

Update

Board Workshop will Review Options for Mid-City/Westside Transit Corridor

(Jan. 26) Editor's Note: The Board workshop - in addition to considering transit options for Mid-City and the Westside - also will discuss options for the Eastside and San Fernando Valley corridors.

By Rick Jager

[\(Jan. 21\)](#) The MTA Board will hold a workshop Friday, Feb. 4, to review options currently under discussion as part of the agency's study of the Mid-City/Westside, Eastside and San Fernando Valley transit corridors.

In January, 1998, the MTA suspended work on the Metro Red Line project in the Mid-City area due to funding shortfalls. The MTA is now looking at alternatives to the previously approved subway extension that can provide improved transit mobility for the area and still be eligible for federal funding that has been committed for the subway project.

Community meetings

Over the last few months, the MTA staff has been holding a series of community meeting to gather input on the various alternatives in providing public transportation in the Mid-City/Westside corridor.

The studies focus on fixed-guideway extensions that can be made from the existing Metro Red Line and Metro Blue Line.

Possible Metro Red Line extensions include bus lanes to allow buses to move faster than general traffic and heavy rail alternatives that can be extended along the Wilshire or Pico-San Vicente routes from the current subway terminus at Wilshire/Western.

Bus lanes, light rail

Metro Blue Line extensions under discussion include bus lanes and light-rail alternatives that can be extended from the current Metro Blue Line terminus at Flower Street to the Westside along the Exposition right-of-way.

The Board is expected to make a decision on which alternatives will be carried into an environmental impact study at the regular Board meeting Feb. 24.

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