



Community Engagement Summary

On October 31, 2024, Metro's Board of Directors approved additional funding for contract modifications to support further environmental analyses, engineering, and community engagement. This action followed the close of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) public comment period on September 20, 2024. During that period, many residents of historic Mid-City neighborhoods voiced concerns about the proposed tunnel alignment beneath residential areas. Community members referenced past injustices, such as the displacement of Black families during construction of the Santa Monica Freeway (I-10) and requested a more inclusive planning process before any alignment was selected.

Key concerns included potential effects to older homes, property values, and issues related to tunneling such as noise, vibration, settlement, seismic safety, groundwater, and oil rights. Residents expressed a preference for tunnels to travel beneath public streets rather than private properties and called for Metro to explore alternate tunnel options that could reduce tunneling below historic neighborhoods. Residents also requested more engagement as part of the decision-making process prior to selecting a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA).

Responding to these concerns, Metro conducted additional technical analyses and developed new outreach strategies to solicit input from Mid-City leaders on how to better engage residents and share findings from new studies. In August 2025, Metro published three technical reports and two Frequently Asked Question (FAQs) documents addressing key concerns that historic Mid-City residents raised during the Draft EIR public comment period.

The technical reports and FAQs included:

- > **Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis:** evaluated community-suggested alternate tunnel alignments to reduce subsurface tunnel easements beneath homes while maintaining transit service quality.
- > **Tunnel Safety Report:** outlined tunnel construction methods, safety standards, and case studies where tunneling has occurred below historic homes and sensitive uses. The report addresses key concerns related to tunneling including settlement, seismic safety, groundwater, vibration, and oil wells.
- > **Property Considerations Report:** examined questions about property values, rights, and easements, supported by a literature review and local case examples.
- > **Tunnel Safety FAQ:** summarized common questions about tunnel construction and operations.
- > **Property Considerations FAQ:** explained real estate topics such as subsurface easements and potential effects on property value.

Metro worked closely with Mid-City community leaders to develop an engagement plan for releasing the findings. Leaders advised on how to break down technical information for all residents. Their input shaped a phased outreach approach: previewing content with trusted Mid-City leaders, coordinating notifications, and hosting community meetings for historic Mid-City residents at large.

Building on this plan, the project team carried out a multi-pronged outreach effort throughout the summer and fall. Activities included tabling at community events, hosting additional coffee conversations with Mid-City leaders, and distributing updated materials like a refreshed Story Map, fact sheet, and FAQs. Metro also created a Mid-City specific stakeholder list for targeted updates and meeting invitations.

In August, Metro held two community meetings to present the Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis findings, followed by two more meetings in October on Tunnel Safety (requested by community leaders) to give residents more time to review and discuss the technical content.

Engagement Overview

Between January and October 2025, Metro conducted extensive outreach to inform and engage stakeholders on the K Line Northern Extension. The effort included five (5) briefings with key stakeholders, eleven (11) tabling events, three (3) coffee conversations with Mid-City leaders, four (4) community update meetings, and an optional tunnel safety tour.

Activity Type	Dates	Participants
Five (5) Stakeholder Briefings	January 2025 - July 2025	Westside/Central Service Council, Technical Advisory Committee, Cedars-Sinai, LA County Sheriff, Council District 10: Office of Councilwoman Heather Hutt
Eleven (11) Tabling Events	February 2025 - September 2025	1,460+ engaged
Three (3) Coffee Conversations	March 2025 - August 2025	24 unique participants (not including Metro staff)
Four (4) Community Update Meetings	August 2025 - October 2025	234+ participants (not including Metro staff)

CicLAvia West Adams meets University Park – February 23, 2025

Tabling for this outreach period began with the CicLAvia—West Adams Meets University Park event on February 23, 2025. During the event, the team engaged more than 170 participants. Residents expressed enthusiasm for the project while also raising questions about project timing, potential route alternatives, funding, and opportunities to stay involved. Twenty attendees signed up to receive project updates.



Coffee Conversation #1 – March 5, 2025

On March 5, 2025, Metro hosted its first Coffee Conversation with Mid-City community leaders from historic neighborhoods, including Lafayette Square and Wellington Square, as well as members of the Mid-City Neighborhood Council, with Director Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker and her staff also in attendance, at Palm Grove Social (4660 W Washington Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90016). The session brought together more than six participants and aimed to provide updates on the additional studies underway, share context on the Measure M funding timeline, and reestablish a productive working relationship with neighborhood stakeholders. Participants asked about tunneling depth, why the project will be entirely underground, and whether above-ground options were previously studied. Other questions focused on property values, land use around stations, and examples from other cities with older homes. Metro staff discussed how demographic data informs ridership modeling and highlighted business support programs such as Eat Shop Play and the Business Interruption Fund. The meeting concluded with Metro’s commitment to return in the coming months to share study findings and next steps.



CicLAvia Koreatown Meets Hollywood – April 5, 2025

On April 5, 2025, the team participated in CicLAvia—Koreatown Meets Hollywood, engaging with more than 200 attendees, including residents and visitors. Conversations focused on the project's long timeline, with many participants expressing interest in community meetings and ways to stay involved. Thirty-one attendees signed up to receive project updates.

Original Farmers Market – May 26, 2025

On May 26, 2025, the team staffed a table during peak visiting hours at the Original Farmers Market (6333 W 3rd St, Los Angeles, CA 90036), engaging with more than 50 residents, employees, and visitors. Many attendees learned about the project for the first time and expressed curiosity about tunneling methods and alignment options. Fourteen participants signed up to receive project updates.



West Hollywood Pride Festival – May 31 & June 1, 2025

On May 31 and June 1, 2025, the team participated in the City of West Hollywood's Pride Festival, where more than 650 visitors stopped by the KNE booth. Attendees expressed strong overall support for the project, with many asking about the Locally Preferred Alternative timeline and showing particular interest in the San Vicente–Fairfax alignment. Sixty-two participants signed up to receive project updates.

Markets at Leimert Park – June 21, 2025

On June 21, 2025, during the Markets at Leimert Park Grand Opening, the outreach team engaged with more than 25 attendees. Most conversations centered on the upcoming LAX Transit Center, while several visitors collected project materials to learn about the KNE Project for the first time. Two participants signed up to receive project updates.

Mid-City Arts and Music Festival – June 28, 2025

On June 28, 2025, the team engaged with more than 225 visitors at the Mid-City Arts and Music Festival. Attendees raised questions about funding, project timelines, and potential effects from tunneling, while Lafayette Square residents voiced both support and opposition. Thirty-nine participants signed up to receive project updates, and all were added to the Mid-City-specific stakeholder list in preparation for the August Community Update Meetings.



Coffee Conversation #2 – July 23, 2025

The second Coffee Conversation took place at Palm Grove Social and brought together 14 participants, including Mid-City leaders from Lafayette Square, Wellington Square, and the Mid-City Neighborhood Council, along with Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Director Dupont-Walker, and staff representing Supervisor Mitchell, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, and Director Dupont-Walker (who was also representing City of Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass).

Metro provided an update on ongoing work to address issues raised at previous meetings, including tunneling, potential changes to properties, tunnel easements, and property values. Metro also shared current outreach plans and solicited additional input from attendees on the best ways to share information in the historic Mid-City communities. Attendees emphasized the need for Metro to provide plain-language materials that allow for meaningful public input. Mid-City leaders also recommended scheduling meetings before Labor Day, expanding outreach beyond the immediate neighborhoods, offering walking tours of proposed tunneling routes, and inviting testimony from residents currently living above existing Metro tunnels.

Coffee Conversation #3 – August 5, 2025

Held at Palm Grove Social, the third Coffee Conversation brought together 18 participants, including Mid-City leaders from Lafayette Square, Wellington Square, and the Mid-City Neighborhood Council, as well as Director Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker and staff representing Supervisor Holly Mitchell,

Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, and Director Dupont-Walker. Residents from Lafayette Road, Victoria Park, and the 16th Place Neighborhood Association were also invited to join. The conversation focused on alignment analysis, property considerations, and tunnel safety. Metro staff previewed findings from the Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis, explained how tunnel boring machines (TBMs) operate, and described the real estate process for underground easements. Residents raised questions about tunnel width, construction phasing, potential business displacement at locations such as Midtown Crossing, tunnel safety, and whether the new alignment options, specifically the West Boulevard option, could be adjusted further to avoid homes in Wellington Square. Residents shared concerns on property values and oil rights. Suggestions included breaking the technical findings from the alignment analysis and tunnel safety into separate community meetings, as well as creating executive summaries of technical reports, and conducting walking tours to make the information more tangible. Metro staff committed to incorporating community feedback into the upcoming August meetings and beyond.



Wellington Square Farmer's Market – August 10, 2025

To build awareness of the August meetings, the team coordinated with the Wellington Square Farmer's Market manager to table at the market in the weeks leading up to the August meetings. On August 10, 2025, the outreach team engaged with more than 50 local residents at the Wellington Square Farmer's Market. Many raised concerns about tunneling beneath Wellington Square and Lafayette Square, while others asked about nearby projects such as the LAX Transit Center. Seventeen participants signed up to receive project updates.

Wellington Square Farmer's Market – August 17, 2025

On August 17, 2025, the team returned to Wellington Square for follow-up tabling, engaging with more than 30 residents. Conversations again centered on tunneling, the upcoming community meetings, and the LAX Transit Center.

Members of the Lafayette Square Association assisted with flyer distribution. Eight participants signed up to receive project updates.

Mid-City Community Update Meeting #1 – August 23, 2025

On August 23, 2025, the team held its first Mid-City Community Update Meeting at Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. Middle School, drawing more than 85 attendees, including residents of Lafayette Square, Wellington Square, Victoria Park, the 16th Place Neighborhood Association, the Mid-City Neighborhood Council, and other nearby historic neighborhoods, along with Director Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker and staff from the offices of Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, and City of Los Angeles Council District 10: Office of Councilwoman Heather Hutt. The two-hour meeting started with an open house, followed by a presentation and question-and-answer session, then returned to the open house for additional conversations with technical staff.

Metro presented findings from the Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis and Property Considerations Reports, highlighting efforts to reduce subsurface easements in historic neighborhoods. During this meeting, staff shared new information regarding potential adjustments to the West Blvd alignment option based on comments received during the coffee conversation. Discussion focused on concerns about tunneling beneath historic homes, with participants emphasizing that older houses in Mid-City are more vulnerable than newer construction in areas such as Westwood. Attendees raised questions about the safety of tunnels below homes and concerns of cracks, vibration, earthquakes, CEQA compliance, and property protections. Additional concerns included potential business closures at Midtown Crossing (a proposed construction staging site), particularly Ralphs and CVS, as well as questions about compensation, construction timelines, and insurance. A total of 32 comments were received.





Mid-City Community Update Meeting #2 – August 26, 2025

The second meeting was held virtually via Zoom on August 26, 2025, with 58 attendees, including staff from the offices of Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, and Los Angeles City Council District 10: Office of Councilwoman Heather Hutt, as well as Mayor Chelsea Byers and Councilmember John Erickson from the City of West Hollywood. This meeting featured the same presentation as the in-person session held on August 23, followed by a question-and-answer segment. Participants shared comments on transparency and decision-making, and technical questions about potential alignment options, tunnel depths, and tunnel boring machine (TBM) launch sites. Participants asked who would select the final alignment, how public input would influence that decision, and when Metro expected to announce next steps. Property impacts remained a central concern, with questions about the difference between subsurface easements and eminent domain, as well as potential business and parking impacts at Midtown Crossing. Several participants also raised concerns about relocation, compensation, and project timing. A total of 39 comments were received.

Comment Themes

The following table summarizes the 12 major themes used to categorize public comments received during the four community meetings.

Theme	Description
Tunnel Safety and Engineering	Tunneling impacts, vibration, seismic, and structural safety
Property Impacts and Rights	Easements, compensation, valuation, and homeowner rights
Construction and Staging	Duration, disruption, traffic, staging areas
Alignment Options	Route selection, travel time, ridership, cost tradeoffs
Funding and Project Costs	Cost and funding sources
Historic and Community Equity	Cultural/historic sensitivity, fairness, displacement
Business and Retail Impacts	Impacts to local businesses and retail continuity
Environmental Review and Compliance	CEQA and other environmental approvals
Project Process and Timeline	Schedule, decision-making, and phasing
Public Engagement and Communication	Outreach, transparency, and access to info
Public Safety and Accessibility	Pedestrian and community safety, accessibility
Economic and Workforce Considerations	Jobs, employment, and local economy

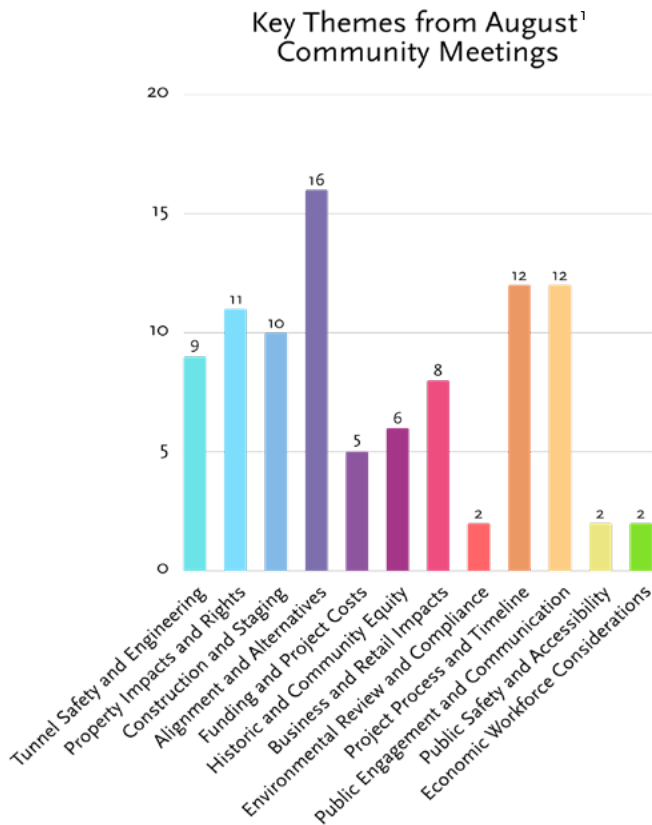


Chart 1. The chart reflects comments from both August meetings.
 (1) Some comments addressed multiple themes and were counted under more than one category.

Wellington Square Farmers Market – September 21, 2025

To support outreach for the upcoming October Tunnel Safety Meetings, the team returned to the Wellington Square Farmers Market on September 21 to share updates and distribute flyers for the October Tunnel Safety meetings. More than 30 individuals stopped by to ask questions or engage in conversation, not including several residents who had spoken with the team during previous visits. Most attendees were already aware of the upcoming meetings and mentioned having received a flyer. Six people requested to be added to the Mid-City stakeholder list. The most common questions focused on whether tunneling is still happening, which route will be selected, what comes next, and what Metro has done since the last meeting.

Wellington Square Farmers Market – September 28, 2025

Building on ongoing engagement in Mid-City, the team returned to the Wellington Square Farmers Market on September 28 to provide information and answer questions about the upcoming Tunnel Safety Meetings. More than 34 individuals stopped by to engage in conversation, not including several residents previously spoken with during earlier visits. Conversations focused on the purpose of the upcoming meetings, next steps for the project, and whether tunneling is still happening. Overall, six people requested to be added to the Mid-City stakeholder list; and attendees expressed continued interest and awareness of upcoming events.

Tunnel Safety Testimonials Video

In response to requests to hear from individuals who had experienced tunneling on Metro projects, Metro prepared a [video of testimonials](#) from residents, business owners and agency leaders who had experienced tunneling on past Metro projects, which was shared during the October Tunnel Safety meetings.

Addendum to Mid-City Alignment Analysis Report on West Blvd Alignment Option

In response to community feedback, Metro published the [West Boulevard Addendum](#) to the [Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis Report](#). The report provides a summary of additional analysis of two variations of the West Boulevard option to shift the tunnel alignment closer to West Blvd to minimize potential easements below Wellington Square, as requested during the August 5th coffee conversation with Mid-City leaders.

Responding to Community Input

The testimonial video and West Blvd Addendum reflect two of the many ways Metro incorporated community feedback into the project. Metro also hosted the October meetings, which included a guided tour, in direct response to feedback from Mid-City leaders. Based on additional community input, meetings were scheduled at times most convenient for residents, outreach was expanded through e-blasts, flyers, and mailers, additional time was dedicated for questions and answers, one Metro staff member was designated as a consistent point of contact, and executive summaries of technical reports were developed to make information more accessible to the public.

Mid-City Tunnel Safety Community Meeting #1 – October 1, 2025

Metro held the first Tunnel Safety Meeting virtually on Zoom with 53 participants, including staff from the offices of Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, Los Angeles City Council District 5: Office of Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky, Los Angeles City Council District 10: Office of Councilwoman Heather Hutt, and Mayor Chelsea Byers of the City of West Hollywood. The roughly 90-minute session included a 30-minute presentation followed by about 60 minutes of open discussion.

The presentation shared key findings from the Tunnel Safety Report and explained how tunnels are designed, built, and monitored to keep nearby structures safe. Metro staff also showed a short testimonial video featuring representatives from the Petersen Museum, Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza, and the Higgins Building, who described their experiences with Metro tunneling beneath their properties and the agency's communication throughout construction. The presentation highlighted examples from Los Angeles and other cities and explained how pressurized Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) and continuous monitoring help prevent vibration or settlement issues. During the Q&A, participants asked questions about vibrations, soil conditions, seismic safety, and how tunneling compares to cut-and-cover construction. A total of 19 comments were received.

Mid-City Tunnel Safety Community Meeting #2 and Tour – October 4, 2025

The second community meeting on tunnel safety was held on Saturday, October 4, 2025, in person at the Petersen Museum from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., drawing approximately 38 participants, including Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Director Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, and staff from the offices of Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, and Los Angeles City Council District 8: Office of Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson. The event featured an open house, presentation, Q&A session, and screening of the project's testimonial video. The presentation outlined Metro's tunneling experience, described the operation of TBMs, and highlighted findings from the Tunnel Safety Report on vibration, settlement, groundwater, and seismic safety. Case studies from both Metro projects and other major transit systems were shared to illustrate successful tunneling beneath historic structures without damage. Attendees raised questions about seismic safety, accessibility, station spacing, and construction methods, and offered feedback on public communication, video content, and first/last mile connections. A total of 21 comments were received.

Key Themes from October²
Community Meetings

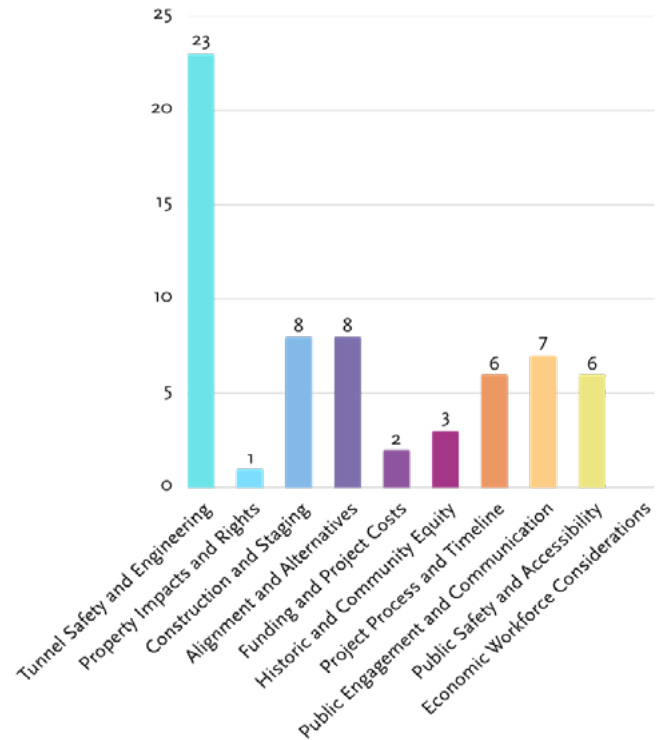


Chart 2. The chart reflects comments from both October meetings.

(2) Some comments addressed multiple themes and were counted under more than one category.

Following the meeting, Metro hosted an optional Tunnel Safety Tour from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for 34 participants, including Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Director Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, and staff from the offices of Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, Los Angeles City Council District 8: Office of Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson, and Director Dupont-Walker (also representing City of Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass). Due to the significant number of RSVPs received in the week leading up to the meeting, Metro staff secured an additional bus to accommodate all participants who had been placed on a waiting list. The tour was organized to address community concerns about tunneling under historic homes by showcasing existing conditions along the D Line. Stops included the Wilshire/Fairfax Station and the Westwood and Westholme area, where attendees viewed single-family homes and apartments with subsurface tunnel easements. The final stop was the Westwood/UCLA Station site, where Metro engineers explained tunneling instrumentation, safety monitoring, and coordination with nearby stakeholders. Several attendees requested additional tours once the D Line Westwood/Wilshire Station is complete.



Coffee Conversation #4 – February 24, 2026

On February 24, 2026, Metro hosted its fourth Coffee Conversation with 14 Mid-City leaders representing Lafayette Square, Wellington Square, the 16th Place Neighborhood Association, and the Mid-City Neighborhood Council, along with representatives from the offices of Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, Mayor Karen Bass, and Director Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker. Metro staff shared a project update and responded to community questions. Metro also informed attendees that the earliest the item could come before the Metro Board would be in March. Once the official committee and Board agendas are posted, Metro will share email updates and a social media toolkit with Mid-City leaders. Metro staff noted that project designs remain high-level, reiterated their commitment to providing follow-up information related to tunnel depth and easements, and shared that they will continue providing updates to Mid-City leaders throughout the process.

Notification Efforts

Metro used direct and digital notifications to inform Mid-City residents about upcoming meetings and new material releases.

Direct Notifications:

- > **Flyers #1:** On August 2, 2025, Metro distributed more than 4,000 flyers across the Mid-City area, targeting residences in Lafayette Square, Wellington Square, and nearby neighborhoods to promote the upcoming August community meetings on the Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis and Property Considerations.



Community Open Houses – You're Invited!

We're planning rail to bridge divides.

The Metro K Line Northern Extension (KNE) would link to the Metro C, E, D, and B Lines, connecting four major rail lines and six of the highest ridership bus lines in LA County. This project creates a vital north-south link by extending the K Line underground from the Metro E Line to West Adams, Mid-City, Miracle Mile, West Hollywood, and Hollywood.

Metro is evaluating additional potential alignment options in Mid-City based on concerns raised during the Draft EIR public comment period from residents of historic Mid-City communities about the proposed tunnel alignment, tunnel safety, and property impacts. In response, Metro is developing three technical reports: a Tunnel Safety Report, a Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis Report, and a Property Values and Rights Summary to address these issues and help guide next steps.

To share these findings and continue the conversation, Metro is hosting two open houses. These meetings are an opportunity for community members to learn more, ask questions, and provide feedback that will help shape the project's next steps.

The meeting will include:

- > A presentation on the latest findings
- > Opportunities to ask questions
- > Direct engagement with Metro staff

In-Person Open House

Saturday, August 23, 2025 | 10:00am-12:00pm

Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. Middle School

4066 Johnnie Cochran Vista, Los Angeles, CA 90019

Registration for in-person meeting is optional: bit.ly/KNEo823

To submit questions in advance, email klinenorth@metro.net

Virtual Open House

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 | 12:00pm-1:30pm

Webinar Link: Please register at bit.ly/KNEo826

Webinar ID: 823 0085 0001

Call-in: 669 900 6833

Or Register Here

for the Virtual Open House
by scanning the QR code:



Translation and other ADA accommodations available by calling 213.418.3093 at least 72 hours in advance.

CONTACT US

213.418.3093

klinenorth@metro.net

metro.net/KNE



- > **Mailers:** On August 6, 2025, Metro mailed notices to 4,732 residences and businesses within the notification area, focusing on Lafayette Square, Wellington Square, and surrounding neighborhoods to raise awareness of the August community meetings focused on the Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis and Property Considerations Reports.



to reduce subsurface easements. Each message emphasized transparency, accessibility, and continued opportunities for public participation to inform Metro staff's recommendation to the Board on the Locally Preferred Alternative.

Direct Outreach with Mid-City Leaders

In addition to the above, Metro Community Relations staff corresponded regularly with Mid-City leaders on email and by phone to ensure receipt of any new information.

- > **Social Media Toolkit #1:** On August 8, 2025, Metro shared a Social Media Toolkit with Mid-City leaders, neighborhood associations, and community partners. The toolkit included ready-to-post graphics and sample language to help amplify information about the August community meetings on the Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis and Property Considerations.
- > **Social Media Toolkit #2:** On September 9, 2025, Metro shared an updated Social Media Toolkit with Mid-City leaders, neighborhood associations, and community partners. The toolkit included ready-to-post graphics and sample messages to help amplify information about the October community meetings on Tunnel Safety.
- > **Flyers #2:** On September 19, 2025, Metro distributed 4,750 flyers across the Mid-City area, targeting households and businesses in Lafayette Square, Wellington Square, and surrounding neighborhoods to promote the October Tunnel Safety Meetings.

Digital Notifications (E-Blasts):

To support targeted outreach, Metro developed a stakeholder list focused specifically on Mid-City residents. The list was initially built using sign-ins from the Nate Holden meeting held in Fall 2024, following the Draft EIR public hearings. Each time outreach was conducted in the Mid-City area, additional contacts were added to this list. Between July 9 and October 30, Metro distributed 16 e-blasts to provide updates on meeting logistics and share access to technical materials, including the Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis, Property Considerations, and Tunnel Safety Reports and FAQs.

The e-blasts announced the Mid-City community meetings, linked to new technical materials including the Mid-City Additional Alignment Analysis, Tunnel Safety, and Property Considerations, highlighted the updated Story Map and FAQs, and later reminded stakeholders about the October Tunnel Safety meetings (October 1 virtual and October 4 in person with an optional tour). They encouraged the public to submit comments by October 31 and shared findings on the West Boulevard option, which evaluated design refinements