

Notice of Availability
For Link Union Station (Link US) Project
Draft Environmental Impact Report

Date: January 17, 2019

To: All Interested Agencies, Organizations, and Individuals

Subject: Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

Project Title: Link Union Station (Link US) Project

SCH Number: 2016051071

From: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Jeanet Owens, Senior Executive Officer, Regional Rail
One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012

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 Link Union Station (Link US) Project (proposed project). This notice provides the public, responsible agencies, and other interested parties with a summary of the proposed project, and information regarding the availability of the Draft EIR for public review.

PROJECT LOCATION: Los Angeles Union Station (LAUS) is located at 800 Alameda Street in the City of Los Angeles, California. LAUS is bounded by US-101 to the south, Alameda Street to the west, Cesar Chavez Avenue to the north, and Vignes Street to the east. The proposed project extends north, south, and east of LAUS to encompass various project elements.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project would transform LAUS from a “stub-end tracks station” into a “run-through tracks station” with a new passenger concourse that would improve the efficiency of the station and accommodate future growth and transportation demands in the region. Key components of the proposed project include: an optimized throat with one new lead track, an above-grade passenger concourse with new expanded passageway; new passenger platforms on an elevated rail yard; new run-through tracks over the US-101 freeway; new loop track; new rail communication, signals, and tracks; and modifications and safety enhancements to US-101 and local roadways. The proposed project accommodates the planned High-Speed Rail system throughout the project limits, and on shared lead tracks north of LAUS.

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: This Draft EIR has been prepared by Metro to analyze the potential significant environmental impacts of the proposed project and to identify mitigation measures that would avoid or reduce significant impacts. The Draft EIR analyzed the following issue areas: Land Use and Planning, Transportation and Traffic, Aesthetics, Air Quality and Global Climate Change, Noise and Vibration, Biological Resources, Hydrology and Water Quality, Geology and Soils, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Utilities/Service Systems and Energy Conservation, Cultural Resources, and Public Services.

The proposed project would result in significant and unavoidable impacts in the following resource areas: Transportation and Traffic, Air Quality (construction-only), Noise (construction-only), and Cultural Resources. All other impacts would be considered less than significant, or would be reduced to a level less than significant with implementation of mitigation.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SITES: The project site is located on sites listed under Government Code Section 65962.5. A total of 35 Recognized Environmental Conditions sites have been identified with a Moderate to High risk ranking that have the potential to affect the environment as a result of excavation activities associated with project-related construction.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The 45-day public review period will begin on January 17, 2019 and end on March 4, 2019.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The Draft EIR will be available on Metro’s website at www.metro.net/linkus. Electronic (CD) and paper copies of the Draft EIR may be requested from the Records Management Center, Plaza Level, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Hard copies of the Executive Summary and CD copies of the entire Draft EIR with accompanying appendices will also be available for public viewing at the following locations:

Central Library 630 W. 5th Street Los Angeles, CA 90071 (Hard copy of Executive Summary available in English and Spanish)	Chinatown Branch Library 639 N. Hill Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 (Hard copy of Executive Summary available in English, Spanish, and Chinese)	Benjamin Franklin Branch Library 2200 E. 1st Street Los Angeles, CA 90033 (Hard copy of Executive Summary available in English and Spanish)
Lincoln Heights Branch Library 2530 Workman Street Los Angeles, CA 90031 (Hard copy of Executive Summary available in English, Spanish, and Chinese)	Little Tokyo Branch Library 203 S. Los Angeles Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 (Hard copy of Executive Summary available in English, Spanish, Korean, and Japanese)	LA Union Station/Metro Library One Gateway Plaza, 15th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90012 (Hard copy of the Draft EIR and appendices available in English and hard copy of Executive Summary in English and Spanish)

PROVIDING COMMENTS: Written comments may be submitted via mail to Vincent Chio, Link US Deputy Project Manager, One Gateway Plaza, MS 99-17-2, Los Angeles, CA 90012; via email at LinkUnionStation@metro.net; or via online comment form at metro.net/linkus. If comments are provided via email, please include “Link US – Draft EIR” in the subject line, attach comments in Microsoft Word format, and include the commenter’s United States (U.S.) Postal Service mailing address. Metro will respond to these comments in the Final EIR. All public comments must be received by 5:00 PM on March 4, 2019 to ensure incorporation into the Final EIR.

PUBLIC HEARING: Metro will hold a public hearing to explain the project and the Draft EIR analysis. Comments from the public may be submitted at the public hearing via comment card or court reporter. Information regarding the public hearing is provided below.

Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: Metro Headquarters, One Gateway Plaza, Board Room, 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012

All Metro meetings are held in ADA accessible facilities. Spanish and Chinese translation will be provided. Other ADA accommodations and translations are available by calling 213.922.2524 at least 72 hours in advance.