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Metro to Hold Community Meetings To Update the Public on Harbor Subdivision Transit Corridor Project

Metro will hold five community meetings in late April and early May to provide an update as part of their Alternative Analysis Study (AA) for the Harbor Subdivision Transit Corridor. The study, launched in September 2008, is examining potential transit service along the Metro-owned Harbor Subdivision.

The Harbor Subdivision is a freight rail corridor, approximately 26 miles in length that traverses southwest Los Angeles County from Vernon to Wilmington. In the early 1990's, Metro purchased the portion of the corridor between Redondo Junction and Watson Yard, along with several other rail rights-of-way, to further the development of the region's rapid transit system.

The AA is evaluating a broad range of alternatives including Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) with dedicated bus lanes, various types of rail technology such as Light Rail Transit (LRT), as well as "no-build" and Transportation Systems Management improvements. Though alternatives will generally follow the Harbor Subdivision corridor, potential alignment and improvement options outside the immediate Harbor Subdivision right-of-way are also being studied. In addition, the analysis will examine potential financing mechanisms outside the traditional funding sources commonly used for constructing and operating transit service.

The study area encompasses approximately 26 corridor miles including the jurisdictions of Huntington Park, Vernon, City of Los Angeles, Hawthorne, Inglewood, El Segundo, Lawndale, Torrance, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, Carson, Los Angeles County, Long Beach and the port areas of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Together with the planned Crenshaw Transit Corridor, the Harbor Subdivision would establish a north-south transit link connecting the downtown Los Angeles area to LAX and potential South Bay area destinations.

The study's goals include improving mobility in southwestern Los Angeles County by introducing reliable, high-frequency transit service options, enhancing the regional transit network by interconnecting existing and planned rapid transit lines, providing an alternative mode of transportation for commuters currently using the congested I-405 and I-110 corridors, improving transit accessibility for residents of underserved communities along the corridor and encouraging a mode shift to transit, reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

At the conclusion of the AA, Metro staff will recommend a course of action to the Metro Board, including possibly proceeding with an environmental document consistent with both federal and state requirements.

Public involvement is critical to the success of the Harbor Subdivision Transit Corridor project. Metro encourages the public to attend at least one of the meetings listed below to learn more about the Harbor Subdivision Transit Corridor Study and provide Metro with your feedback and/or suggestions.

- Tuesday, April 21, 2009 (6 p.m.) -- Boys and Girls Club of the Los Angeles Harbor, 100 W. 5th Street, San Pedro
- Wednesday, April 22, 2009 (6 p.m.) -- Redondo Beach Main Library, 303 Pacific Coast Highway, Redondo Beach
- Monday, April 27, 2009 (6 p.m.) -- Inglewood City Hall, Community Room, One Manchester Blvd., Inglewood
- Thursday, April 30, 2009 (11:30 a.m.) Metropolitan Water District, Room 2145, 700 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles
- Saturday, May 2, 2009 (10 a.m.) Augustus Hawkins Nature Park, 5790 Compton Ave., Los Angeles

Content presented at each meeting will be identical so the public can attend at the time and location most convenient to them. The public also can call (213) 922-4004 and leave a voice message or visit www.metro.net for additional information

Metro-040

Editors Note: "Metro" should be used when referring to this agency.