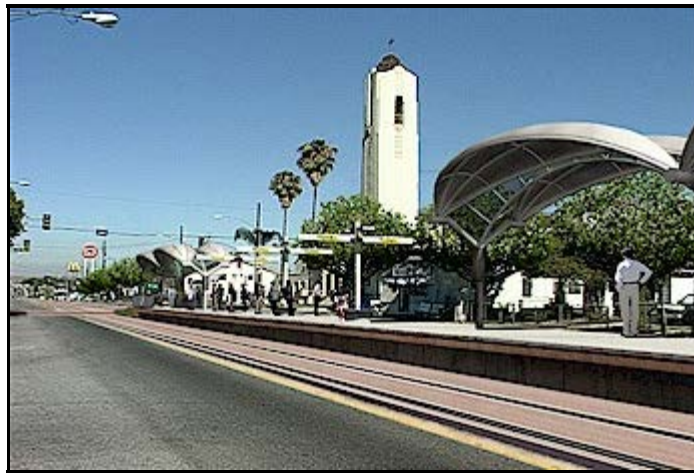

MTA Showcases Eastside Light-Rail Project at Open House



A computer-enhanced artist's rendering of the 3rd St./Rowan Avenue station.

By ADRIAN ALVAREZ

(Nov. 21, 2001) The MTA hosted an open house at Headquarters, Nov. 8, to showcase the latest developments of the Eastside light-rail project.

Models of the eight rail stations were on display, and the architects and artists responsible for designing them, as well as MTA staff members who worked on the project, were on hand to respond to questions.

For the past two months, each of the conceptual station designs had been presented to members of the communities close to where the stations will be located.

The majority of the 90-plus visitors who attended the open house were stakeholders, residents, and community advocates who had attended community meetings during the environmental review phase.

For the first hour, attendees were encouraged to look at the models, talk with the architects and express their opinions. "I was really excited about the design and architecture of the stations," said CEO Roger Snoble.

A long time coming

After visitors had ample opportunity to see the models, Henry Gonzalez, community outreach officer for the Eastside project, presented a video titled, "It's Been a Long Time Coming.....: The video is a 17-minute



Renderings of the Eastside light-rail stations were on display during the MTA's open house. Below, Architect Guillermo Villalobos discusses the design of an Eastside light-rail station with visitors at the MTA open house.



presentation on the Eastside light-rail project.

The video reminds viewers that streetcars once served Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles, shows where the light-rail alignment will pass, and – with the help of computer-generated graphics – gives the viewer an idea of how the project will look like when it is completed.

The Eastside Light-Rail Transit (LRT) alignment is a six-mile line that will run on the surface streets of the Little Tokyo/Arts District, Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles, with the exception of a 1.8-mile tunnel in Boyle Heights. From end-to end, the trip will take approximately 17 minutes.

The Eastside LRT will have eight stations between Union Station and Beverly/Atlantic in East Los Angeles. When completed, the Eastside LRT will connect directly with the Pasadena Blue Line. Both lines together are expected to carry more than 40,000 riders a day.

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