



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



Zero-Emission Truck (ZET) Virtual Community Meeting

Tuesday, September 9, [2025](#) | 12-1:30pm | Virtual Meeting: Zoom



Attendance and Special Guests

Virtual Attendance:

- Community Members: 28
- Elected Officials and Representatives:
 - Fernando Dutra, Metro Board Chair, Council Member, City of Whittier
 - Adriana Martinez, Executive Deputy, Metro Board Chair Fernando Dutra
 - Marisa Perez, Executive Deputy to Metro Board Director Fernando Dutra
 - Bryan Martinez, Senior District Representative, State Senator Laura Richardson (SD 35)

PROJECT TEAM

Metro

KeAndra Cylear Dodds, Executive Officer of Equity and Race, Metro
Allan Fye, Senior Director, Countywide Planning, Metro
Akiko Yamagami, Senior Manager, Transportation Planning, Metro
Mark Dierking, Director, Local Government and Community Relations, Metro
Lorena Sanchez, Manager, Community Relations, Metro
Patrick Chandler, Media Relations Manager, Metro
Aren Hacopian, Transportation Planner

HereLA

Shannon Davis, Co-Director, HereLA
Amber Hawkes, Co-Director, HereLA
Sofia Gulaid, Senior Designer, Here LA

Northstar Alliances

Leila Bardales, Director of Project Management, North Star Alliance
Emani Shelton, Senior Project Coordinator, North Star Alliance

Arellano Associates

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

Forum Mobility

Patrick Cruz, Senior Development Associate, Forum Mobility

King Fio Trucking

Jennie Abarca, Owner, King Fio Trucking

Workforce Development

Alicia Zambrano, Compton College
Steven Griffith, Rio Hondo College



Introduction

Metro launched the Zero-Emission Truck (ZET) Program in 2021 with the goal of reducing pollution and advancing clean freight solutions in the Long Beach–East LA (LB-ELA) Corridor. Guided by a stakeholder Working Group of freight operators, agencies, and community voices, Metro committed \$50 million in seed funding to jumpstart ZET infrastructure and leverage additional public and private investment. In June 2025, Metro was awarded the state Trade Corridor Enhancement Program (TCEP) funding to support two truck charging depots in partnership with two developers: **Las Hermanas in Rancho Dominguez (Forum Mobility) and Rio Vista in Boyle Heights (MN8)**. The Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) is also a funding partner in this endeavor.

Together, these projects will expand clean truck charging capacity, accelerate adoption of zero-emission technology, and deliver community health and air quality benefits across the corridor. The LB-ELA CMIP identified the ZET Program as part of the list of projects identified in the initial investment priorities.

Zero-Emission Truck (ZET) Virtual Community Meeting

> Welcome, Introduction, Metro Updates, Agenda Review, Meeting Objectives

- > Laura Herrera from Project Manager, Arellano Associates, welcomed attendees and shared interpretation options, how to participate during the Q&A session and Metro’s Code of Conduct and introduced Lorena Sanchez, Manager, Community Relations, Metro, to officially open the meeting. Four representatives from local jurisdictions, including Metro Board Chair Fernando Dutra, were in attendance along with 28 community members.
- > Ms. Sanchez introduced the Metro project team and Amber Hawkes, Co-Facilitator from HereLA.

> Agenda Item #1: Introduction & Background

- > Ms. Hawkes introduced the 2 agenda items, and today’s goals.
- > Akiko Yamagami, Senior Manager, Transportation Planning, Metro, provided an overview of the LB-ELA Corridor Mobility Investment Plan and the ZET Truck Program. Reference **presentation slides 18-22** for details.
- > Jennie Abarca, CEO of a drayage trucking company, King Fio, LLC., shared how she made a decision to go zero-emission with her fleets, her passion for cleaner future, and their goals for the next 5 years.
- > Ms. Herrera facilitated the Q&A discussion with the public and Ms. Abarca.

> Discussion Highlights:

- Attendees were invited to share their comments and questions either verbally or through the Zoom chat.
 - **Access to Resources and Support:** Participants requested information on resources available to help smaller trucking companies transition to electric vehicles. Forum Mobility and Cal Fleet Advisor were highlighted as support organizations, along with recently published ICCT research on electric truck pricing.
 - **Infrastructure and Grid Capacity:** Questions were raised about the role of charging depots, their location (including Boyle Heights and potential East LA sites), and whether grid capacity can handle widespread electrification. Participants expressed interest in clarity around depot development and community engagement timelines.

Zero-Emission Truck (ZET) Virtual Community Meeting- Meeting Summary

- **Cost Comparisons and Affordability:** Several attendees asked about the current cost of zero-emission trucks compared to diesel models, as well as infrastructure costs. Concerns were expressed about affordability, access for small operators, and how competition among manufacturers could reduce costs.
- **Manufacturers and Market Competition:** Community members wanted to know how many manufacturers are currently available and whether more competition would help lower purchase prices.
 - Board Chair Dutra specifically mentioned questions about which truck manufacturers are currently available, whether multiple options exist to encourage competition and lower costs
- **Commitment and Leadership:** Task Force members and local leaders such as Board Chair Dutra expressed support for zero-emission trucking as a national example. Questions were posed about the goals for the next five years and the level of support being secured to meet them.
- > Local workforce development representatives from Compton College and Rio Hondo College presented available resources, classes and training programs, and local job opportunities.
 - > Alicia Zambrano: Compton College
 - > Steven Griffith: Rio Hondo College
 - Ms. Zambrano shared opportunities through the Business & Industrial Studies (BIST) Guided Pathways Division, including certificate and degree programs in technical trades, business, health, and creative fields. She also highlighted student support services such as academic advising, industry certifications, campus tours, and job placement assistance
 - Mr. Griffith presented workforce training programs and classes tailored to regional labor market needs, emphasizing job readiness, career development, and direct connections to local employment opportunities.
 - Overall, both colleges shared pathways that help community members build skills and find jobs in the expanding clean energy industry.
- > **Agenda Item #2: Las Hermanas ZET Site**
 - > Ms. Hawkes provided a site overview for the Las Hermanas ZET site accompanied by quick facts around the site.
 - > Ms. Yamagami introduced Metro's new model of working with private companies to advance regional sustainable goals.
 - > Ms. Yamagami introduced Patrick Cruz, Senior Development Associate, Forum Mobility, and he provided an overview of Forum Mobility and their relationship with Metro for this upcoming phase.
 - > A rendering and working site plan for the Las Hermanas ZET charging depot was displayed along with the timeline of the development. The project is currently in the Public Art Process.



- > Ms. Hawkes and Ms. Davis continued with presenting potential community benefits of Zero Emission trucks in the area and potential air quality and life benefits.
 - **Landscape Features:**
 - Strong preference for trees to provide cooling benefits and reduce heat.

Next Steps

- > Ms. Sanchez shared opportunities for feedback.
 - **Feedback Timeline:** Community feedback on the Las Hermanas project will be accepted through Friday, September 12 and shared with Forum Mobility. Digital notifications will be sent through email and Metro newsletters.
 - **Public Art Process:** Metro will coordinate with Forum Mobility on the public art process, with potential community engagement led by FM and the public artist beginning in winter 2025/2026 and implementation in early 2026.
 - **Ongoing Outreach:** Metro will continue working with the offices of Chair Dutra and Director Mitchell, CBOs and community stakeholders to support outreach and ensure broad engagement.
 - **Upcoming ZET Community Meetings:** Round 2 ZET Community Meetings for the Rio Vista Charging Site by MN8 anticipated Fall 2025

- > Lorena Sanchez from Metro closed out the meeting
- > The meeting was adjourned at 1:31 pm.

Meeting Format Logistics

- Meeting Format: Zoom Webinar

Zero-Emission Truck (ZET) Virtual Community Meeting- Meeting Summary

- Participants: Elected Officials and Representatives, and Public

Meeting Materials:

[Presentation](#)

[ZET Virtual Meeting Q&A Log.xlsx](#)

[ZET Community Meeting Virtual Screen Shots](#)