

Board Report

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority
One Gateway Plaza
3rd Floor Board Room
Los Angeles, CA

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PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE JANUARY 15, 2025

SUBJECT: COUNTYWIDE PLANNING MAJOR PROJECT STATUS

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE Countywide Planning & Development Major Projects Status Report.

ISSUE

Countywide Planning and Development's major projects status report provides highlights of capital projects in planning phases of development. These include transit corridor projects such as rail and bus rapid transit, Measure M active transportation corridor projects, and highway projects.

BACKGROUND

Metro's mission is to provide a world-class transportation system that enhances the quality of life for all who live, work, and play within Los Angeles County. Countywide Planning and Development (CPD) oversees the planning of major capital projects to support this mission. The attached Project Status Report (Attachment A) provides an update on transit, active transportation corridor and complete streets and highway projects in various stages of development.

DISCUSSION

The status report provides a quarterly update on major projects as they advance through alternatives and feasibility analyses, technical analyses for environmental certification, selection of preferred projects, cost estimation and funding development, and evaluation of project delivery method. Following environmental planning milestones, projects typically transition from CPD to Program Management and are included in the Program Management Major Project Status report, which is provided on a quarterly basis to the Metro Board's Construction Committee.

As requested by Director Horvath, updates on the Pacific Coast Highway projects in the City of Malibu as well as an update from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) on the Pacific Coast Highway Master Plan remain in this quarter's report.

EQUITY PLATFORM

Because this report is provided on a regular basis and includes status updates for multiple projects, equity assessments are provided as baseline summaries with subsequent updates when equity conditions change. Next quarter, any equity-related developments will be included in an attachment with a refreshed set of baseline assessments for all projects.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The development of projects included in this report supports Strategic Plan Goal #1 by delivering high-quality mobility options that enable people to spend less time traveling.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue to advance these projects through the planning phases. The next quarterly update will be provided in April 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Project Status Report

Prepared by:

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Reviewed by: Ray Sosa, Chief Planning Officer, (213) 922-2920

Chief Executive Officer

Major Capital Projects Update Countywide Planning and Development

January 15, 2025

Presented By

Allison Yoh

Deputy Chief Planning Officer

(Interim)

Michelle E. Smith

Executive Officer
Complete Streets and Highways



Transit and Active Transportation Projects



> Major Pillar Projects

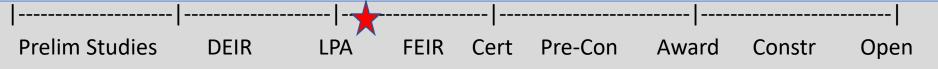
- (1) C Line Extension to Torrance
- (2) Sepulveda Transit Corridor
- (3) Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2

> Other Projects in Planning

- Vermont Transit Corridor
- Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor
- Los Angeles River Path
- E. San Fernando Valley Shared ROW
- K Line Northern Extension



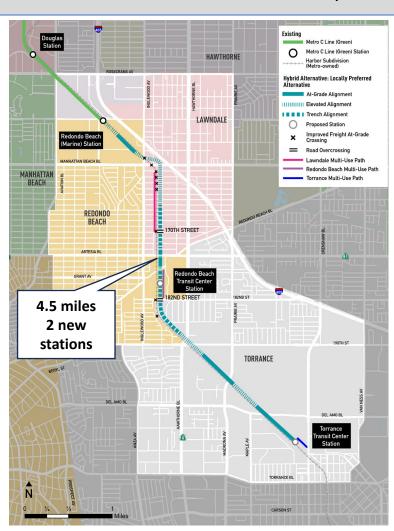
C (Green) Line Extension to Torrance



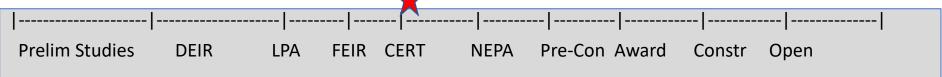
Recent Activities

- Briefings to Board staff, city staff, agencies
- Preparation of Final EIR under CEQA
- Updates to community on project steps (letter, eblasts, regional online newsletters)
- Notification to residents/businesses and city staff in project area of upcoming field work needed to respond to public comments (i.e., property survey to confirm ROW width and project footprint)

- Complete field work and studies to respond to public comments on Draft EIR
- Update engineering drawings for Hybrid Alternative (LPA)
- Refine cost estimates and funding plan for LPA

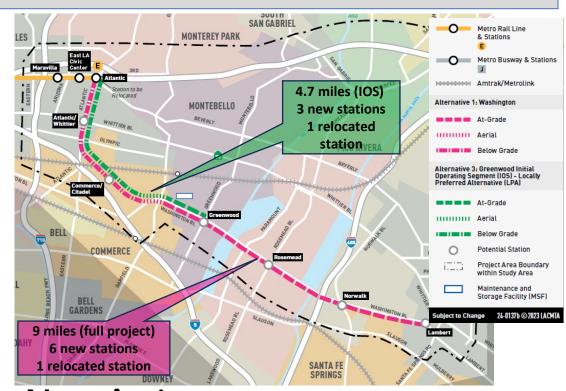


Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2



Recent Activities

- Oct 2024: FLM plan adopted; initiation of 30% design for IOS
- Requested entry into NEPA w. FTA
- CTC programming of \$34M for PS&E
- PMSSC RFP release (in blackout)
- Utility potholing in Montebello,
 Commerce, and East Los Angeles
- Continuation of the maintenance storage facility refinement study
- Ongoing coordination with corridor cities, utility owners (35), railroads (BNSF and UP) on utility design, cooperative agreements, and preparation for geotechnical investigations



- Community meetings in East LA, Commerce, Montebello and virtual
- Coordinate with GCCOG to initiate a city manager technical advisory committee in early 2025

Sepulveda Transit Corridor

Prelim Studies DEIR/S LPA FEIR/S Cert Pre-Con Award Constr Open

Recent Activities

- Completed environmental technical analyses and draft chapters
- Review of Administrative Draft EIR
- Coordination with FTA on Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study
- Development of cost information

- January/February (tent.): Ongoing public outreach including community meetings
- Early 2025: Draft EIR release anticipated for public review



Vermont Transit Corridor

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Prelim Studies CEQA LPA SE/CE Cert Pre-Con Award Constr Open

Recent Activities

- Dec 2024: Conducted 5 community meetings (3 inperson & 2 virtual) to:
 - Provide updates on near-term service improvements and mid-term BRT
 - Present and receive comments on SB 922 documents: Racial Equity Analysis, Residential Displacement Analysis, Business Case Study
 - Had a total of 325 meeting participants
- Dec 2024: Requested entry into Project
 Development for Small Starts funding program

- Coordination with FTA on path for NEPA clearance
- Early 2025 Seek Board approval of LPA & concurrence that project is exempt from CEQA





Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor

Segment B

Recent Activities

- Project coordination meetings with corridor cities, other related project teams, and third-parties
- Receive input from Randolph Corridor AT Project, corridor cities, and third-parties on proposed design concepts



Next Actions

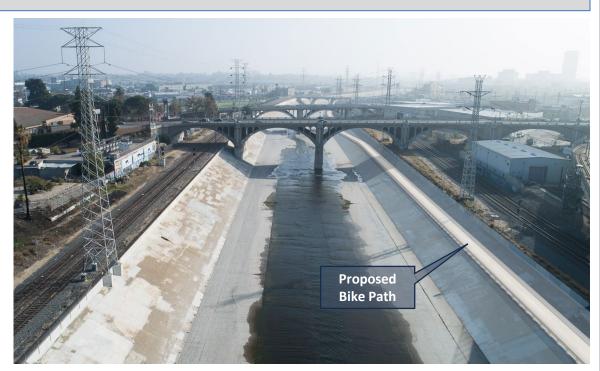
January 2025 – three Community meetings (2 in-person, 1 virtual)

Los Angeles River Path

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Prelim Studies DEIR LPA FEIR Cert Pre-Con Award Constr Open

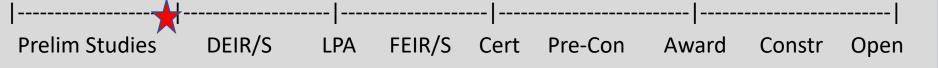
Recent Activities

- Oct: Project Update to LA River Cooperation
 Committee
- Completion of Admin Draft EIR review
- Briefings for Board Offices, City of LA and other agencies on upcoming release of Draft EIR
- Development of Board Box memo with update on Draft EIR status, phasing, responsible agencies, and next steps



- Anticipated release of DEIR in early 2025
- Develop consensus on responsible parties for design, construction, operations and maintenance

East San Fernando Valley Shared ROW Study



Recent Activities

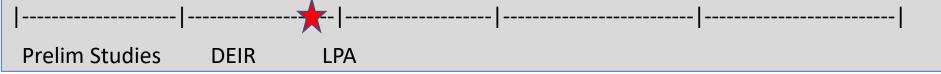
- Coordination with parking study, ESFV LRT Project, Program Management, and service planning
- Finalized technical work on cost estimation
- Briefing for Metrolink on the upcoming study release



Next Actions

 Schedule community engagement activities to share study findings

K Line Northern Extension



Recent Activities

- October: Board approval of contract modifications to study tunnel alignment options under Mid-City neighborhoods and conduct additional outreach
- Reviewing comments received on Draft EIR
- Conducting informational meetings with stakeholders and elected officials



- Complete additional alignment analysis and research in response to community concerns of proposed tunnels under residential neighborhoods and HPOZ
- Share findings with stakeholders to receive input on project

Quarterly Major Projects Report Complete Streets & Highway Projects

Presented by Michelle E. Smith Executive Officer, Complete Streets & Highways



I-605 Corridor Improvement Project (I-605 CIP)

(I-10 to I-105)

Status/Schedule

- Current Phase: Draft EIR/EIS paused.
- Community Engagement: Re-engagement meetings and stakeholder briefings held in Summer 2024.
- Next Major Milestone: At January Board meeting, seek approval to advance project development.

Purpose and Need

- Safety and operational deficiencies, lack of multimodal transportation options.
 - 3,329 collisions occurred within I-605 project limits: 1,771 on SR-60, 2,387 on I-10, 375 on I-105, and 990 on I-5 between July 2012 and June 2015

Scope

- Convert HOV to ExpressLane (one or two EL or HOV).
- Bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian trail improvements.
- Roadway connections to transit stations.
- Transportation System Management and Transportation Demand Management strategies.

Project Benefits

- Working with the community to address equity needs.
- Enhance local and regional connectivity and access; increase person throughput while avoiding residential displacements.





Challenges

- Some partial right of way may be needed.
- Project alternatives are partially funded.

Metro & Caltrans Roles

- Metro: Project Sponsor for environmental phase.
- Caltrans: California Environmental Quality Act/National Environmental Policy Act [CEQA/NEPA] Lead.

12

I-605/Beverly Boulevard Interchange Improvements

91/605/405 Hot Spots Program

Status/Schedule

- Current Phase: Pre-construction with Program Management.
- Community Engagement: Ongoing pre-construction community meetings and briefings with project stakeholders.
- Next Major Milestone: Begin construction expected by late 2025.

Purpose and Need

 Address safety and operational deficiencies at the ramps, mainline, and local interchange at Beverly Boulevard (346 collisions occurred within the project limits from January 2016 to December 2018).

Scope

- Implement diamond interchange design and signalize intersection.
- New 5 ft shoulder on overcrossing that can accommodate future Class II bicycle lane.
- 400 linear feet of new high visibility continental crosswalks, a wider sidewalk, and new ADA ramps.
- High visibility traffic signals at newly constructed intersection.

Project Benefits

- Improve safety and southbound operations by eliminating short "weaving" length between existing loop ramps.
- Allow safe right and left turn movements on local arterials.
- Optimize traffic signal operations.
- Improve overall safety, mobility, and pedestrian access.





Metro & Caltrans Roles

- Metro: Project Sponsor and Construction lead.
- Caltrans: Construction oversight.

I-605/Valley Boulevard Interchange Improvements

91/605/405 Hot Spots Program

Status/Schedule

Current Phase: Final design be completed/approved by March 2025. Begin Construction expected by October 2025.

Community Engagement: COG to convene pre-construction meetings.

Purpose and Need

Improve safety and mobility due to high collision rates caused by weaving conflicts, freeway and ramp queuing, and congestion. (1,126 collisions occurred within the project limits from 2016 to 2018).

Scope

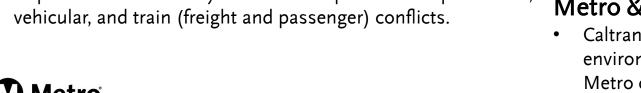
- Reconfigure ramps, upgrade & coordinate traffic/railroad signals.
- Upgrade ADA infrastructure (curb ramps, sidewalks, and pedestrian pathways) and rehab adjacent local roads.
- Install pedestrian gates at railroad crossings, special signals, shorter crosswalk, and median island refuge.
- Reduce collisions, congestion, weaving conflicts, and queuing.
- Enhance pedestrian access and safety.
- Provide better truck access/maneuverability along freeway ramps.
- Improved railroad safety to reduce the potential for pedestrian, vehicular, and train (freight and passenger) conflicts.

Metro & Caltrans Roles

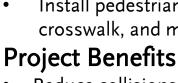
Caltrans provides oversight of environmental and design tasks led by Metro contractor.

CITY OF INDUSTRY

San Gabriel Valley COG to build project.



14





SR-91 Westbound Improvements (Alondra to Shoemaker)

91/605/405 Hot Spots Program

Status/Schedule

- Project being transitioned to Program Management (PM).
- PM preparing pre-bid package.
- Ongoing pre-construction outreach.
- Begin construction expected by Fall 2025.

Purpose and Need

 Address existing safety and weaving conflicts (1,177 collisions occurred within the project limits between January 2012 and December 2014).

Scope

- Reconfigure interchanges.
- Reconstruct Gridley Rd and Bloomfield Blvd overcrossings.
- Construct soundwalls.
- New 200 linear foot bicycle lane.
- ADA upgrades and sidewalk improvements.

Project Benefits

- Provide multimodal options.
- Enhance pedestrian safety and access.
- Improve overall safety and mobility.





Metro & Caltrans Roles

- Metro: Project Sponsor and Construction lead.
- Caltrans: to Construct or construction oversight.

Challenges

- Updating Caltrans latest design upgrades.
- Prepare construction phase transition to Caltrans

SR-91 Improvements (Central to Acacia)

91/605/405 Hot Spots Program

Status/Schedule

- · Current Phase: Design.
- Community Engagement: On hold.
- Next Major Milestone: Construction on hold.

Purpose and Need

- Reduce number of ingress/egress points along the freeway mainline.
- Address existing safety and weaving conflicts caused by short weaving distances (615 collisions occurred within the project limits between April 2016 and March 2019).

Scope

- Build collector-distributor road along SR-91 from Central and Wilmington Aves to Acacia Ct interchange.
- Class II buffered bicycle lane along Artesia Blvd (between Central Ave and Acacia Ct), and on Albertoni St (between Lysander Dr and Central Ave).
- ADA-compliant curb ramps at all intersections, high-visibility crosswalks, sidewalk upgrades, and LED lighting.





Project Benefits

- Enhanced pedestrian safety and access.
- Improve overall safety and mobility.

Metro & Caltrans Roles

 Caltrans provides oversight of design tasks led by Metro.

Challenges

 Project on hold until Measure M accrues funding (FY30).

I-405 Auxiliary Lanes (I-105 to Artesia Boulevard)

I-405 South Bay Curve Improvements

Status/Schedule

 Design reviews (95%) + discussions about awarding, advertising, and administering the construction contract are underway with Caltrans.

Purpose and Need

- Improve safety and operations by reducing conflicts at high congestion on/off ramp locations and by providing auxiliary lane improvements between freeway on/off ramps within Caltrans ROW.
 - 1,141 of collisions occurred within the project limits between January 2016 and December 2018.

Scope

- Complete final design and ROW certification of the auxiliary lanes and a lane extension along SB I-405 between I-105 connector and the off ramp to eastbound Rosecrans Avenue within project limits.
- New high visibility crosswalks, pedestrian flashing beacons, and cyclist signage.
- New transit stops.

Project Benefits

- Provide multimodal options.
- Enhance pedestrian & cyclist safety and access.
- Improve overall safety and mobility.





Metro & Caltrans Roles

Caltrans provides oversight of design tasks led by Metro.

Challenges

Construction not fully funded.

I-405 Improvements (I-110 to Wilmington Avenue)

I-405 South Bay Curve Improvements

Status/Schedule

- Current Phase: Environmental Phase. Caltrans is reviewing and approving technical studies to support DEIR/EA.
- Community Engagement: Scoping period completed in October 2024. Additional engagement expected in Summer 2025.
- Next Major Milestone: Circulation of Draft Environmental document expected in early 2026.

Purpose and Need

- Traffic safety and operational needs.
 - From April 2020 to March 2023, 612 collisions (278 NB and 334 SB) occurred within the project limits, and of these, over 75% were rear-end and sideswipe, indicating congestion.

Scope

- Build four auxiliary lanes (2 northbound & 2 southbound).
- New high-visibility crosswalks, pedestrian flashing beacons, and cyclist signage.
- Transportation System Management and Transportation Demand Management (TSM/TDM) strategies.

Project Benefits

• Improve overall mobility and safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicular travel.





Challenges

Construction not fully funded

Metro & Caltrans Roles

- Metro: Project Sponsor for environmental phase.
- Caltrans: CEQA/NEPA lead.

SR-14 North Los Angeles County Safety & Mobility Improvements (Newhall Avenue Undercrossing to Pearblosson Highway)

Status/Schedule

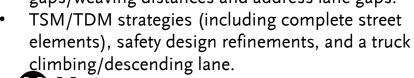
- Current Phase: Environmental phase. Caltrans is reviewing and approving technical studies to support DEIR/EA.
- Community Engagement: Scoping Period completed in December 2024. Additional engagement expected in Fall 2026.
- Next Major Milestone: Circulation of Draft Environmental document expected in late 2026.

Purpose and Need

- Data from January 2020 to December 2022
- NB (Newhall Rd to Placerita Canyon Rd and SB Soledad Canyon Rd to Sand Canyon Rd) had higher fatal collision rates than the statewide average.
- Identified rear-end and sideswipe collisions make up 70% of collisions along the corridor.

Scope

- Obtain PA/ED clearance for Preferred Alternative that focuses on improving safety.
- Reconfigure existing lanes that have short gaps/weaving distances and address lane gaps.
- TSM/TDM strategies (including complete street climbing/descending lane.





Project Benefits

- Multimodal options to provide increased access, connectivity, and improved safety.
- Improve overall mobility and safety.

Challenges

VMT analysis and potential mitigation to be determined.

Metro & Caltrans Roles

- Metro: Project Sponsor for environmental phase.
- Caltrans: CEQA/NEPA lead.

City of Malibu Projects on the Pacific Coast Highway



Measure R Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) Projects

Malibu PCH Median and Channelization Project

Construction of raised medians on PCH from Webb Way to Puerco Canyon Road completed in August 2024.

Malibu PCH Signal Synchronization Project

- Metro and Malibu executed an amendment in October 2024 to extend the lapse date and program additional funds.
- Proposed improvements extend from John Tyler Drive to Topanga Canyon Road.
- Construction is underway and expected to be completed in December 2025.

Malibu PCH Trancas Canyon Road Intersection Improvements

- Proposed improvements include a new right turn lane along westbound PCH and traffic signal updates.
- The Project is in the design phase and expected to be completed in Spring 2025.
- City cannot start project until Caltrans completes the Trancas Bridge replacement project.

Malibu PCH and Las Flores/Rambla Pacifico Intersection Improvements

- Proposed improvements include safety and efficiency improvements to improve traffic circulation, reduce collisions, provide safer access for pedestrians.
- It is anticipated the environmental phase of Project will begin in Spring 2025.





Caltrans Safety Improvements on the Pacific Coast Highway



Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) Master Plan

- The PCH Master Plan Feasibility Study Overview
 - Website: https://engage.dot.ca.gov/07-pchmpfeasibilitystudy
 - <u>Purpose</u>: The purpose of this Study is to identify potential transportation improvements to improve safety and connectivity for all PCH users, which will also support and maintain Malibu's beachside character. As part of the analysis, the roadway's existing conditions, stakeholder and community outreach, feasibility, and estimated construction costs of the proposed recommendations were evaluated.
- Public Engagement and Stakeholder Coordination
 - Three rounds of public workshops
 - Round One (July 2024) (complete) three public workshops (in-person and virtual) to identify the community's safety priorities.
 - Round Two (August September 2024) (complete) three public workshops (in-person and virtual) focused on presenting and soliciting feedback on design alternatives and other recommendations to improve safety on PCH.
 - Round Three (December 2024) one public workshop (in-person) to present the Draft Report for a 30-day public review and comment period.
 - Stakeholder Coordination
 - Over a dozen stakeholder meetings were conducted throughout Study development to inform stakeholders of the Study's goals and objectives, identify critical priorities, and address potential concerns.
 - Stakeholders included representatives from local government, emergency services, environmental groups, local businesses, and community organizations.
 - Over 1,300 respondents completed the survey and provided over 1,300 additional comments.
- Recommendations
 - The Study's recommendations include roundabouts, sidewalk gap closures, bicycle facilities, traffic calming devices, crosswalks, angled parking, community gateways, etc.
 - Short-term (1-10 years), Medium-term (10-20 years), and Long-term (20+ years) project tiers.
- PCH Master Plan Feasibility Study Delivery Schedule
 - Final Report delivery is scheduled for early February 2025.

