



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA TO HOLD SERIES OF COMMUNITY MEETINGS ON MID-CITY/WESTSIDE TRANSIT CORRIDOR STUDY

MTA will hold a series of community open houses in late May and early June to receive public comments on several new transit proposals for Wilshire Boulevard and the Exposition Boulevard right-of-way in the Mid-City and Westside areas. The study is being funded by a grant from the Federal Transit Administration.

Options under consideration include dedicated bus lanes, known as Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), on Wilshire Boulevard from either the current terminus of the Metro Red Line subway system at Wilshire/Western or from Wilshire/Vermont to downtown Santa Monica.

In addition, both a Bus Rapid Transit line and a light rail line from downtown Los Angeles to downtown Santa Monica, via the Exposition right-of-way, with on-street segments on Venice and Sepulveda Boulevards, are being studied. The Exposition right-of-way passes through Exposition Park, Culver City, Santa Monica, and portions of the Crenshaw District, Palms and Mar Vista.

Earlier this year, the MTA Board of Directors voted to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement studying these recommended alternatives for the Mid-City and Westside area.

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The meetings, set up in an open house format, will provide the community with an opportunity to ask questions and to comment on the alternative modes and technologies, alignments and termination points under discussion. Equally important will be discussions on possible environmental, social and economic impacts that should be included in the study of the project alternatives.

The following community meetings/open houses have been scheduled:

Tuesday, May 23, 2000 - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Peterson Automotive Museum
6060 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles

Wednesday, May 31, 2000 - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Veteran's Administration Hospital of West Los Angeles
11301 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles

Tuesday, June 6, 2000 - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Ken Edwards Center
1527 Fourth Street, Santa Monica

Wednesday, June 7, 2000 - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

California African-American Museum
600 State Street-Exposition Park, Los Angeles

Thursday, June 8, 2000 - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Veteran's Memorial Complex
4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City

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Interested individuals, organizations and public agencies are encouraged to attend the community open house meetings. The public is invited to drop by at any time during the scheduled meetings. Individuals unable to attend the meetings can leave verbal comments or receive more information by calling the MTA Mid-City/Westside Transit Corridor Study Hotline at (310) 366-6443.

Written comments can be sent to David Mieger, Project Manager, MTA, One Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop 99-22-5, Los Angeles, Ca 90012. Comments are due by June 23, 2000.

All public comments, questions and concerns will become public record and will be addressed in the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements and Report. Following the community meetings, the consultants will spend the next several months preparing the environmental report. Public hearings will then be conducted and the MTA Board of Directors will take action to select a locally preferred alternative for the project in early 2001.

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