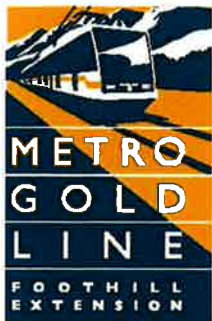


Appendix E

Notice of Preparation

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Notice of Preparation

FROM: Habib Balian
Chief Executive Officer
Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority
406 E. Huntington Drive, Suite 202
Monrovia, CA 91016

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Project Environmental Impact
Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the Metro Gold Line
Foothill Extension Azusa to Montclair (Phase 2B).

The Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority (Construction Authority), as the Lead Agency for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process is issuing this Notice of Preparation of an EIS/EIR for the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Azusa to Montclair (Phase 2B) Project.

This NOP initiates the State CEQA process and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report for the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Azusa to Montclair (Phase 2B) Project. The Construction Authority is issuing the NOP to solicit public and agency input into the development of the scope of the EIR and to advise the public that outreach activities will be conducted by the Authority and its representatives in the preparation of the combined EIS/EIR. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), an operating administration with the United States Department of Transportation, will serve as federal lead agency for the federal environmental review process complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The FTA will publish a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the *Federal Register*, announcing the agency's intention to initiate the federal environmental review process for the EIS/EIR of the project.

Project Description

The proposed Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Phase 2B would connect the terminus of the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Phase 2A at the eastern boundary of Azusa in Los Angeles County with Montclair in San Bernardino County. The Study Area extends about 12.6 miles through the Cities of Azusa, Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont, and Montclair. The Build Alternative will study Light Rail Transit (LRT) and will include two LRT tracks throughout and one freight track between the eastern boundary of Azusa and Claremont. In Claremont the single freight track would join with the double Metrolink tracks and continue through to Montclair. Two railroad grade separations are also included (one in Glendora and one in Pomona) to allow the LRT and freight services to operate independently and avoid time delays for either service. Stations are proposed in Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair. The proposed project would improve mobility in eastern Los Angeles County and western San Bernardino County by introducing high-frequency transit service options; enhance the regional transit network by interconnecting existing and planned rail and bus transit lines; provide an alternative mode of transportation for commuters who currently use the congested I-210 and I-10 corridors; improve transit accessibility for residents and employees who live and/or work along the corridor; and encourage a mode shift to transit, reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition to the Build Alternative, a Transportation System Management (TSM) and No-Build Alternatives will be studied. The TSM Alternative will consist of relatively low cost bus and traffic operations improvements.

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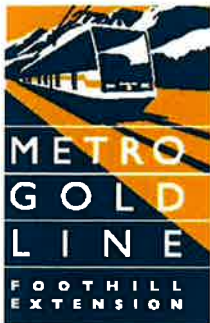
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Lara Larramendi
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City of
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Appointee, City of
South Pasadena

Executive Officer:

Habib F. Balian
Chief Executive Officer



**Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension
Construction Authority**

406 E. Huntington Drive, Suite 202
Monrovia, CA 91016-3633

626-471-9050 ph
626-471-9049 fx

www.foothillextension.org

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Chief Executive Officer

Project Location (See Figure 1)

County: Los Angeles and San Bernardino
City: Azusa, Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont, Montclair
Cross Streets: Vermont Avenue in Glendora to Central Avenue in Montclair
Latitude/Longitude: 34° 7' 49.52"/117° 52' 1.79" to 34° 6' 6.17"/117° 41' 22.80"

Proximity To

Highways: I- 210, SR 57, US 66, I-10
Railways: Metrolink, Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF)
Schools: Glendora/San Dimas/La Verne/Pomona/Claremont/Montclair

Probably Environmental Effects

Based on a preliminary assessment, the Project may have impacts in the following topical areas: Aesthetic/Visual, Air Quality, Archaeologic-Historic, Biological Resources, Economics/Jobs, Fiscal Impacts, Flood Plain/Flooding, Geologic/Seismic, Noise and Vibration, Public Services, Recreation/Parks, Schools, Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading, Railroad Operations, Safety and Security, Toxic/Hazardous, Traffic/Circulation, Water Quality, Growth Inducing, Land Use, and Cumulative Effects. A copy of the Initial Study is not attached and will be provided at the scoping meetings.

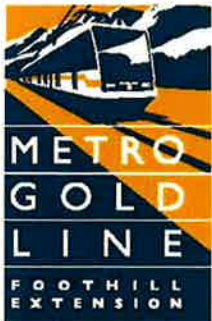
Reviewing Agencies

Resources Agency; Department of Conservation; California Energy Commission; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; Native American Heritage Commission; Department of Public Health; State Lands Commission; Caltrans, Division of Transportation Planning; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, Districts 7 and 8; Air Resources Board, Transportation Projects; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 4; Federal Highway Administration; Federal Railroad Administration; United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Scoping and Comments

The Construction Authority will be the Lead Agency and will prepare an environmental impact report for the project identified below. The EIR is intended to also serve as an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, in light of the actions of Federal agencies required for this project. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information that is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Your agency will need to use the EIR prepared by the Construction Authority when considering your permit or other approval for the project.

The Construction Authority encourages broad participation in the environmental process during scoping and review of the resulting environmental documents. To that end, comments and



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Construction Authority**

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Monrovia, CA 91016-3633

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Chief Executive Officer

suggestions are invited from all interested agencies and the public to insure the full range of issues related to the proposed action and all significant issues are identified. In particular, the Construction Authority is interested in determining whether there are areas of environmental concern where there might be a potential for significant site-specific impacts.

Public scoping meetings have been scheduled as an important component of the scoping process for the environmental review. The scoping meetings described in this Notice will be advertised locally and included in additional public notification. Scoping meetings are scheduled for the following dates and locations:

- Wednesday, January 12, 2011; 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Ganesha Community Center, 1575 North White Avenue, Pomona, CA.
- Thursday, January 13, 2011; 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Glendora Teen and Family Center, 241 West Dawson Street, Glendora, CA.
- Wednesday, January 19, 2011; 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Oakmont Elementary School, 120 West Green Street, Claremont, CA.
- Thursday, January 20, 2011; 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Ekstrand Elementary School, 400 North Walnut Avenue, San Dimas, CA.

An interagency scoping meeting will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2011, at 2:00 PM at the Glendora Teen and Family Center, 241 West Dawson Street, Glendora, CA.

Public agencies are requested to send their responses to this Notice of Preparation to the Authority at the earliest possible date beginning on December 28th but no later than February 2, 2011. Please send your response and direct any comments or questions regarding this Project to:

Ms. Lisa Levy Buch,
Director of Public Affairs
Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority
406 E. Huntington Drive, Suite 202
Monrovia, CA 91016-3633
(626) 471-9050
llevybuch@foothillextension.org

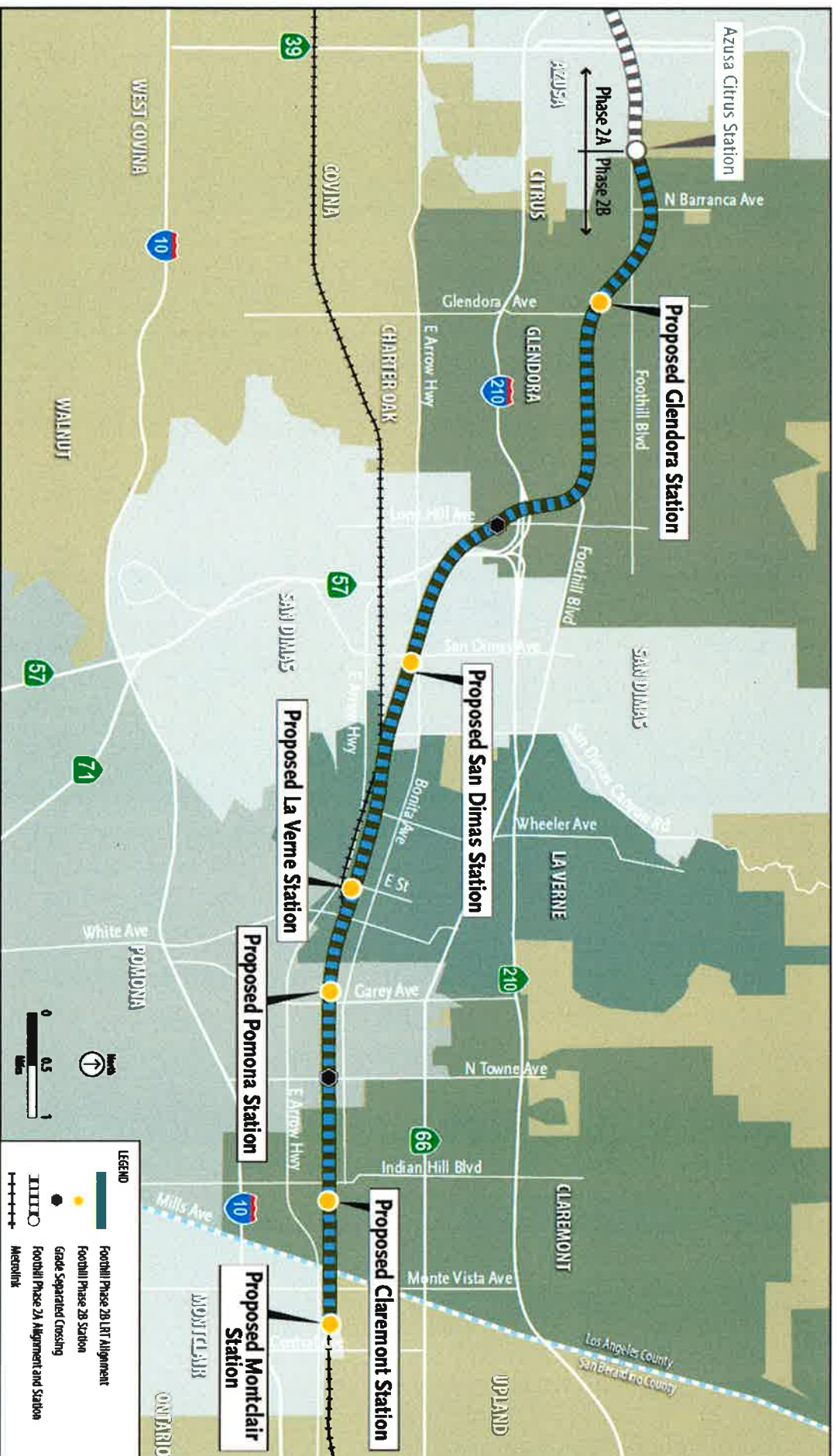
Date 12/23/10

Signature: Habib F. Balian

Title: CEO

Telephone: 626-471-9050

Figure 1 – Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Azusa to Montclair (Phase 2B) Study Area Map



Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #

Project Title: Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Azusa to Montclair (Phase 2B)

Lead Agency: Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority

Contact Person: Lisa Levy Buch

Mailing Address: 406 E. Huntington Drive

Phone: 626 471-9050

City: Monrovia

Zip: 91016-3633

County: Los Angeles

Project Location: County: Los Angeles & San Bernardino City/Nearest Community: Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont, Montclair

Cross Streets: Zip Code:

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): ° ' " N / ° ' " W Total Acres:

Assessor's Parcel No.: Section: Twp.: Range: Base:

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: I- 210, SR 57, US 66, I-10

Waterways:

Airports: Railways: Metrolink, BNSF Schools:

Document Type:

CEQA: ☒ NOP ☐ Draft EIR NEPA: ☒ NOI Other: ☐ Joint Document
☐ Early Cons ☐ Supplement/Subsequent EIR ☐ EA ☐ Final Document
☐ Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) ☐ Draft EIS ☐ Other:
☐ Mit Neg Dec Other: FONSI

Local Action Type:

☐ General Plan Update ☐ Specific Plan ☐ Rezone ☐ Annexation
☐ General Plan Amendment ☐ Master Plan ☐ Prezone ☐ Redevelopment
☐ General Plan Element ☐ Planned Unit Development ☐ Use Permit ☐ Coastal Permit
☐ Community Plan ☐ Site Plan ☐ Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) ☒ Other: consideration of extending light rail transit line from Azusa to Montclair

Development Type:

☐ Residential: Units Acres ☐ Office: Sq.ft. Acres Employees ☒ Transportation: Type Light Rail Transit
☐ Commercial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees ☐ Mining: Mineral
☐ Industrial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees ☐ Power: Type MW
☐ Educational: ☐ Waste Treatment: Type MGD
☐ Recreational: ☐ Hazardous Waste: Type
☐ Water Facilities: Type MGD ☐ Other:

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

☐ Aesthetic/Visual ☐ Fiscal ☐ Recreation/Parks ☐ Vegetation
☐ Agricultural Land ☐ Flood Plain/Flooding ☐ Schools/Universities ☐ Water Quality
☐ Air Quality ☐ Forest Land/Fire Hazard ☐ Septic Systems ☐ Water Supply/Groundwater
☐ Archeological/Historical ☐ Geologic/Seismic ☐ Sewer Capacity ☐ Wetland/Riparian
☐ Biological Resources ☐ Minerals ☐ Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading ☐ Growth Inducement
☐ Coastal Zone ☐ Noise ☐ Solid Waste ☐ Land Use
☐ Drainage/Absorption ☐ Population/Housing Balance ☐ Toxic/Hazardous ☐ Cumulative Effects
☐ Economic/Jobs ☐ Public Services/Facilities ☐ Traffic/Circulation ☐ Other: See NOP

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:**Project Description:** (please use a separate page if necessary)

(See attached NOP)

Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with and "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

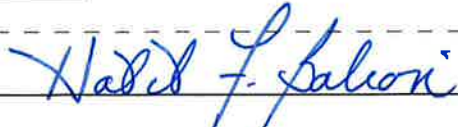
☒ Air Resources Board	☐ Office of Emergency Services
☐ Boating & Waterways, Department of	☒ Office of Historic Preservation
☒ California Highway Patrol	☐ Office of Public School Construction
☒ Caltrans District # <u>7 & 8</u>	☒ Parks & Recreation, Department of
☐ Caltrans Division of Aeronautics	☐ Pesticide Regulation, Department of
☒ Caltrans Planning	☒ Public Utilities Commission
☐ Central Valley Flood Protection Board	☒ Regional WQCB # <u>4</u>
☐ Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy	☒ Resources Agency
☐ Coastal Commission	☐ S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm.
☐ Colorado River Board	☐ San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy
☒ Conservation, Department of	☐ San Joaquin River Conservancy
☐ Corrections, Department of	☐ Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy
☐ Delta Protection Commission	☒ State Lands Commission
☐ Education, Department of	☐ SWRCB: Clean Water Grants
☒ Energy Commission	☒ SWRCB: Water Quality
☐ Fish & Game Region # _____	☐ SWRCB: Water Rights
☐ Food & Agriculture, Department of	☐ Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
☐ Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of	☒ Toxic Substances Control, Department of
☐ General Services, Department of	☒ Water Resources, Department of
☒ Health Services, Department of	☒ Other: LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
☐ Housing & Community Development	☒ Other: Cities of Azusa, Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont, Montclair
☐ Integrated Waste Management Board	
☒ Native American Heritage Commission	

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date December 28, 2010 Ending Date February 2, 2011

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>Parsons Brinckerhoff</u>	Applicant: <u>Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority</u>
Address: <u>505 South Main Street</u>	Address: <u>406 E. Huntington Drive</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Orange, CA 92868</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>Monrovia, CA 91016</u>
Contact: <u>Steven Wolf</u>	Phone: <u>626-471-9050</u>
Phone: <u>714-973-4880</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  Date: 12/27/10

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.