



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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Notice of Availability

Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report Metro Gold Line Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has prepared a Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the proposed Metro Gold Line Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2 Project (Project). The Recirculated Draft EIR evaluates the potential for environmental impacts resulting from the Project and provides mitigation measures where required. This notice is being provided to announce and solicit input on the Recirculated Draft EIR.

PROJECT LOCATION: The Project includes an approximately 3.2 to 9.0-mile extension, depending on the Build Alternative, of the Metro L (Gold) Line, a Light Rail Transit (LRT) line, from its current terminus at Atlantic Station in the unincorporated area of East Los Angeles to eastern Los Angeles County. See map of Project location in Figure 1. For purposes of describing the Project, two study areas have been defined. The General Study Area (GSA), which is regional in scope and scale, consists of a wider area that is expected to be served by the Project. The GSA includes several jurisdictions within Los Angeles County including the cities of Bell, Commerce, El Monte, Industry, Los Angeles, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pico Rivera, Rosemead, South El Monte, Santa Fe Springs, Whittier, unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, which include East Los Angeles and West Whittier-Los Nietos. The GSA is generally bounded by I-10 to the north, Peck Road in South El Monte and Lambert Road in Whittier to the east, I-5 and Washington Boulevard to the south, and I-710 to the west. The detailed study area (DSA) encompasses the local area within approximately two miles from the Project alignment. It encompasses five cities including Commerce, Montebello, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, and Whittier and unincorporated communities of East Los Angeles and Whittier-Los Nietos.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Project would extend the LRT Metro L (Gold) Line from the current terminus at the Atlantic Station into eastern Los Angeles County. There are three Build Alternatives and a No Project Alternative under consideration in this Recirculated Draft EIR: Alternative 1 Washington (Alternative 1), Alternative 2 Atlantic to Commerce/Citadel IOS (Alternative 2), and Alternative 3 Atlantic to Greenwood IOS (Alternative 3). Alternative 1 has the longest alignment at approximately 9.0 miles with seven stations (one relocated/reconfigured and six new stations) and two maintenance and storage facility (MSF) site options, one in the city of Commerce and one in the city of Montebello. The alignment would terminate at Lambert station on Lambert Road in the city of Whittier as shown in Figure 1.

Additionally, two Initial Operating Segments (IOS) alternatives are being evaluated in this Recirculated Draft EIR (Alternative 2 and Alternative 3). An IOS is a segment of the Project alignment that can function as a stand-alone Project with independent constructability (independent of other segments or phases to be constructed). The purpose of developing and evaluating the IOS alternatives is to identify constructability options and a cost-effective solution with the greatest benefit of the Project.

Alternative 2 is approximately 3.2 miles in length with three stations (one relocated/reconfigured and two new stations) and one MSF site option in the city of Commerce as shown in Figure 1. Alternative 2 has the same guideway alignment from the East Los Angeles area eastward but would terminate at the Commerce/Citadel station in the city of Commerce. Alternative 3 is approximately 4.6 miles in length with four stations (one relocated/reconfigured and three new stations) and two MSF site options, one in the city of Commerce and one in the city of Montebello as shown in Figure 1. Alternative 3 has the same guideway alignment from the East Los Angeles area eastward but would terminate at the Greenwood station on Greenwood Avenue and Washington Boulevard in the city of Montebello.

There are design options under consideration for each of the three Build Alternatives that consist of a variation in the design of the relocated/reconfigured Atlantic station (applicable to Alternatives 1, 2, and 3) and a variation in the station and alignment profile in Montebello (applicable to Alternatives 1 and 3 and the Montebello MSF site option). Construction and operation of one or both design options are considered and evaluated for Alternative 1, Alternative 3, and the Montebello MSF site option.

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: The Recirculated Draft EIR defines the alternatives studied and describes each alternative's associated potential environmental impacts. Potential areas of impact include transportation and traffic, land use, aesthetics, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, noise and vibration, geology, soils and seismicity, hazardous and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, biological resources, energy resources, historic resources, archaeological resources, paleontological resources, tribal cultural resources, public services and recreation, population and housing, utilities, and growth inducement. Mitigation measures for each alternative are also identified where applicable. The information contained in the document will be used by the Metro Board of Directors to decide whether to implement the Project and to select from among the alternatives and alignment options under consideration, a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA).

As described in the Recirculated Draft EIR, some of the build alternatives could result in unavoidable adverse effects or significant impacts after implementation of proposed mitigation measures in the following categories: Historical Resources and Paleontological Resources.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD: The Recirculated Draft EIR is being made available for public review for a 60-day comment period, commencing on Thursday, June 30, 2022, and concluding on Monday, August 29, 2022. The Recirculated Draft EIR, along with other Project information, is available for review and download online at the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority website at https://www.metro.net/projects/eastside_phase2/. Electronic copies of the document can be made available upon written request to Metro and mailed to recipients for the cost of materials and shipping.

Hard copies of the Recirculated Draft EIR (and electronic copies of the supporting technical reports) will also be available for public review at the following repositories. Please check hours of operations at the repositories listed before visiting.

1. Metro Headquarters, Dorothy Peyton Gray Transportation Library, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles
2. East Los Angeles Library, 4837 E 3rd Street, East Los Angeles
3. Commerce Public Library, 5655 Jillson Street, Commerce
4. Chet Holifield County Library, 1060 S Greenwood Avenue, Montebello

5. Pico Rivera Library, 9001 Mines Avenue, Pico Rivera
6. Los Nietos County Library, 8511 Duchess Drive, Whittier
7. Whittier Public Library, 7344 Washington Avenue, Whittier

PUBLIC HEARINGS. Please join Metro at three in-person and/or at one virtual (subject to change depending on County guidance on COVID-19) public hearings for the Project. Metro is conducting four public hearings to present key findings on the Draft EIR and offer opportunities for the public to submit oral comments. A court reporter will be present at each hearing. Note that comments and questions will not receive a response during the hearings but will be addressed within the Final EIR, which is anticipated to be released in 2023. All hearings will feature the same information.

JULY 2022	
East Los Angeles (In Person) Thursday, July 21, 2022, 6–8pm Kaiser Permanente Medical Offices (Northeast Parking Lot) 5119 Pomona Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90022	Montebello (In Person) Saturday, July 30, 2022, 10am–12pm Applied Technology Center High School 1200 W Mines Avenue, Montebello, CA 90640
AUGUST 2022	
Virtual (Online) Thursday, August 11, 2022, 6–8pm Zoom Link: tinyurl.com/3k8pms7f Call-In Number: 213.338.8477 Meeting ID: 814 9183 9547	Whittier (In Person) Wednesday, August 17, 2022, 6–8pm Whittier Community Center (Gymnasium) 7630 Washington Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602

All community information sessions and public hearings will offer simultaneous Spanish interpretation. Additionally, video recordings will be made available on the Project website at the conclusion of each meeting series.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT REQUIREMENTS: Upon request, sign language interpretation, materials in alternative formats, and other accommodations are available to the public for LACMTA-sponsored meetings and events. All requests for reasonable accommodations, interpretation services, and materials in other languages must be made at least three working days (72 hours) prior to the scheduled meeting date. Please submit requests by calling (323) 466-3876 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Our TDD line is (800) 252-9040. Individuals with hearing or speech impairment may use California Relay Service 711 + Metro phone number.

COMMENT SUBMITTAL. Please submit comments on the Recirculated Draft EIR in writing to the address or email address below. All submitted comments concerning the Recirculated Draft EIR must be received **no later than 5:00 p.m. Monday, August 29, 2022.**

By Mail Ms. Jenny Cristales-Cevallos
 Project Manager
 Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
 One Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop 99-22-7
 Los Angeles, CA 90012

By Web Form metro.net/eastsidecomments

By Phone 213.922.3012

All comments received during the Recirculated Draft EIR public review period will be compiled and responded to as part of the Recirculated Final EIR. If there are any questions regarding this notice, or how to review available documents, please contact Jenny Cristales-Cevallos.

Figure 1. Proposed Project Alternatives

Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2 Project Alternatives

