



Arroyo Verdugo Communities Joint Powers Authority

DATE: February 3, 2022

TO: Governing Board

FROM: David Kriske, AVCJPA Representative, Metro Technical Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: Metro Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Update

BACKGROUND:

The Metro TAC meets monthly to provide input on Metro programs and projects, and to hear updates on various Metro programs that affect the cities, subregions, and Councils of Government in Los Angeles County. The following summarizes the major projects or programs recently discussed at TAC.

DISCUSSION

Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project Update

Metro staff provided an update on the Sepulveda Corridor Project, would provide a high-quality transit service between the San Fernando Valley and the Westside and connect the G (Orange), D (Purple), E (Expo), and East San Fernando Valley (ESFV) lines and Metrolink commuter rail. Metro has initiated the environmental review of various project alternatives:

- Alternative 1: I-405 monorail between Metrolink Ventura Line, G Line and E line with electric bus connection to UCLA
- Alternative 2: I-405 monorail between Metrolink Ventura Line, G Line and E line with people mover connection to UCLA
- Alternative 3: I-405 monorail between Metrolink Ventura Line, G Line and E line with underground alignment between Getty Center and Wilshire
- Alternative 4: Heavy Rail between Metrolink Ventura Line, G Line and E line with underground alignment south of Ventura Bl and aerial alignment generally along Sepulveda Bl in the San Fernando Valley.
- Alternative 5: Heavy Rail between Metrolink Ventura Line, G Line and E line with underground alignment including along Sepulveda Bl in the San Fernando Valley
- Alternative 6: Heavy Rail between Metrolink Ventura Line, G Line and E line with entirely underground alignment including along Van Nuys Bl in the San Fernando Valley and southern terminus station on Bundy Dr

The environmental review scoping period will run until February 11, 2022. The purpose of the scoping period is for Metro to seek feedback from the public about alternatives being considered, other alternatives that should be evaluated, issues and concerns with the project plans, and questions that should be answered as part of the Environmental Impact Report. The project's opening date is expected to be 2035.

Link US Project Update

Metro Regional Rail staff provided an update on the Link US project, which will modernize Union Station to add capacity, improve Metrolink and Amtrak service, and prepare for eventual High Speed Rail service. Link US has two phases. Phase A (funded) will construct a run-through bridge structure over the SR 101 freeway and allow trains from Orange County and San Bernardino to proceed directly to Ventura and Lancaster without backing into the station. Phase A (unfunded) will modernize the entire station and includes raising the rail yard and adding new platforms and tracks, new stairs, escalators and elevators, new bridges over Cesar Chavez Av and Vignes St, and constructing the High Speed Rail run-through tracks and platforms. The goal is to complete Phase A prior to the 2028 Olympics. The Final EIR was completed in Fall 2021 and the Metro Board will approve the Locally Preferred Alternative in Fall 2022. Metro is proposing to implement a Construction Manager /General Contractor (CMGC) project delivery approach, which would involve a single contractor designing and constructing the station.

Vermont Transit Corridor South Bay Extension Study

Metro updated TAC on a study to extend the Vermont Transit Corridor southward to the South Bay. The Study will be evaluating the 10-mile long "Vermont South" corridor which serves key destinations and employment centers and is served by three transit providers including GTrans, Metro, and Torrance Transit. Metro is evaluating side-running and center-running BRT Options, along with surface/elevated light rail and subterranean heavy rail alignments. Staff is currently developing performance measures and identifying impacts of the alternatives, and will develop cost estimates. The study will also include an evaluation of Transit-Oriented Communities (TOC) and first/last mile (FLM) improvement opportunities. The study is expected to take approximately 12 months to complete. Early findings will be presented to Metro in Spring 2022.

J Line (Silver Line) Electrification Project

Metro plans to convert the J Line to zero emission electric vehicles as part of its zero emission vehicle transition plan, similar to what has been done to the G (Orange) Line. Metro's goal is to convert its entire fleet to electric by 2040 in conformance with State requirements. J (Silver) Line Electrification is currently underway, with 30 percent design completed for Silver line en-route and depot charging locations. Modelling is also in progress to identify best routes for option buses. The goal is to electrify the entire line by December 2022. Metro has identified challenges with electrification including reduced electric bus range, utility grid capacity limitations, cost (3.5 Billion by 2030, and the need to coordinate charging infrastructure installations with bus purchases to ensure charging infrastructure is ready for the new vehicles.

Active Transportation Program Update (ATP)

Metro discussed the ATP program and provided updates on the current grant cycle. The deadline to apply for Metro grant assistance on ATP Cycle 6 is January 20, 2022, and Metro will notify selected project sponsors on February 22, 2022. Metro's consultants will assist 25 projects with application development and review. The ATP Cycle 6 application period will open on March 17, 2022, and

applications are due by June 15, 2022. For this year's application process, No hard copies of applications will be required. Projects that align with state housing goals, propose quick-build projects, or that implement large projects included in adopted Active Transportation Plans will receive priority. The next ATP Cycle 6 workshop in LA County will be on February 28, 2022, to discuss the program and region-specific issues.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no Fiscal Impact to receive this TAC update.

RECOMMENDATION:

Note and File.