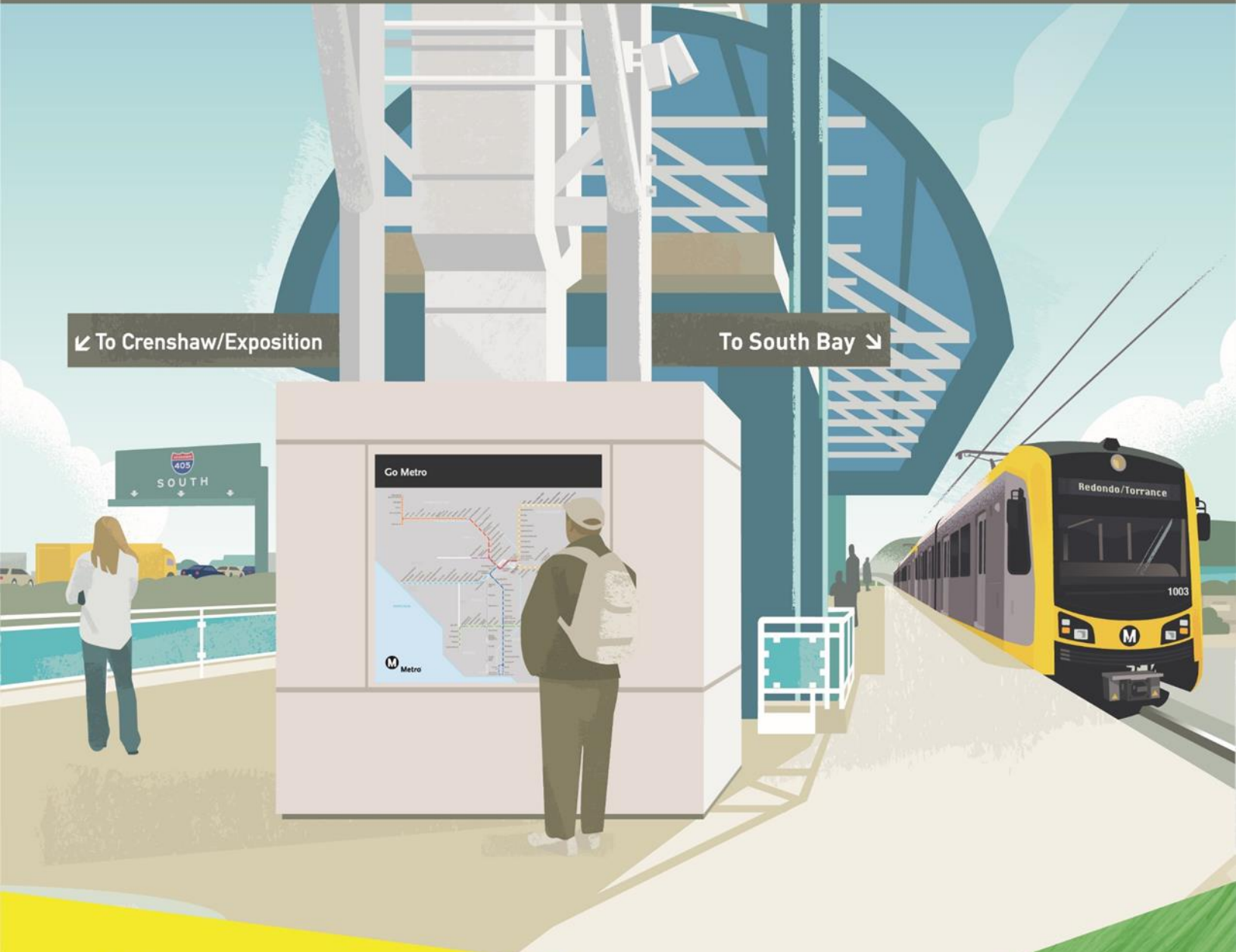


Appendix A. Public Engagement Report

August 2025

C LINE (GREEN) EXTENSION TO TORRANCE



C Line (Green) Extension to Torrance

Appendix A Public Engagement Report

August 2025

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Abbreviations/Acronyms

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act
EIR Environmental Impact Report
LPA Locally Preferred Alternative
Metro Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
ROW Right-of-Way

1. INTRODUCTION

This document provides a brief overview of community engagement to support the environmental review process for the C Line Extension to Torrance Project and summarizes:

- > Public noticing and comment periods required per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to prepare the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).
- > Additional community notifications, events, and phases of engagement to share Project information and gather feedback to inform Project development.

The document is organized in chronological order with links to more detailed summaries of engagement.

1.1 CEQA REQUIRED NOTICING AND COMMENT PERIODS

- > Notice of Preparation: January 29, 2021
- > Public Scoping Period: January 29 - March 29, 2021
- > Notice of Availability for Draft EIR: January 26, 2023
- > Draft EIR Public Comment Period: January 26 – March 27, 2023

1.2 OTHER STAGES OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- > Fall 2021 Virtual Neighborhood Walks & Survey
- > Spring 2022 Neighborhood Walks
- > Summer 2022 Community Open Houses
- > Summer 2022 Transit Rider Intercepts & Door-to-Door Business Outreach
- > January 2023 Release of Draft EIR & Public Hearings
- > Spring 2023 Transit Rider Intercepts & Door-to-Door Business Outreach
- > Fall 2023 Project Update to Metro Board of Directors (Metro Board)
- > Winter 2023 Community Walk with Metro Board Director Holly J. Mitchell, Los Angeles County Supervisor of the Second District
- > Early 2024 Community Meeting
- > Spring 2024 Metro Board Selection of the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA)
- > Early 2025 Notice to Community of Project Next Steps

2. EARLY 2021 OUTREACH

2.1 SCOPING MEETINGS (VIRTUAL)

Metro held three public scoping meetings to receive feedback on the scope of the Draft EIR, including the goals and objectives, the project area, project description, and the environmental impacts to be evaluated in the EIR.

2.1-1. Notifications for Public Scoping

- > Posted legal ads in four newspapers on 1/29/2021 (LA Times, La Opinion, Daily Breeze, Herald Publications)
- > Mailed over 15,400 bilingual¹ (English/Spanish) notices to property and business owners within 750 feet of proposed routes (alignments) on 1/29/2021
- > Distributed electronic noticing and reminders to the Project database of over 1,300 contacts on 1/29/2021, 2/10/2021, 2/17/2021, 2/23/2021, and 2/26/2021
- > Distributed 6,500 flyers door-to-door within the communities of Lawndale, Redondo Beach, and Torrance on 2/18/2021
- > Purchased three geo-targeted social media advertisements and two event posts on Facebook, generating a total reach of 47,573 people and 129,540 impressions from 2/16/2021 through 2/26/2021
- > Displayed advertisements in local Division 18 Metro bus lines operating in the South Bay communities 1/29/2021 through 3/29/2021
- > Posted advertisements on Metro’s Project website 1/29/2021 through 3/29/2021
- > Presented to various community groups, business groups, councils of governments, elected officials, and neighborhood councils throughout the Project area from 1/5/2021 through 2/25/2021
- > Obtained paid media advertisements and earned media through organic publicly gained media, including stories from local blogs, print, and online newspapers advertising the meetings on 2/18/2021 (including the Daily Breeze, Beach Reporter, Easy Reader, The Source, Daily News, and South Bay Watch)

Table 1. Scoping Meetings Details

Meeting Date (Virtual)	Event Description
Tuesday, 2/23/2021	Scoping Meeting for Public Agencies
Wednesday, 2/24/2021, 4 PM	Public Scoping Meeting #1
Saturday, 2/27/2021, 11 AM	Public Scoping Meeting #2

Source: The Robert Group, 2021

¹Refers to English/Spanish, selected based on Metro’s criteria for determining language outreach based on Metro’s demographic profile.

2.1-2. Summary of Input Received

- > 387 stakeholders attended virtual Public Scoping Meetings, 288 comments received at the meetings
- > 825 stakeholders visited the online StoryMap presentation
- > 669 comments received during the Scoping Review Period. Public Scoping Summary Report can be found here: [**Summary Report**](#)

3. FALL 2021 OUTREACH

3.1 NEIGHBORHOOD WALKS (VIRTUAL)

Due to COVID-19 public health protocols, Metro held virtual community engagement during the Fall of 2021 to gather feedback. Four virtual neighborhood walks were offered to the public to explore both the key routes (Metro ROW and Hawthorne Boulevard alignments) to be evaluated in the Draft EIR with narrated videos at key stops along each walking route map. The maps allowed community members to complete the walks within their neighborhood, or online. Following each walk, attendees could provide feedback through an online questionnaire on key design elements as well as any additional comments.

3.1-1. Notifications

- > Sent five bilingual e-blasts on 10/5/2021, 10/14/2021, 10/21/2021, 11/15/2021, and 11/19/2021
- > Distributed 32,000 bilingual¹ flyers to properties within a one-mile radius of the ROW and Hawthorne Boulevard alignments on 10/1/2021
- > City of Lawndale announced the availability of the virtual walks on 10/5/2021
- > Distributed 4,000 additional flyers along the immediate Project area on 10/18/2021

3.1-2. Virtual Online Survey Availability

- > Virtual online survey was available from October 1 – November 19, 2021

3.1-3. Summary of Input Received

As part of the questionnaire, community members were able to provide feedback on the Project, as well as identify certain areas that Metro's design team should consider.

- > 1,600 site visits to virtual walks
- > 232 questionnaires completed
 - Condon Ave/Metro ROW Walk (67 completed questionnaires)
 - Hawthorne Bl Walk (52 completed questionnaires)
 - South Bay Galleria Walk (54 completed questionnaires)
 - Hawthorne Boulevard/ROW Walk (59 completed questionnaires)
- > Summary Report can be found here: ***2021 Virtual Neighborhood Walk Summary Report***

4. SPRING 2022 OUTREACH

4.1 NEIGHBORHOOD WALKS (IN-PERSON)

In the Spring of 2022 when COVID-19 public health protocols allowed for in-person meetings, Metro hosted 12 neighborhood walks in the Project area along key routes and areas of interest to the public. The in-person neighborhood walks provided an opportunity for the Project team to meet community members and listen to local ideas and concerns while walking along segments of the Metro ROW and Hawthorne Boulevard alignments. Attendees could provide written comment cards to Metro.

4.1-1. Notifications

- > Sent three bilingual e-blasts to over 2,100 unique email addresses notifying the public about the neighborhood walk registration on 2/9/2022, 2/16/2022, and 2/28/2022. An additional 18 e-blasts were sent as reminders for those registered.
- > Distributed 32,000 bilingual flyers to properties within a one-mile radius of the Metro ROW and Hawthorne Boulevard alignments on 2/22/2022
- > The City of Lawndale announced the registration of the neighborhood walks on 2/9/2022
- > Issued 18 e-blasts notifying and reminding those registered for each walk with an average open rate of approximately 69% from 2/29/2022 to 3/11/2022

Table 2. Neighborhood Walk Details

Location	City	Date	# of Attendees
Condon Ave/Metro ROW	Lawndale	Wednesday, 3/2/2022, 8 AM	25
	Lawndale	Saturday, 3/5/2022, 10 AM	35
Hawthorne Blvd (North)	Lawndale	Thursday, 3/3/2022, 8 AM	19
	Lawndale	Saturday, 3/5/2022, 12 PM	22
South Bay Galleria	Redondo Beach	Wednesday, 3/9/2022, 8 AM	28
	Redondo Beach	Saturday, 3/12/2022, 10 AM	41
Metro ROW/Hawthorne Blvd (South)	Torrance	Thursday, 3/10/2022, 8 AM	21
	Torrance	Saturday, 3/12/2022, 12 PM	29
Metro ROW/Firmona Ave	Redondo Beach	Monday, 4/11/2022, 12 PM	59
Breakwater Village (Metro ROW)	Redondo Beach	Wednesday, 5/11/2022, 2:30 PM	60
Grant Ave/Metro ROW	Redondo Beach	Wednesday, 5/11/2022, 2:30 PM	43
172 nd St/Metro ROW	Lawndale	Wednesday, 5/11/2022, 4 PM	12
Total			394

Source: The Robert Group, 2022

4.1-2. Summary of Input Received

394 Total Attendees: During the in-person neighborhood walks, participants inquired about details on the design elements, including station locations, freight track adjustments, and potential impacts from noise and vibration, as well as projected ridership and the cost of the Project. Metro staff took notes during the walks based on the community discussion and questions and received 24 written comment cards.

- > Summary Report can be found here: **[2022 In-Person Neighborhood Walks Summary Report](#)**

5. SUMMER 2022 OUTREACH

5.1 COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSES

The Metro team hosted four community open-house meetings in August 2022 to provide community members with an update on the Project, the opportunity to ask questions, and see a preview of the three proposed alignments for the Project area to be evaluated in the Draft EIR. The meetings were held in the three cities in the study area and were designed to provide an update to the community on the feedback that Metro had heard to date and how it had been incorporated into the planning and design process.

5.1-1. Notifications

- > Sent four bilingual e-blasts to over 2,100 email addresses notifying the public about the meetings on 7/28/2022, 8/1/2022, 8/9/2022, 8/15/2022, and 8/17/2022. Distributed 32,000 bilingual¹ flyers door-to-door to homes and businesses within a one-mile radius of the Metro ROW, Trench, and Hawthorne Boulevard alignments on 8/12/2022
- > City of Lawndale announced the registration and availability of neighborhood walks
- > Developed and provided flyers to the City of Lawndale to be mailed to residents within the city boundaries
- > Mailed 35,881 postcards to residents, property owners, and businesses within a one-mile radius of the Metro ROW, Trench, and Hawthorne Boulevard alignments, excluding the City of Lawndale on 8/5/2022. At the request of the City of Lawndale, Metro developed and provided flyers to the City of Lawndale to be mailed to residents within the city boundaries.

Table 3. Community Open House Details

City/Location	Date	# of Attendees	Comments Received
City of Redondo Beach, Adams Middle School Gym	Thursday, 8/11/2022, 6 – 8 PM	125	36 comment cards 26 verbal comments
Virtual Meeting via Zoom	Monday, 8/15/2022, 11 AM – 1 PM	213	180 comments/questions
City of Torrance, Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Toyota Meeting Hall	Tuesday, 8/16/2022, 6 – 8 PM	119	22 comment cards 13 verbal comments
City of Lawndale, Leuzinger High School Gym	Wednesday, 8/17/2022, 6:30 – 8:30 PM	86	24 comment cards 23 verbal comments
TOTAL		543*	324

Source: The Robert Group, 2022

*Not all attendees signed-in to register at meetings.

5.1-2. Summary of Input Received

- > Community members provided feedback on the Project, including input on alignment, design, and potential mitigation measures.
- > Summary Report can be found here: [**2022 Open House Summary Report**](#)

5.2 TRANSIT RIDER INTERCEPTS 2022

In Summer 2022, the Project team met with transit riders at major transit stops in the Project area to help raise awareness of the Project and the upcoming meetings by distributing flyers.

Table 4. Transit Rider Intercept Details

City/Location	Date	# of Transit Riders
Artesia/Kingsdale Stops	Friday, 8/5/2022, 7 – 9 AM	11
South Bay Galleria Transit Center (on Kingsdale)	Tuesday, 8/9/2022, 7 – 9 AM	16
Hawthorne/Artesia Stops	Wednesday, 8/10/2022, 7 – 9 AM	80
Total		107

Source: The Robert Group, 2022

5.3 DOOR-TO-DOOR BUSINESS OUTREACH 2022

The Project team canvassed local businesses in the Project corridor to raise awareness about the Project and upcoming Community Open Houses by speaking with business owners and staff and distributing flyers.

Table 5. Door-to-Door Business Outreach Details

City/Location	Date	# of Businesses
Amie Ave to Inglewood Ave & Redondo Beach Blvd: Artesia Blvd to Freeman Ave	Friday, 8/5/2022, 10 AM – 3 PM	91
Artesia Blvd: Amie Ave to Inglewood Ave & Redondo Beach Blvd	Monday, 8/8/2022, 9 AM – 3 PM	159
Hawthorne Blvd: 405 FWY to 190 th St	Tuesday, 8/9/2022, 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM	67
Total		317

Source: The Robert Group, 2022

> Summary Report can be found here: [**2022 Open House Summary Report**](#)

6. EARLY 2023 OUTREACH

Metro released the Draft EIR for public comment over a 61-day public comment period from January 26, 2023, to March 27, 2023. During this timeframe, Metro held five public hearings (four in-person and one virtual) to provide information on the Draft EIR and receive public comments.

6.1 NOA AND DRAFT EIR REVIEW PERIOD

6.1-1. Notifications

- > Posted legal ads in four newspapers on 1/26/2023 (LA Times, La Opinion, Daily Breeze, Herald Publications)
- > Notified federal, state, county, and city agencies, including responsible agencies, public agencies that have legal jurisdiction with respect to the Project, and other organizations or individuals that requested notice on 1/26/2023
- > Mailed bilingual notices to over 47,200 addresses on 1/24/2023
- > Distributed 32,000 flyers door-to-door within the communities of Lawndale, Redondo Beach, and Torrance
- > Distributed electronic noticing to the Project database of over 2,300 contacts on 1/26/2023, 2/2/2023, 2/9/2023, 2/14/2023, 2/23/2023, 3/7/2023, 3/23/2023, 3/27/2023, and 4/13/2023
- > Displayed advertisements in Metro bus lines operating in the South Bay from 1/16/2023 through 2/19/2023
- > Posted advertisements on Metro’s Project Website on 1/26/2023
- > Presented to various community groups, business groups, and elected officials throughout the Project area
- > Obtained paid media advertisements (Beach Reporter, El Segundo Herald, Redondo Beach Herald, South Bay Cities Herald, Daily Breeze) and earned media through organic publicly gained media, including stories from local blogs, print, and online newspapers advertising the meetings
- > Notified Metro Board of Directors through Board Box
 - Board Box can be found here: [1/26/2023 Board Box](#)
- > Sent letters to property owners for potentially affected properties during construction or operations

Table 6. Public Hearing Details

City/Location	Date	# of Attendees
Lawndale	Wednesday, 2/15/2023, 5:30 – 8:30 PM	107
Virtual/Zoom	Thursday, 2/16/2023, 11 AM – 1 PM	117
Torrance	Tuesday, 2/21/2023, 5 – 8 PM	73
Redondo Beach	Wednesday, 2/22/2023, 5 – 8 PM	69
Lawndale	Saturday, 2/25/2023, 10 AM – 1 PM	55
Total		421

Source: The Robert Group, 2023

6.1-2. Summary of Input Received

- > 181 verbal comments received
- > 67 written comments cards at meetings received 248 total comments received

6.2 TRANSIT RIDER INTERCEPTS 2023

In Spring 2023, prior to the close of the public comment period on the Draft EIR, Metro continued outreach efforts to existing transit riders to build greater awareness about the Project for those taking transit within the Project area and encourage community members to provide feedback on the Draft EIR and participate in the Project by signing up for the Project newsletter.

Table 7. Transit Rider Intercept Details

Location	Date	# of Transit Riders
Artesia/Kingsdale Stops	Monday, 3/13/2023, 8 – 10 AM	10
Hawthorne/Artesia Stops	Thursday, 3/16/2023, 8 – 10 AM	30
South Bay Galleria Transit Center (on Kingsdale)	Friday, 3/17/2023, 8 – 10 AM	7
Total		47

Source: The Robert Group, 2023

6.3 DOOR-TO-DOOR BUSINESS OUTREACH 2023

In Spring 2023, prior to the close of the public comment period on the Draft EIR, the Project team conducted door-to-door outreach to businesses along nearby major boulevards to further inform business owners and employees about the Project and to inform them about how to provide feedback.

Table 8. Door-To-Door Business Outreach Details

Location	Date	# of Businesses
Artesia Blvd: Amie Ave to Inglewood Ave	Monday, 3/13/2023, 10 AM – 2 PM	87
Hawthorne Blvd: I-405 Fwy to 190th St	Thursday, 3/16/2023, 10 AM – 3 PM	107
Inglewood Ave: I-405 Fwy to 160th St and Manhattan Beach Blvd: I-405 Fwy to Gibson Pl	Friday, 3/17/2023, 10 AM – 3 PM	58
Total		252

Source: The Robert Group, 2023

- > Summary Report can be found here: **[2023 Summary Report \(Draft EIR comment period\)](#)**

7. FALL 2023 OUTREACH

7.1 PROJECT UPDATE TO METRO BOARD

After the close of the public comment period on the Draft EIR, staff provided the Metro Board with an update on the findings from the Draft EIR and technical studies, including a comparison of the alignments and alternatives studied and their relative benefits and impacts, and community feedback on the Draft EIR. Staff prepared a written summary of this information in a Board Box, as well as a Board Report for the September Metro Board Committee meetings and notified the public of the meetings, which provided an opportunity for public comment.

7.1-1. Notifications

> Four E-Blasts to approximately 3,200 emails on 9/13/2023, 9/18/2023, 9/29/2023, and 10/25/2023

Table 9. Metro Board Meeting Details

Meeting Date	Event Description	# of Comments Received
Wednesday, 9/20/2023, 1 PM	Planning & Programming Committee Meeting	31
Thursday, 9/21/2023, 11 AM	Metro Board Meeting	37
	Total	68

Source: The Robert Group, 2023

7.1-2. Summary of Input Received

Sixty-eight community members provided public comment at the Metro Board committee meetings on a variety of topics including preferences for alignments and design configurations, as well as concerns including the frequency of trains in residential areas, proximity of freight tracks to residences, construction impacts, noise, and vibration, among others that could result from the Project.

> Board Box can be found here: [8/14/2023 Board Box](#)

> Board Report can be found here: [9/2023 C Line Extension to Torrance Update Report](#)

7.2 REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL ENGAGEMENT FROM DIRECTOR MITCHELL

On September 27, 2023, Director Mitchell sent a letter addressed to Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins regarding the Project and requested that Metro conduct additional community outreach prior to the Metro Board consideration of the LPA selection. During the September 28, 2023 Metro Board Meeting, CEO Wiggins acknowledged Director Mitchell's request and agreed to work with Mitchell's office to further engage the community prior to the Metro Board considering selection of the LPA.

8. WINTER 2023-2024 OUTREACH

8.1 DECEMBER 2023 & JANUARY 2024 COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Director Mitchell requested that Metro provide additional opportunities for community engagement prior to the Metro Board considering selection of the LPA. In response to this request, Metro worked with Director Mitchell’s office to host two engagement events to hear directly from those within the Second District served by the Project, which includes Lawndale and Redondo Beach. The events provided an opportunity for community members to ask questions, share concerns, and discuss their visions for the future of the South Bay directly with Director Mitchell and Metro. At both events, community members were able to submit written comments, ask questions, and share video testimonials.

8.1-1. Notifications

- > 1,200 door-to-door flyers distributed to neighbors surrounding the walk locations on 12/12/2023
- > E-Blast to approximately 3,200 emails on 1/17/2024
- > 2,000 door-to-door flyers to residents along the Metro ROW on 1/12/2024
- > Additional e-blasts and notifications sent through Director Mitchell’s office

Table 10. Director Mitchell Neighborhood Walk Details

Meeting Date	Event	# of Attendees
Saturday, 12/16/2023, 10 AM – 12 PM	Lawndale Community Walk	~250
Thursday, 1/18/2024, 5 PM – 7 PM	Springhaven/Willowbrook Apartments	~50

Source: The Robert Group, 2023

8.1-2. Summary of Input Received

- > Approximately 250 community members attended the Community Walk in December 2023. 68 comment cards were received, and 16 videos were submitted. Approximately 50 community members attended the January 2024 community meeting, and 21 comment cards were received.
- > Summary Report can be found here: ***Winter 2023/2024 Summary Report***

9. SPRING 2024 SELECTION OF LOCALLY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

9.1 METRO BOARD MEETINGS

In Spring 2024, Metro staff presented before the Metro Board Committees and the full Metro Board to present a recommendation for the selection of an LPA. The Metro Committee and Board meetings included time for public comment. Metro notified the community through a variety of methods.

9.1-1. Notifications of Metro Committee and Board Meetings in April and May

- > Sent e-blasts to approximately 4,000 emails on 4/15/2024, 4/22/2024
- > Posted online advertisements in Daily Breeze, Herald Tribune, and Easy Reader News on 5/20/2024
- > Distributed 32,000 door-to-door bilingual flyers door-to-door to homes and businesses within a one-mile radius of the Metro ROW and Hawthorne Boulevard alignments on 4/17/2024
- > Distributed packets of flyers to 25 local businesses and public facilities along the Project alignments on 5/20/2024
- > Posted online Facebook advertisements geo-targeted to users within a one-mile radius of the Metro ROW from 5/15 - 5/22/2024

Table 11. Metro Meeting Details

Meeting Date	Event Description
Wednesday, 4/17/2024, 1 PM	Metro Planning & Programming Committee Meeting
Thursday, 5/23/2024, 10 AM	Metro Board Meeting

Source: The Robert Group, 2024

9.1-2. Summary of Input Received

A total of 143 community members provided comments at the Metro Board Committee and Metro Board meetings.

9.1-3. Metro Board Direction

At the May 23, 2024 Regular Metro Board meeting, the Metro Board voted unanimously to select the Hybrid Alignment² as the LPA. Along with the approval of the LPA, the Metro Board approved a Motion put forth by Metro Director Butts (Mayor of Inglewood), which recommended that the Metro Board:

- > Approve the staff recommendation on LPA and continue the EIR process in compliance with CEQA;
- > Complete studies to respond fully to public comments received on the ROW and Hawthorne Boulevard alignments in the Final EIR; and
- > Continue to develop refined cost estimates for the LPA on the ROW alignment and develop a refined funding plan that includes the identification of all federal, state, and local funding sources to implement the Project.

² The Hybrid Alignment is referred to as the 170th/182nd Grade-Separated Light Rail Transit Alternative in the Draft EIR.

> Meeting Minutes can be found here: [**5/23/2024 Board Meeting Minutes**](#)

10. WINTER 2025 COMMUNITY LETTER

10.1 COMMUNICATIONS ON PROJECT NEXT STEPS

In January 2025, Metro sent a letter to community members within the Project area to summarize the Metro Board's direction at its May 2024 Metro Board meeting, including the selection of the LPA, and to share next steps for the environmental review process. The next steps included conducting field work to support Metro's preparation of responses to comments on the Draft EIR. As part of this effort, Metro briefed staff of the Cities of Lawndale, Redondo Beach, and Torrance, as well as the Metro Board offices. Additionally, Metro provided updates to the public through e-blasts and door-to-door flyer distribution.

10.2 NOTIFICATIONS

- > Sent letter to community members within one-mile radius of Metro ROW (approximately 47,000 addresses): 1/6/25
- > Sent E-blasts on Project next steps including field work: 12/13/2024, 1/14/2025, 1/17/2025, 1/31/2025, 2/7/2025, 2/14/2025, 2/28/2025, 3/7/2025, 3/21/2025, 4/4/2025, 5/2/2025
- > Distributed flyers to approximately 4,500 properties along ROW with updates on field work: 1/14/2025, 1/20/2025, 2/20/2025, 3/5/2025, 4/4/2025
- > Published two Daily Breeze Online Ads: 2/3/2025 - 2/10/2025
- > Published two Geo-targeted Facebook Ads: 2/3/2025 - 2/17/2025

11. NEXT STEPS

In accordance with CEQA, responses to comments on the Draft EIR will be provided to commenting public agencies prior to Metro Board consideration of the Final EIR. The Metro Board will consider certification of the Final EIR and potential approval of the Project approval at a public meeting.