



We're building a multimodal future for the Long Beach-East Los Angeles Corridor

Estamos construyendo un futuro multimodal para el Corredor de Long Beach–East Los Angeles



Task Force and Community Leadership Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 20, 2025 | 6-8pm | Hybrid Meeting: Bateman Hall in Lynwood, CA and Zoom



Attendance and Special Guests

TASK FORCE

Transportation Agencies

Roderick Diaz, Metrolink (Southern CA Regional Rail Authority)
Randy Johnson, Director of Government Affairs & Outreach, Access Services, Inc.
Marlon Boarnet, Director, METRANS

Freight and Logistics Industry

Sharon Weissman, President of the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners, Port of Long Beach (POLB)
Thomas Jelenić, Vice President, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA)

Community-Based Organizations and Advocacy Groups

Marlin Dawoodjee Vargas, Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LBACA)
Fernando Gaytan, Senior Attorney, Earthjustice
Sylvia Betancourt, Project Manager, Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LBACA)
Laura Cortez, Community Organizer / Co-Director, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice (EYCEJ)
Brenda Martin, Attorney, Legal Aid Foundation of LA-LB (LAFLA)

Environmental Organizations

Joe Lyou, President, CEO, Coalition for Clean Air
Christopher Chavez, Deputy Policy Director, Coalition for Clean Air
Janeth Preciado Vargas, Southeast LA Youth Organizer, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE)

Local Jurisdictions

Brittany Montano, Transportation Policy Analyst, City of Los Angeles Office of Mayor Karen Bass
Anne Yoon, Transportation Deputy, County of Los Angeles Supervisorial District 2
Viviana Gomez, Transportation Deputy, County of Los Angeles Supervisorial District 4
Akua Brown, Legislative Director, City of Los Angeles Council District 8
Terri Osborne, Planning Deputy, City of Los Angeles Council District 8
Nancy Martinez, Councilmember, City of Huntington Park

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Kevin Shin, At Large
Natalie Diaz Rubio, Bell Gardens
Phyllis Ollison, Compton
Jose Rodolfo Vallejo, Huntington Park
Dan Wamba, Lakewood
Marcos Lopez, Long Beach
Maria Reyes, Long Beach
Aide Castro, Lynwood
Elizabeth Zamarripa, Lynwood

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Sinetta Farley, East/Rancho Dominguez
Kathleen Barajas, East LA
Irma Lopez, Cudahy
Fa'alagilagi (Lagi) Meni-Siliga, Carson
Tiesha Davis, San Pedro
Jamila Cervantes, Maywood
Emmanuel Godinez, Boyle Heights
Manuel Arellano, Wilmington

PROJECT TEAM

Metro

Michael Cano, Senior Executive Officer (interim), Metro
KeAndra Cylear Dodds, Executive Officer of Equity and Race, Metro
Lilian De Loza-Gutierrez, Director of Community Relations, Metro
Allan Fye, Senior Director, Countywide Planning, Metro
Jessica Medina, Senior Director of Equity and Race, Metro
Akiko Yamagami, Senior Manager, Transportation Planning, Metro
Lorena Sanchez, Manager, Community Relations, Metro
Patrick Chandler, Media Relations Manager, Metro
Mark Dierking, Director, Local Government and Community Relations, Metro
Rena Lum, Deputy Executive Office, Goods Movement, Regional Rail, Metro
Aren Hacopian, Transportation Planner, Goods Movement, Metro

HereLA

Shannon Davis, Co-Director, HereLA
Amber Hawkes, Co-Director, HereLA
Krystle Yu, Urban Designer, HereLA
Elizabeth Shin, Urban Design Fellow, HereLA

Arellano Associates

Melissa Holguin, Staff and Project Director, Arellano Associates
Laura Herrera, Project Manager, Arellano Associates
Yvette Ximenez, Deputy Project Manager, Arellano Associates
Adrian Farran, Senior Project Coordinator, Arellano Associates
Reanna Jimenez, Project Coordinator, Arellano Associates
Emily Vargas, Assistant Project Coordinator, Arellano Associates

Introduction

The Long Beach–East LA Corridor Mobility Investment Plan (LB–ELA CMIP), built through more than two years of community collaboration, was approved by the Metro Board in April 2024. With up to \$4 billion in potential funding, the CMIP advances projects that prioritize clean air, healthier communities, and equitable economic opportunities. The project is now moving into its implementation phase, focused on delivering sustainable, multimodal improvements while keeping community voices at the center. A new Community Working Group (CWG) will provide year-round input, and upcoming public meetings will

Task Force & Community Leadership Committee - Meeting Summary

gather feedback on Zero-Emission Truck (ZET) projects to ensure clean technology supports both corridor needs and regional climate goals.

The Task Force and Community Leadership Committee (CLC) was a hybrid meeting that met on Monday, August 20, 2025, at Lynnwood Bateman Hall located at 11330 Bullies Rd, Lynwood, CA 90262 and transmitted live on Zoom. The meeting re-engages Task Force and CLC members, provide updates and receive feedback on progress since the Investment Plan's adoption and introduce the formation of the CWG. The intended objectives of this meeting were to:

- (1) Introduced the proposed structure, goals, and responsibilities of the CWG.
- (2) Shared the member selection criteria and recruitment process.
- (3) Provided the opportunity to ask questions and participate in a facilitated roundtable discussion to give feedback on the CWG formation process before the application launches in October 2025.

Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish was provided. Prior to the meeting, the Task Force and CLC members received the presentation (**Appendix A**) and the Draft CWG Frequently Asked Questions (**Appendix B**). Detailed comments can be found in (**Appendix C**).

Task Force and Community Leadership Committee Meeting

1. Welcome, Introduction, Metro Updates, Agenda Review, Meeting Objectives

- > Laura Herrera from Arellano Associates, welcomed in person and virtual attendees and introduced Michael Cano, Senior Executive Officer (interim), Metro, to officially open the meeting.
- > Mr. Cano introduced the Metro project team and introduced Amber Hawkes, Co-Facilitator from HereLA.
- > Ms. Hawkes welcomed and acknowledged the Task Force and CLC attendees. In-person, there were 9 Task Force members, 7 CLC members, 3 elected official representatives, and 19 members of the public. Virtually, there were 5 Task Force members, 11 CLC members, 3 elected official representatives and 30 community members.

2. Agenda Item #1: Introduction & Goals

- > Ms. Hawkes introduced the 4 agenda items, today's goals, investment plan updates, phase II engagement, and the current project timeline and next steps.
- > Metro staff member Lorena Sanchez provided updates from Metro.
- > Mr. Cano dedicated the meeting to Mr. Jesse Marquez, Coalition for a Safe Environment, and provided a health update.
- > Ms. Hawkes started the meeting with an ice breaker. Attendees had the opportunity to introduce themselves and share their relationship to the LB-ELA Corridor.

3. Agenda Item #2: Investment Plan Updates

- > Ms. Hawkes introduced Mr. Cano, who shared awards received since the adoption of the Investment Plan, reviewed the plan's goals, recommended projects and programs, and discussed the CLC Reflections & Recommendations report.
- > Jessica Medina, Senior Director of Equity and Race, Metro, provided an overview of the Equity Toolkit, explaining how it was developed and how it will be applied during CMIP implementation.

- > Akiko Yamagami, Senior Manager of Transportation Planning, Metro, discussed completed and ongoing project initiatives and shared updates on onboarding the Phase II planning team, technical work, and the Community Engagement Working Group. Federal climate considerations were also shared by Mr. Cano.
- > Shannon Davis, Co-Director, HereLA, opened the floor for questions and comments. Topics included:
 - i. **TWG clarity:** Members wanted more explanation about how Technical Working Groups (TWGs) would function, who participates, and how feedback will be used.
 - ii. **Metro’s response:** Updating slides for the next Public Meeting #1 to explain CWG and the TWGs roles shows Metro is listening and adapting in real time.
 - iii. **Offer additional points to former CLC members** who were dedicated in Phase I and want to continue in the CWG.
 - iv. **Transparency in decision-making:** Desire to better understand how CWG and the TWGs input flows into Metro staff recommendations and ultimately to the Board.

Phase II Engagement / Participación de la Fase II

After the release of the Investment Plan, Metro is transitioning from strategic planning to implementation, and engagement is evolving.

This new phase of engagement will involve three elements.

Después de la publicación del Plan de Inversión, Metro está pasando de la planificación estratégica a la implementación y la participación comunitaria.

Esta nueva fase de participación incluirá tres elementos.

Engagement Elements / Elementos de Participación

Technical Working Groups (TWG)* / Grupos de Trabajo Técnicos*

Public Meetings / Reuniones Públicas

Community Working Group (CWG)* / Grupo de Trabajo Comunitario*

Who is the primary audience? / ¿Quién es el público principal?

Staff from academic, jurisdiction, industry, or community organizations, who can provide technical expertise

Personal de instituciones académicas, gobiernos locales, industrias u organizaciones comunitarias que puedan ofrecer conocimientos técnicos

Everyone, including CWG and TWG, who wants to stay engaged and hear updates from Metro

Todas las personas, incluyendo a miembros del CWG y TWG, que deseen mantenerse informadas y conocer las actualizaciones de Metro

Selected community residents who can commit to attending regular meetings and being deeply involved

Residentes comunitarios seleccionados que puedan comprometerse a asistir a reuniones periódicas y participar activamente



* All Working Groups are non-voting and advisory in nature / Todos los Grupos de Trabajo son de carácter consultivo y no tienen derecho a voto.

4. Agenda Item #3: Phase II Engagement

- > KeAndra Cylear Dodds, Executive Officer of Equity and Race, Metro, introduced the new phase of engagement that will involve three elements:
- > Ms. Hawkes shared what the Community Working Group (CWG) its goals and how it will be constructed. Attendees received the Frequently Asked Question Draft document to reference.
- > Roundtable discussions were introduced, attendees participated in facilitated roundtable discussions held in English, Spanish, and virtual breakout rooms focused on the formation of the Community Working Group. Conversations centered on defining what an effective CWG should look like, refining draft application scoring criteria, and identifying outstanding questions to be addressed through the project’s Frequently Asked Questions document.

i. **Discussion Highlights:**

1. Strong emphasis on representation and inclusion, with participants noting the importance of engaging Spanish-speaking groups, youth, indigenous communities, past CLC members, and individuals from high-impact areas such as those near freeways and truck routes.
2. Clear desire for transparency and accountability, including feedback loops between the CWG, Technical Working Groups (TWGs), and ultimately the Metro Board. Members stressed the need for consistent communication, reporting mechanisms, and organizational charts that show how community input informs decision-making.
3. Agreement that the CWG must balance technical expertise and community voice, ensuring subject-matter experts participate alongside residents to make projects fundable and deliverable.
4. General support for flexibility and accessibility, including hybrid/virtual participation, weekend or community-space meetings, and one-on-one interviews to expand opportunities for engagement.

ii. **Community Concerns**

1. Questions about CWG influence, particularly how a non-voting body can meaningfully shape projects and Metro Board decisions.
2. Requests for greater clarity on TWG structure and role, including who may participate, how members will be identified, and how attendance and consistency will be managed.
3. Suggestions to strengthen equity in the application process, such as awarding additional points for former CLC members, recognizing commitment from past participation, and considering demographics including disability, BIPOC, undocumented, and monolingual communities.

5. **Agenda Item #4: Timeline & Next Steps**

How will CWG members be selected? ¿Cómo se seleccionarán los miembros del CWG?

The project team is drafting the CWG application scoring criteria, based on previous CLC application criteria, and we would like your input to refine it.

El equipo del proyecto está elaborando los criterios de evaluación para la solicitud del CWG, basándose en los criterios utilizados previamente para el CLC, y nos gustaría contar con sus comentarios para perfeccionarlos.

Draft Application Scoring Criteria	Score
Lives in the study area	Required
Works in the study area	1 point
Active in community engagement	1 point
Lives in a highly impacted area*	1 point
Lives in two or more highly impacted areas (port, industry, freeway, etc.)*	2 points
Represents the disability community**	1 point
Under the age of 25	1 point
Over the age of 64	1 point

Borrador de los Criterios de Evaluación de la Solicitud	Puntuación
Vive en el área del estudio	Requerido
Trabaja en el área del estudio	1 punto
Activo/a en la participación comunitaria	1 punto
Vive en un área altamente afectada*	1 punto
Vive en dos o más áreas altamente afectadas (puerto, industria, autopista, etc.) *	2 puntos
Representa a la comunidad con discapacidades**	1 punto
Menor de 25 años	1 punto
Mayor de 64 años	1 punto

* "Highly impacted" is characterized by a significant population living near the ports, intermodal yards, or the I-710 freeway. Maximum is 2 points for this criteria even if the applicant lives in three highly impacted areas.

**This criterion was added in response to feedback in the CLC Recommendations Report.

***"Altamente afectada" se refiere a una zona con una población significativa que vive cerca de los puertos, patios intermodales o la autopista I-710. El máximo es de 2 puntos para este criterio, incluso si la persona vive en tres áreas altamente afectadas. **Este criterio se agregó en respuesta a los comentarios del Informe de Recomendaciones del CLC.*



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- > Ms. Hawkes shared the timeline for the Community working group formation and next steps:
 - i. **Upcoming Meetings:** ZET Community Meetings (Aug 25 in-person, Sept 9 virtual) to discuss the Las Hermanas Charging Depot in Rancho Dominguez, and Public Meeting #1 (Aug 28 virtual) to share project updates, introduce the CWG, and gather input from the public.
 - ii. **Feedback Opportunities:** Task Force, CLC members, and the public can submit feedback on the CWG process through Sept 12; CWG Interest & Feedback Form launches at Public Meeting #1.
 - iii. **CWG Application & Outreach:** CWG application will open Oct 6–Nov 14)
 - iv. **Next Steps:** Metro will select and announce CWG members by end of 2025, and host future ZET meetings in late fall to discuss the Rio Vista Charging Depot.
- > Lorena Snachez from Metro closed out the meeting
- > The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Meeting Format Logistics

- Meeting Format: In-Person and Zoom Webinar
- Participants: Task Force, Community Leadership Committee, and Public

Meeting Materials:

[Presentation](#)

[Community Working Group FAQ Draft](#)