What is the Regional Connector?
The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is planning a transit link through downtown Los Angeles, less than two miles in length, between the existing Gold and Blue Line light rail systems. Metro is exploring several alternatives for this Regional Connector, including a light rail transit (LRT) extension that joins the County’s LRT lines, allowing through-service between lines and serving new downtown stations. In addition to joining the Blue and Gold lines, the Regional Connector would also enable trains to run directly between the Gold Line Eastside Extension, expected to begin operation in 2009, and the Expo Line, which will connect Downtown to Culver City by 2010.

Where We Are in the Process
Taking the input received from public meetings held in November 2007 and February 2008, the Regional Connector project team is evaluating a number of alternative routes and at least three new stations: Central Library, Bunker Hill/Music Center, and Civic Center/Historic Core/Little Tokyo West. Metro is currently refining these alternatives, and will present its recommendations to the public in the summer of 2008. Staff will present its findings to the Metro Board in fall 2008 and, with Board approval, Metro will proceed into an environmental review process for a small set of alternatives. As the study moves forward, funding options will need to be identified to implement the project.
Benefits of the Regional Connector

The Regional Connector benefits the entire region — not only Downtown.
The Regional Connector will enhance Metro Rail service by providing one continuous trip between the Pasadena Gold Line and Blue Line and between the Eastside Gold Line and Expo Line.
The Regional Connector will minimize the need for transfers, reducing one-way light rail trips across the County by 10 to 30 minutes or more.
The Regional Connector will reduce station crowding, especially at peak hours.
The Regional Connector will provide new access to Downtown and regional destinations.
The Regional Connector will increase regional mobility.

In summary!
The Regional Connector enables all Los Angeles County rail and bus transit and all intercity transit service to operate more efficiently and attract higher ridership, thus reducing roadway congestion, benefiting regional air quality and reducing the region's carbon footprint.

For more information, please visit www.metro.net/regionalconnector, call 213-922-7277 or email regionalconnector@metro.net