



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

DATE: January 26, 2023

TO: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Notice of Completion (NOC) and Availability (NOA) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

PROJECT TITLE: C Line (Green) Extension to Torrance Project

SCH NUMBER: 2021010269

FROM: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), as Lead Agency, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the C Line (Green) Extension to Torrance Project. This notice provides the public, responsible agencies, and other interested parties with a summary of the Proposed Project and Options, and information regarding the availability of the Draft EIR.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Metro proposes to implement a light rail transit Project that would extend the C Line (Green) from the existing Redondo Beach (Marine) Station to the Torrance Transit Center. The Draft EIR evaluates the Proposed Project, which would be an elevated/at-grade alignment within the existing Metro-owned right-of-way (ROW) for the entire 4.5-mile length. Two options are considered for the northern segment of the Project area between the Redondo Beach (Marine) Station and 190th Street: 1) Trench Option, which travels along the Metro ROW with the light rail located within a below grade trench, and 2) Hawthorne Option, with the light rail in an elevated configuration traveling parallel to the I-405 Freeway and within the median of Hawthorne Boulevard.

All three alignments are evaluated at an equal level in the Draft EIR. For the purposes of CEQA, Metro must define one of the three alignments as the Proposed Project. This term does not, however, convey any preference or recommendation. Metro staff will prepare a recommendation in Spring 2023 based on findings from the Draft EIR, public comments made during the comment period, technical analysis, stakeholder input, and other factors such as cost, ridership and project objectives.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES: This extension will provide an alternative to the busy I-405 corridor and expand access to the region by connecting to the existing Metro Rail K (Crenshaw/LAX), J (Silver) and A (Blue) Lines. Objectives of the Proposed Project include:

- Improve mobility in the South Bay and encourage a mode shift by introducing frequent, reliable transit service to meet growing transportation needs.
- Provide more equitable access to regional destinations by improving connection to the Metro rail network.
- Avoid and minimize environmental impacts.
- Provide a cost effective project.
- Reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions by making transit a more viable transportation choice.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: The Draft EIR describes the Project design, construction, and operations and includes an assessment of each environmental topic identified in the CEQA Guidelines. The document analyzes existing conditions and potential environment impacts for the following key impact areas: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise and Vibration, Public Services and Recreation, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, and Utilities and Service Systems.

The Draft EIR will identify mitigation measures to avoid or reduce potential significant impacts if found. As described in the Draft EIR, the Project would have significant and unavoidable impacts related to air quality, noise, and vibration.

OTHER PROJECT INFORMATION: Metro will publish other project information of interest to the public on the project website at metro.net/clineext, including: summaries of public outreach events and comments, ridership information, cost estimates, frequently asked questions, and information related to real estate needs, traffic, and parking.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: January 26, 2023 to March 27, 2023

PUBLIC HEARING: Metro will conduct a series of public hearings to take testimony on the Draft EIR during the 61-day public review and comment period. The public review period was extended to allow the public sufficient opportunity to comment on the project and Draft EIR due to holidays and weekends. The Draft EIR and public hearing information may be viewed at metro.net/clineext. Live presentations with opportunities for public comment may be seen at the following dates and times. During the first hour of the meeting, Metro will host an open house to answer questions. This will be followed by presentation and public comment.

Wednesday, February 15, 5:30-8:30pm
Lawndale High School
Centinela Valley Center for the Arts
14901 S Inglewood Av Lawndale, CA 90260

Thursday, February 16, 11am–1pm
Zoom link: bit.ly/cletdeirmtg
Phone: 833.548.0282 (toll free)
Meeting ID: 895 3678 6223

Tuesday, February 21, 5–8pm
Torrance Cultural Arts Center Toyota Meeting Hall
3330 Civic Center Dr Torrance, CA 90503

Wednesday, February 22, 5–8pm
Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center
1935 Manhattan Beach Bl Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Saturday, February 25, 10am–1pm
Lawndale High School
Centinela Valley Center for the Arts
14901 S Inglewood Av Lawndale, CA 90260

Visit the Project StoryMap to access additional information at bit.ly/cletstory.

In person public hearings are subject to change and may be held virtually based on changing COVID-19 health guidelines. All Metro meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities. Spanish translation provided. Other ADA accommodations and translations available by calling 323.466.3876 at least 72 hours in advance.

COMMENTS: Comments on the Draft EIR may be submitted during the comment period in writing or orally during the public hearing. Written comments must be sent to the address below or submitted via email at greenlineextension@metro.net. Comments can also be provided by phone at the project hotline at 213.922.4004.

- Georgia Sheridan, Project Manager
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop: 99-22-3
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Email: greenlineextension@metro.net

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The Draft EIR is available for review at the website, metro.net/clineext, on the USB memory card accompanying this letter and at the following locations:

- Lawndale Library (14615 Burin Av, Lawndale, CA 90260)
- Redondo Beach North Library (2000 Artesia Bl, Redondo Beach, CA 90278)
- North Torrance Library (3604 Artesia Bl, Torrance, CA 90504)
- Katy Geissert Civic Center Library (3301 Torrance Bl, Torrance, CA 90503)
- Metro Headquarters Library (One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012) by appointment only. Please email library@metro.net to schedule an appointment.

ADA REQUIREMENTS: Upon request, sign language interpretation, materials in alternative formats, and other accommodations are available to the public for Metro-sponsored meetings and events. All requests for reasonable accommodations, interpretation services, and materials in other languages must be made at least three working days (72 hours) prior to the scheduled

meeting date. Please submit requests by calling (323) 466-3876 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Our TDD line is (800) 252-9040. Individuals with hearing or speech impairment may use California Relay Service 711 + Metro phone number.

Figure 1: Proposed Project and Options

