

Purple Line Extension Section 2

Frequently Asked Questions – Dust and Emissions

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What is happening?

Metro's Purple Line Extension (PLE) Project is a rail project that will provide a high-capacity, high-speed, dependable alternative for commuters to travel between downtown Los Angeles and Westwood in just 25 minutes. The extension will be built in three sections and will continue from the current station at Wilshire/Western, extending westward for about nine miles along Wilshire Bl. The extension will include seven new stations at Wilshire/La Brea, Wilshire/Fairfax, Wilshire/La Cienega, Wilshire/Rodeo, Century City/Constellation, Westwood/UCLA and Westwood/VA Hospital.

Will there be dust and air emissions from the PLE construction project?

PLE construction activities will create minimal dust and emissions in designated work sites. Throughout PLE construction, Metro will comply with South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) Rule 403 and Metro's Green Construction Policy (GCP), which are in place to protect public health and the environment.

What is SCAQMD Rule 403?

Also known as the Fugitive Dust rule, Rule 403 is regulated by the SCAQMD to reduce particulate matter (dust) sources. Metro is employing best available control measures throughout the construction project to ensure compliance. These measures to prevent and reduce dust emissions include, but are not limited to, placing tarps over bulk materials such as soil during transportation and storage and maintaining a water truck on project sites to spray down soil to reduce dust.

What is Metro's Green Construction Policy (GCP)?

Metro developed the GCP (metro.net/projects/gcp), which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 has described as one of the most innovative market-based, non-regulatory mechanisms to reduce air quality impacts. Additionally, the SCAQMD has awarded Metro with a Clean Air Hero award in 2015 for these efforts. These annual clean air awards honor businesses, public agencies, and others who are making significant contributions to cleaner air in the Southland.

Metro requires contractors working on the PLE to comply with its GCP. The PLE is located within the South Coast Air Basin, which has historically had high levels of air pollutants of concern that are reduced by the enforcement of Metro's GCP. In accordance with the GCP, construction equipment and trucks have low emitting engines for air pollutants of concern and exceed the requirements set by the State of California. Additionally, construction equipment and trucks have lower emission rates of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other Greenhouse Gas emissions and, thereby, are contributing to improving regional air quality as well.

How does Metro ensure the contractor complies?


Metro conducts regular on-site inspections of equipment and trucks, and contractors utilizing best available control technology where feasible to ensure consistency with the GCP. Additionally, contractors report to Metro on a monthly basis detailing their equipment inventory, compliance with applicable California Air Resources Board regulations and project fuel usage. Metro also conducts periodic GCP training to assist contractors with compliance.

What else is Metro doing to reduce impacts of construction?

As part of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Metro produced a Mitigation Monitoring & Reporting Plan that outlines the steps that will be used to avoid or reduce impacts during project construction. Metro will diligently work to minimize impacts on businesses, residents and property owners, as well as other project stakeholders. Learn more about the plan at: metro.net/purple.



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