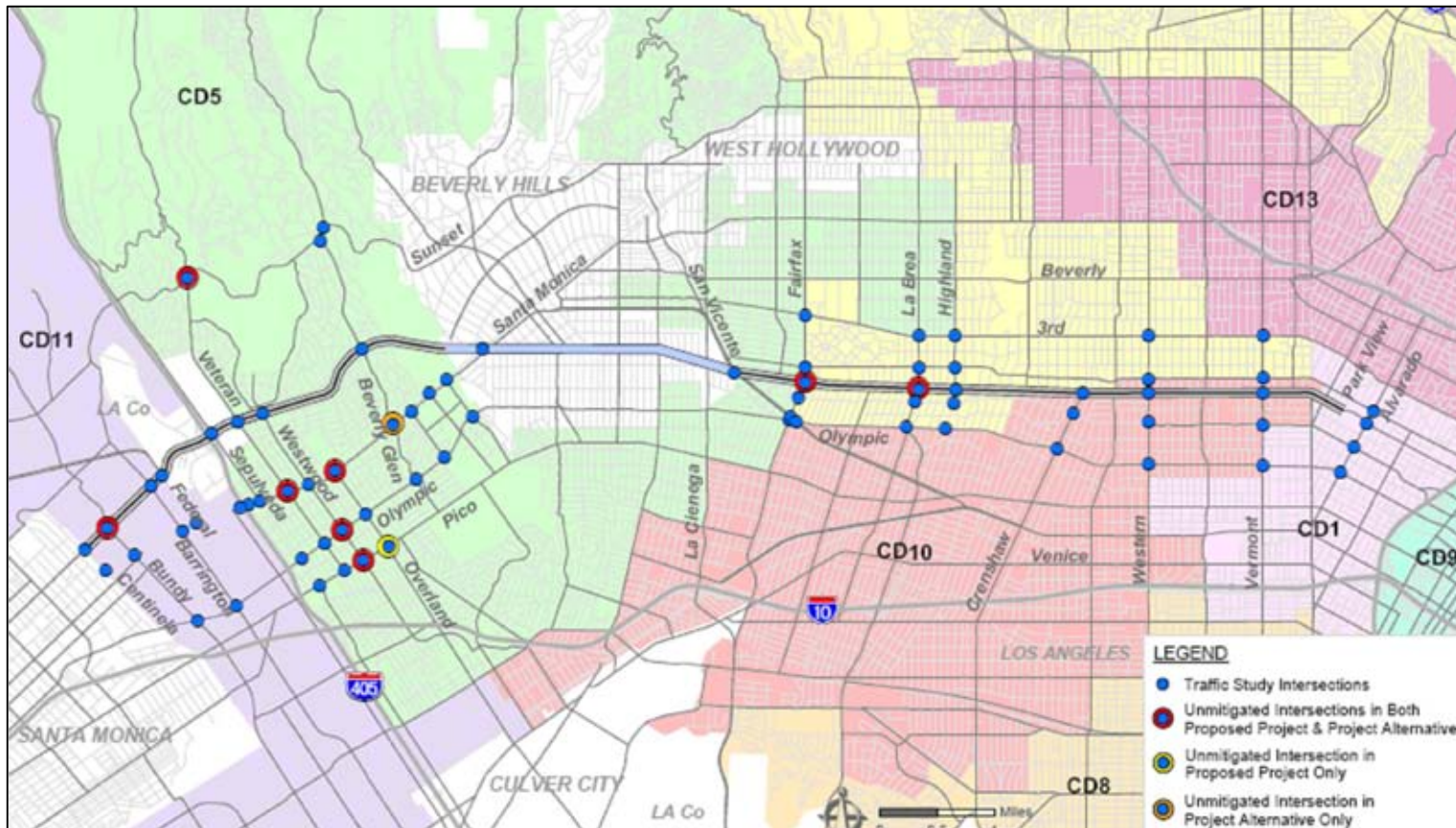
EIR/EA Mitigation Measures

- Aesthetics (Loss of Street Trees) Mitigation
 - Where feasible, preserve trees within existing jut-outs or relocate/incorporate them into the landscape plan where space permits
 - Only necessary with Proposed Project, no impact with Project Alternative A

EIR/EA Mitigation Measures

- Biological Resources (Nesting Birds) Mitigation
 - Net trees to be removed prior to the typical breeding/nesting season for birds (February 1 through September 1) to prevent birds from inhabiting the trees prior to tree removal and construction
 - Only necessary with Proposed Project, no impact with Project Alternative A

Traffic Study Intersections



Intersection Impact Summary

Intersections	Proposed Project	Alternative A
Total Studied	74	74
Not Impacted	53	55
Impacted, of which	21	19
Fully Mitigated	12	10
Partially Mitigated	5	5
Not Mitigated	4	4

Traffic Mitigations

- Installation of upgraded traffic signals to allow protected left turn or additional turn lanes
- Targeted widening to create turn lanes
- Installation of new hardware for improved “real time” adjustment of traffic signals



Signal Phase Mitigation Measures

Proposed Project Impact	Alternative A Impact	Intersection	Proposed Mitigation
X	X	Barrington/Wilshire	WB Left Protected/Permitted
X	X	Beverly Glen/Olympic	NB Left Protected/Permitted
X		Sepulveda/Pico	EB & SB Left Protected/Permitted
X		Highland/3 rd	WB Left Protected/Permitted
X		Alvarado/6 th	EB & WB Left Protected/Permitted
X	X	Highland/Wilshire	WB Left Protected/Permitted
X	X	La Brea/Olympic	EB Left Protected/Permitted
X	X	Highland/Olympic	WB Left Protected/Permitted



NB = northbound EB = eastbound
 SB = southbound WB = westbound

Other Mitigation Measures

Proposed Project Impact	Alternative A Impact	Intersection	Proposed Mitigation
X		Veteran/Wilshire	Eliminate bus lane from Sepulveda to mid-block between Veteran & Gayley
	X	Beverly Glen/Wilshire	Add NB right-turn lane
X	X	Westwood/Santa Monica	Add SB left-turn lane
	X	Bundy/Olympic	Add SB left-turn lane
X	X	Fairfax/Olympic	Install Adaptive Traffic Control System
X	X	Crenshaw/Olympic	Install Adaptive Traffic Control System

NB = northbound

SB = southbound



Partially Mitigated Intersections

Proposed Project Impact	Alternative A Impact	Intersection	Proposed Mitigation	Percent of Impact Mitigated
X	X	Bundy/Wilshire	Upgrade vehicle detection	7% - 10%
X	X	Veteran/Santa Monica	Upgrade traffic signal controllers	64% - 93%
X	X	Westwood/Olympic	Upgrade traffic signal controllers	37% - 60%
X	X	Fairfax/Wilshire	Upgrade traffic signal controllers	15% - 20%
X	X	La Brea/Wilshire	Upgrade vehicle detection	32% - 51%

Unmitigated Intersections

Proposed Project Impact	Alternative A Impact	Intersection
X	X	Veteran/Sunset
X	X	Overland/Santa Monica
	X	Beverly Glen/Santa Monica
X	X	Westwood/Pico
X		Overland/Pico

Project Schedule

	2010									
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Administrative DEIR/EA to FTA for review		■								
Incorporate FTA comments – Prepare for public hearings		■								
DEIR/EA to public for review – Hold four public hearings			■	■						
Incorporate public comments – Prepare FEIR/EA				■	■					
FEIR/EA to FTA for review – Incorporate FTA comments					■	■				
FTA Issues FONSI							★			
Seek Metro approval of FEIR/EA								■		
Seek LA City and County approval									■	
Cleared to Incur Costs										★



Metro

Public Hearing Schedule

Monday, June 21, 6pm – 8pm

Westwood Presbyterian Church
10822 Wilshire Boulevard

Tuesday, June 22, 6pm – 8pm

Good Samaritan Hospital
Moseley Salvatori Conference Ctr
637 Lucas Avenue

Tuesday, June 29, 2pm – 4pm

Wilshire United Methodist Church
4350 Wilshire Boulevard

Wednesday, June 30, 6pm – 8pm

Felicia Mahood Center
11338 Santa Monica Boulevard



How to Comment on Draft EIS/EA

1. Comment Verbally Tonight
 - Limit remarks to two minutes
 - Comments recorded by court reporter
2. Submit Written Comments to Metro
 - Use comment form supplied tonight
 - Or Mail to:
 - Martha Butler
 - Metro
 - 1 Gateway Plaza, 99-23-1
 - Los Angeles, CA 90012
3. Email Comments to Metro
 - wilshirebrt@metro.net

Comment Deadline:
July 26, 2010





Questions & Comments