



Contents

S. Executive Summary ES-1

S.1	Introduction.....	ES-1
S.2	Purpose of this Study.....	ES-3
S.3	Background	ES-6
S.4	Purpose and Need for Transit Investment.....	ES-10
S.5	Community Input Process	ES-30
S.6	Alternatives Identification and Evaluation Methodology	ES-31
S.7	Alternative Recommendations	ES-40
S.8	Transportation Impacts & Benefits	ES-54
S.9	Environmental Impacts & Benefits	ES-63
S.10	Financial Analysis.....	ES-71
S.11	Issues to be Resolved	ES-72
S.12	Conclusion.....	ES-74

1.0 Overview of Purpose & Need 1-1

1.1	Introduction.....	1-1
1.2	History and Background	1-3
1.2.1	Location	1-3
1.2.2	Study Area History	1-3
1.3	Past Studies.....	1-4
1.4	Study Area Demographics	1-7
1.5	Transportation Facilities and Services	1-18
1.5.1	Regional Transit Context.....	1-18
1.5.2	Transportation Facilities and Services in the Study Area	1-19
1.5.2.1	Metro Rail	1-19
1.5.2.2	Metro Bus.....	1-22
1.5.2.3	Commuter Rail	1-24
1.6	Performance of the Travel System.....	1-24
1.6.1	Traffic Volumes and Operating Conditions	1-25
1.6.2	Transit Operating Conditions.....	1-37
1.6.3	Regional Objectives	1-49
1.7	Project Purpose	1-51
1.8	Major Themes Supporting Transit Needs in the Study Area	1-51
1.8.1	Need for Transit Improvements Based on Current and Future Transit Conditions	1-51
1.8.2	Transit Usage	1-53
1.8.3	Regional Population and Employment Growth	1-54
1.8.4	Significant Transit Dependent Populations in the Study Area	1-62



1.8.5	Population and Employment Densities	1-75
1.8.6	Travel Demand Justifies the Need for Transit Services	1-80
1.8.7	Local Land Use Policies and Guidelines that Support Transit	1-82
1.9	Potential Transit Markets.....	1-83
1.9.1	Activity Centers and Destinations	1-83
1.9.2	Local Redevelopment Plans and Transit Improvements	1-88
1.9.3	Air Quality and Environmental Sustainability	1-90
1.9.4	Travel Demand and Patterns	1-90
1.9.5	Summary of Travel Markets.....	1-91
1.10	Goals and Objectives	1-94
1.11	Role of this Alternatives Analysis Study	1-95

2.0 Alternatives Considered 2-1

2.1	Screened and Selection Process.....	2-1
2.1.1	Previous Studies.....	2-4
2.1.2	MTA/ FTA Scoping.....	2-4
2.1.3	Screening Criteria	2-4
2.1.4	Evaluation Criteria Development.....	2-6
2.2	Screening and Selection Process.....	2-15
2.3	Definition of Alternatives for further Study.....	2-42
2.3.1	No Build	2-42
2.3.2	Transportation System Management.....	2-46
2.3.3	At-Grade Emphasis LRT Alternative (Option A & B)	2-52
2.3.4	Underground Emphasis LRT Alternative.....	2-78
2.3.5	Station Locations	2-90
2.3.5.1	Underground Station on Flower St.....	2-90
2.3.5.2	At-Grade Station on Flower St.	2-91
2.3.5.3	Grand Avenue Station.....	2-92
2.3.5.4	Split Station (City Hall)	2-92
2.3.5.5	Underground Station on 2 nd St.....	2-93
2.3.5.6	Optional Station on 2 nd St	2-94

3.0 Transportation Issues and Analysis 3-1

3.1	Introduction.....	3-1
3.2	Transit Analysis	3-1
3.2.1	Existing Service.....	3-2
3.2.2	No Build Alternative.....	3-5
3.2.3	Transportation System Management (TSM) Alternative	3-6
3.2.4	At-Grade Emphasis LRT Alternative	3-7



	3.2.5 Underground Emphasis LRT Alternative.....	3-7
	3.2.6 Ridership	3-8
3.3	Roadway Analysis	3-10
	3.3.1 Parking Evaluation	3-21
3.4	Summary of Transportation Analysis	3-22
3.5	Conclusions.....	3-24

4.0 Affected Environment and Environmental Issues 4-1

4.1	Introduction.....	4-1
4.2	Land-Use and Economic Development.....	4-1
	4.2.1 Affected Environment	4-2
	4.2.1.1 Regulatory Framework	4-2
	4.2.1.2 Existing Conditions	4-4
	4.2.2 Evaluation Methodology	4-6
	4.2.3 Environmental Issues	4-7
4.3	Displacement and Relocation of Existing Uses	4-8
	4.3.1 Affected Environment	4-8
	4.3.1.1 Regulatory Framework	4-8
	4.3.1.2 Existing Conditions	4-8
	4.3.2 Evaluation Methodology	4-9
	4.3.3 Environmental Issues	4-10
4.4	Community and Neighborhood Impacts	4-10
	4.4.1 Affected Environment	4-11
	4.4.1.1 Existing Conditions	4-11
	4.4.1.2 Transit – Relevant Demographic Characteristics	4-13
	4.4.2 Evaluation Methodology	4-15
	4.4.3 Environmental Issues	4-15
4.5	Visual and Aesthetic Impacts	4-16
	4.5.1 Affected Environment	4-16
	4.5.1.1 Regulatory Framework	4-16
	4.5.1.2 Existing Conditions	4-16
	4.5.1.3 Potential Impacts	4-17
	4.5.2 Evaluation Methodology	4-22
	4.5.3 Environmental Issues	4-23
4.6	Air Quality Impacts	4-25
	4.6.1 Affected Environment	4-25
	4.6.1.1 Regulatory Framework	4-25
	4.6.1.2 Existing Conditions	4-28
	4.6.2 Evaluation Methodology	4-29
	4.6.3 Environmental Issues	4-29
4.7	Noise and Vibration	4-30



4.7.1	Affected Environment	4-30
4.7.1.1	Regulatory Framework	4-30
4.7.1.2	Existing Conditions	4-31
4.7.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-32
4.7.3	Environmental Issues	4-33
4.8	Ecosystems/Biological Resources	4-34
4.8.1	Affected Environment	4-34
4.8.1.1	Regulatory Framework	4-34
4.8.1.2	Existing Conditions	4-35
4.8.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-36
4.8.3	Environmental Issues	4-36
4.9	Geotechnical: Subsurface and Hazardous	4-36
4.9.1	Affected Environment	4-36
4.9.1.1	Geology and Subsurface Conditions- Geologic Features and Soils	4-36
4.9.1.2	Hazardous Materials	4-42
4.9.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-46
4.9.3	Environmental Issues	4-46
4.9.3.1	Geology and Subsurface Conditions	4-46
4.9.3.2	Hazardous Materials	4-47
4.10	Water Resources	4-47
4.10.1	Affected Environment	4-47
4.10.1.1	Regulatory Framework	4-47
4.10.1.2	Existing Conditions	4-49
4.10.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-51
4.10.3	Environmental Issues	4-51
4.11	Energy	4-53
4.11.1	Affected Environment	4-53
4.11.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-54
4.11.3	Environmental Issues	4-54
4.12	Historic, Archeological & Paleontological Resources	4-54
4.12.1	Affected Environment	4-55
4.12.1.1	Regulatory Framework	4-55
4.12.1.2	Existing Conditions	4-58
4.12.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-76
4.12.3	Environmental Issues	4-76
4.12.3.1	Construction	4-76
4.12.3.2	Operation	4-77
4.12.3.3	Paleontological Resources	4-78
4.13	Parklands and Other Community Facilities	4-79
4.13.1	Affected Environment	4-80
4.13.1.1	Regulatory Framework	4-80
4.13.1.2	Existing Conditions	4-80

4.13.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-82
4.13.3	Environmental Issues	4-82
4.14	Economic & Fiscal Impacts	4-84
4.14.1	Affected Environment	4-84
4.14.1.1	Existing Conditions	4-84
4.14.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-85
4.14.3	Environmental Issues	4-86
4.14.3.1	Tax Revenue Impacts	4-86
4.14.3.2	Construction – Related Economic Impacts	4-88
4.14.3.3	Constriction – Related Employment	4-97
4.14.3.4	Construction Spending on the Regional Economy	4-97
4.15	Safety & Security	4-98
4.15.1	Affected Environment	4-98
4.15.1.1	Existing Conditions	4-99
4.15.1.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-100
4.15.3	Environmental Issues	4-101
4.15.3.1	Pedestrian Safety	4-101
4.15.3.2	Motorist Safety	4-102
4.15.3.3	Security	4-103
4.16	Construction Impacts	4-104
4.16.1	Affected Environment	4-105
4.16.1.1	Construction Methods	4-105
4.16.1.2	General Construction Scenario.....	4-106
4.16.1.3	Regulatory Framework	4-107
4.16.1.4	Existing Conditions	4-107
4.16.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-108
4.16.3	Environmental Issues	4-109
4.17	Growth – Inducing Impacts.....	4-110
4.17.1	Affected Environment	4-110
4.17.1.1	Regulatory Framework	4-110
4.17.1.2	Existing Conditions	4-111
4.17.1.3	Regional Growth Projections	4-113
4.17.1.4	PSA Growth Projections.....	4-113
4.17.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-114
4.17.3	Environmental Issues	4-114
4.18	Environmental Justice	4-115
4.18.1	Affected Environment	4-115
4.18.1.1	Regulatory Framework	4-115
4.18.1.2	Existing Conditions – Sociodemographic Characteristics.....	4-116
4.18.1.3	Public Participation	4-128
4.18.1.4	Project Alignment Alternatives Screening Process	4-129
4.18.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-130

4.18.3	Environmental Issues	4-130
4.19	Major Utilities.....	4-131
4.19.1	Affected Environment	4-131
4.19.2	Evaluation Methodology	4-132
4.19.3	Environmental Issues	4-132
4.20	Summary of Environmental Issues	4-136

5.0 Financial Analysis 5-1

5.1	Introduction.....	5-1
5.1.1	Background	5-2
5.1.2	Status of the Regional Connector Transit Corridor in Existing Long Range Financial Plans.....	5-2
5.1.3	Description of the Alternatives	5-2
5.2	Capitol Costs	5-6
5.2.1	Capital Costs of the Alternatives	5-6
5.2.2	Year of Expenditure Cost Analysis	5-10
5.3	Potential Capital Revenue Sources	5-12
5.3.1	Conceptually Proposed Funding Sources	5-13
5.3.1.1	Conceptually Proposed Federal Sources	5-13
5.3.1.2	Conceptually Proposed Local/State Funding Sources.....	5-15
5.3.2	Other Potential Funding Sources	5-17
5.3.2.1	Potential State Source.....	5-17
5.3.3	Potential Financing Strategies	5-22
5.4	Operations and Maintenance (O & M) Costs and Revenues	5-23
5.4.1	O & M Costs.....	5-23
5.4.2	O & M Revenue Sources.....	5-25
5.4.2.1	Farebox Revenues and Farebox Recovery.....	5-25
5.4.2.2	Operating Support from Metro	2-25
5.5	Summary of Findings.....	5-26

6.0 Community Outreach and Public Involvement 6-1

6.1	Understanding of Public Outreach Challenges and Opportunities	6-1
6.1.2	Community Outreach and Public Involvement Program	6-1
6.1.3	Stakeholder Identification and Database Development.....	6-2
6.2	Public Meetings.....	6-2
6.2.1	Early Scoping Meetings	6-2
6.2.2	Agency Early Scoping Meeting	6-4
6.2.3	Public Early Scoping Meetings	6-4
6.2.3.1	Overview of Comments Received.....	6-5
6.3	Community Update Meeting Series #1	6-7

6.4.1	Overview of Comments Received.....	6-9
6.4	Community Update Meeting Series #2	6-10
6.4.1	Overview of Comments Received.....	6-11
6.5	Additional Meetings.....	6-12
6.5.1	Additional Stakeholder Outreach Meetings.....	6-12
6.5.1.1	Little Tokyo	6-13
6.5.1.2	Bringing Back Broadway	6-14
6.6	Collateral Materials	6-19
6.6.1	Meeting Notices.....	6-19
6.6.2	Fact Sheets	6-20
6.6.3	FAQs.....	6-20
6.6.4	Project Website	6-20
6.6.5	Project Information Line.....	6-20
6.6.6	Media Relations (Print & Broadcast)	6-20
6.6.7	New Media	6-21

7.0 Comparative Analysis of Alternatives..... 7-1

7.1	Introduction	7-1
7.2	Approach	7-1
7.3	Goal 1: Support Community Planning Efforts	7-3
7.3.1	Initial Screening Criteria	7-3
7.3.2	Final Screening Criteria.....	7-5
7.4	Goal 2: Support Public Involvement and Community.....	7-6
7.4.1	Initial Screening Criteria	7-7
7.4.2	Final Screening Criteria.....	7-9
7.5	Goal 3: Improve Mobility and Accessibility both Locally and Regionally.....	7-11
7.5.1	Initial Screening Criteria	7-11
7.5.2	Final Screening Criteria.....	7-14
7.6	Goal 4: Support Efforts to Improve Environmental Quality.....	7-17
7.6.1	Initial Screening Criteria	7-17
7.6.2	Final Screening Criteria.....	7-18
7.7	Goal 5: Provide a Cost Effective Alternative Transportation System	7-20
7.7.1	Initial Screening Criteria	7-20
7.7.2	Final Screening Criteria.....	7-21
7.8	Goal 6: Achieve a financially Feasible Project	7-21
7.8.1	Initial Screening Criteria`	7-21
7.8.2	Final Screening Criteria.....	7-23
7.9	Goal 7: Provide a Safe and Secure Alternative Transportation System	7-23
7.9.1	Initial Screening Criteria	7-24
7.9.2	Final Screening Criteria.....	7-25
7.10	Summary of Recommendations	7-26
7.11	Tradeoffs Between Alternatives	7-27



Appendices

Appendix A References

Appendix B Transit Lines Serving the Project Study Area

Appendix C Bus Lines Serving both Union Station and 7th St./Metro Center Station

Appendix D Acronyms

Appendix E List of Preparers