

Westside Purple Line Extension

*Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and
Section 4(f) Evaluation
Appendix I: Notice of Availability*



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Transit
Administration

LOS ANGELES COUNTY
METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
FOR THE
WESTSIDE PURPLE LINE EXTENSION
DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
AND SECTION 4(f) EVALUATION

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) have prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SEIS) and Section 4(f) Evaluation for Section 2 of the Westside Purple Line Extension Project (Project, formerly called the Westside Subway Extension). FTA and Metro have prepared this Draft SEIS and Section 4(f) Evaluation consistent with FTA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing regulations (23 CFR 771.130). FTA serves as the federal lead agency under NEPA. As directed in the Final Decision on Motions for Summary Judgment and Ruling in Regards to Remedies (Final Decision) of the United States District Court for the Central District of California in *Beverly Hills Unified School District v. Federal Transit Administration, et al.*, CV 12-9861-GW (SSx) on August 12, 2016, the Draft SEIS and Section 4(f) Evaluation has been prepared to provide additional detail and analysis of Section 2 of the Project with a particular focus on the completeness of seismic risk information for Section 2, and the alignment between the Wilshire/Rodeo and the Century City Constellation Stations.

This notice informs interested parties and Federal, State, tribal, regional, and local government agencies of the availability of the Draft SEIS and Section 4(f) Evaluation, describe the scope of the Draft SEIS and Section 4(f) Evaluation, and invites comments on the Draft SEIS and the effects on the protected activities, features, or attributes of Section 4(f) resources.

The FTA may issue a single Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision document pursuant to Pub. L. 112-141, 126 Stat. 405, Section 1319(b) unless the FTA determines statutory criteria or practicability considerations preclude issuance of the combined document pursuant to Section 1319. In that case, FTA would issue a Final Supplemental Impact Statement followed by a supplemental to the August 2012 Record of Decision, as needed.

PROJECT BACKGROUND: The Westside Purple Line Extension Project is an approximately 9-mile heavy rail transit subway that will operate as an extension of the Metro Purple Line from its current western terminus at Wilshire/Western Station to a new western terminus near the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs (VA) Hospital. The project will have seven new stations (Wilshire/La Brea, Wilshire/Fairfax, Wilshire/La Cienega, Wilshire/Rodeo, Century City Constellation, Westwood/UCLA and Westwood/VA Hospital). Section 2 is a 2.59-mile section from Wilshire/La Cienega to Century City with two new stations at Wilshire/Rodeo and Century City Constellation.

The Westside Purple Line Extension Project will improve mobility and provide a fast, reliable, high-capacity, and environmentally sound transportation alternative for the Westside of Los Angeles. This improvement in public transit service will significantly increase east-west capacity and improve mobility by reducing transit travel times. On a county-wide level, the Project will strengthen regional access by connecting Metro bus, Metro rail, and Metrolink networks to a high-capacity transit solution serving the Study Area.

The locally preferred alternative (LPA) remains as identified in the certified 2012 Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Final EIS/EIR) and the Record of Decision (ROD) issued by FTA in August 2012 with the exception of the elimination of the crossover structure at the Wilshire/Rodeo Station and adjustments to the construction staging sites to support the Century City Station.

SCOPE OF THIS DRAFT SEIS AND 4(F) EVALUATION: This document provides additional detail and analysis of Section 2 of the Project with a particular focus on the Century City Constellation Station and the tunnel alignment between the Wilshire/Rodeo and Century City Constellation Stations with regard to the following:

- An analysis of the potential public health impacts of nitrogen oxide emissions during construction of Constellation Station and tunneling for Section 2 of the Project and, depending on the results of that analysis, an assessment of the feasibility and efficacy of mitigation measures and alternatives to address such potential impacts
- An analysis of the potential risks of soil gas migration from tunneling or other construction activities related to Section 2 of the Project, the disclosure of any information required by 40 CFR §§ 1502.22, 1502.9, and *San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace v. NRC*, 449 F.3d 1016 (9th Cir. 2006) and, depending on the results of such analysis and disclosures, an assessment of the feasibility and efficacy of mitigation measures and alternatives to address such potential risks and disclosures
- A discussion of the completeness of the available seismic risk information related to Section 2 of the Project
- A discussion of post-Draft EIS seismic and ridership studies available to the FTA and related to Section 2 of the Project
- An identification of the direct and any constructive “use” of the Beverly Hills High School campus from subway construction and operation on, beneath, or near the campus, and if construction or operation causes a “use,” an evaluation of “prudent and feasible alternatives” and “all possible planning” to minimize harm under the Department of Transportation Act § 4(f) Pub. L. No. 89-670, 80 Stat. 931, 933 (Oct. 15, 1966) (codified as amended at 23 United States Code (USC) § 138 and 49 U.S.C. § 303) (“Section 4(f)”)

In addition to addressing the topics specified above, this Draft SEIS and Section 4(f) Evaluation analyzes the relocation of construction staging activities for the Century City Constellation Station, the removal of the train cross-over at the Wilshire/Rodeo Station, and changes to land uses adjacent to the construction staging areas in Century City.

DATES: The public review and comment period for the Draft SEIS begins on June 2, 2017 and lasts for 45 days, ending on July 17, 2017. Please provide written comment to Mr. Eric Geier of Metro at One Gateway Plaza, MS 99-13-1, Los Angeles, CA 90012, or send email comments to purplelineext@metro.net. Comments must be received by 5pm on July 17, 2017.

PUBLIC MEETING: Comments may also be submitted at the public hearing which will be held on June 22, 2017 at 6:00 pm at Roxbury Park Community Center, 471 Roxbury Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

DOCUMENT LOCATIONS: The Draft SEIS and Section 4(f) Evaluation will be available for public review at the Metro Transportation Library at One Gateway Plaza, 15th floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012; and at the following public library locations:

- Beverly Hills Public Library, 444 N. Rexford Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210
- Donald Bruce Kaufman -Brentwood Library, 11820 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles 90049
- Fairfax Library, 161 S. Gardner St., Los Angeles 90036
- Felipe de Neve Library, 2820 W. Sixth St., Los Angeles 90057
- Frances H. G. Hollywood Regional Library, 1623 N. Ivar Ave., Hollywood 90028
- John C. Fremont Library, 6121 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles 90038
- Memorial Library, 4625 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles 90019
- Pio Pico Koreatown Library, 694 S. Oxford Ave., Los Angeles 90005
- Robertson Branch Library, 1719 S. Robertson Blvd, Los Angeles 90035
- Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica 90401
- West Hollywood Public Library, 715 North San Vicente, West Hollywood 90069
- West Los Angeles Regional Library, 11360 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles 90025
- Westwood Library, 1246 Glendon Ave., Los Angeles 90024
- Will & Ariel Durant Library, 7140 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles 90046
- Wilshire Library, 149 N. St. Andrews Pl., Los Angeles 90004

It will also be available on Metro's website at www.metro.net/purplelineext.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Geier, Community Relations Manager, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), One Gateway Plaza, MS 99-13-1, Los Angeles, CA 90012, phone (213) 922-4229, email geiere@metro.net; or Ms. Mary Nguyen, Environmental Protection Specialist, Los Angeles Metropolitan Office, Federal Transit Administration, Region IX, 888 South Figueroa Street, Suite 440, Los Angeles, CA 90017, phone (213) 202-3960, email mary.nguyen@dot.gov.

CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM OR OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION FROM:

Project hotline: (213) 922-6934

Project email: purplelineext@metro.net

Project website: metro.net/projects/westside

