



**Metro**

Los Angeles County  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

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**NOTICE OF PREPARATION**

**TO:** Agencies, Organizations and Interested Parties

**FROM:** Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro)  
One Gateway Plaza  
Mail Stop: 99-22-6  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report

**PROJECT TITLE:** North Hollywood to Pasadena Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Corridor Project

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) will be the Lead Agency and will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project identified below. Metro needs to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information which is germane to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. The Lead Agency and Responsible Agencies will need to use the environmental documentation prepared by Metro when considering permits or other approvals for the project.

The project description, location, and the potential environmental effects are contained in the attached materials.

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date, but not later than 45 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to Scott Hartwell, Project Manager, at the address shown above. Metro will need the name for a contact person in your agency.

Metro looks forward to working with your agency to advance this voter-approved project. Thank you.

Date June 17, 2019

Signature   
 Title Manjeet Ranu, Senior Executive Officer  
 Telephone 213-418-3157

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUN 14 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE



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## NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

**DATE:** JUNE 17, 2019

**TO:** AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INTERESTED PARTIES

**SUBJECT:** NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

**PROJECT TITLE:** NORTH HOLLYWOOD TO PASADENA BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) CORRIDOR PROJECT

**FROM:** LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (METRO)

**PROJECT LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING:** The North Hollywood to Pasadena Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Corridor (Project) would extend approximately 18 miles from the North Hollywood Metro Red/Orange Line Station on the west to Pasadena City College on the east. The proposed BRT line would connect the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys, traversing the cities and communities of North Hollywood, Burbank, Glendale, Eagle Rock, and Pasadena (see **Figure 1**). The study area includes several dense residential areas as well as many cultural, entertainment, shopping and employment centers, including the North Hollywood Arts District, Burbank Media District, Downtown Burbank, Downtown Glendale, Eagle Rock, Old Pasadena and Pasadena City College. Major freeways within the study area include Interstate 5, State Route 134, State Route 2, and Interstate 210.

**PROJECT INITIATION:** The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) has initiated a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the North Hollywood to Pasadena BRT Corridor Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Metro is the lead agency for the EIR. The Draft EIR will be prepared in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines. The purpose of this NOP is to notify all interested agencies, organizations, and individuals that Metro plans to prepare a Draft EIR, invite public participation in the EIR scoping process, and announce the public scoping meetings.

Figure 1: Proposed Project with Route Options



**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:** The proposed project would provide improved and reliable transit service to meet the mobility needs of residents, employees, and visitors who travel within the corridor. In addition to advancing the goals of Metro's Vision 2028 Strategic Plan, objectives of the proposed project include:

- Advance a premium transit service that is more competitive with auto travel.
- Improve accessibility for disadvantaged communities.
- Improve transit access to major local and regional activity and employment centers.
- Enhance connectivity to Metro and other regional transit services.
- Provide improved passenger comfort and convenience.
- Support community plans and transit-oriented community goals.

**PROJECT PURPOSE, NEED AND DESCRIPTION:** The Project is a proposed BRT line that would extend approximately 18 miles from North Hollywood to the City of Pasadena. The corridor has been identified and serves as a key regional connection between the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys. There are more than 700,000 daily trips within the study area. The corridor includes the cities of Los Angeles (North Hollywood and Eagle Rock communities), Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena. Within the corridor there are several major employment and activity centers, including the North Hollywood Arts District, Burbank Media District, Downtown Burbank, Downtown Glendale, Old Pasadena and Pasadena City College.

The corridor has a dense residential population with many cultural, entertainment, shopping, and employment areas distributed throughout. The Project would provide enhanced transit service and improve regional connectivity and mobility by implementing a number of key BRT elements, including dedicated bus lanes, enhanced stations, all-door boarding, and transit signal priority. The Draft EIR will assess a Project with route and feature options (see **Figure 1**). The Project was selected because it best meets the project objectives and achieves the highest overall benefits, including ridership potential, connectivity, transit-oriented communities (TOC) opportunities, and equity.

Generally, the proposed project would include dedicated bus lanes in areas where there is adequate existing street width between North Hollywood and the Gold Line in Pasadena, while operating in mixed traffic lanes east of the Gold Line to Pasadena City College. The configuration of dedicated bus lanes could be curb-running lanes, side-running lanes alongside existing parking and bicycle facilities, and/or median-running lanes in the center of the roadway or alongside existing roadway medians. Dedicated bus lanes may necessitate repurposing travel lanes and/or parking, as well as re-designing streets and intersections. BRT stations are significant capital investments and physical structures. The Project includes 18 to 21 potential stations; however, station locations are preliminary at this point in the planning process. More specific determinations regarding station locations are dependent upon further design development and environmental analysis. In addition to providing enhanced BRT facilities and associated stations, Metro will assess potential First/Last Mile improvements to further enhance mobility and access to proposed BRT stations.

**POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS:** The purpose of the Draft EIR is to disclose the impacts of the Project on the environment. The Draft EIR will address all environmental factors listed in Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines. These include:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture / Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology/Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Land Use / Planning
- Population / Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities / Service Systems
- Wildfire

Project design features and mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant impacts during construction and operation will be identified in the Draft EIR. More information about the project is available at [metro.net/nohopasbrt](http://metro.net/nohopasbrt)

**SCOPING MEETINGS:** Public scoping meetings to accept both written and oral comments on the scope of the Draft EIR will be held on the following dates and times:

<p><b>Tuesday, July 9, 2019</b>  <b>5:30 PM to 7:30 PM</b></p> <p>Lankershim Arts Center            5108 Lankershim Blvd            Los Angeles, CA 91601</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, July 10, 2019</b>  <b>6:00 PM to 8:00 PM</b></p> <p>Pasadena Senior Center            85 E Holly St            Pasadena, CA 91103</p>
<p><b>Saturday, July 13, 2019</b>  <b>1:00 PM to 3:00 PM</b></p> <p>Eagle Rock Plaza            2700 Colorado Blvd, Suite 236            Los Angeles, CA 90041</p>	<p><b>Monday, July 15, 2019</b>  <b>6:00 PM to 8:00 PM</b></p> <p>Buena Vista Library            300 N Buena Vista St            Burbank, CA 91505</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, July 17, 2019</b>  <b>5:30 PM to 7:30 PM</b></p> <p>Downtown Central Library            222 E Harvard St            Glendale, CA 91205</p>	

The scope of the Draft EIR, including the goals and objectives, project area, project description, and the environmental impacts to be evaluated will be presented at the public scoping meetings. All Metro meetings are held in Americans with Disability Act (ADA) compliant facilities. Spanish interpreters and/or Spanish-speaking staff will be available at all scoping meetings. Armenian translations will be provided at the scoping meeting on July 17, 2019 (Glendale). ADA accommodations and other translation requests can be made by calling (213) 922-4484 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

**COMMENT DUE DATE:** In addition to oral and written comments accepted at the scoping meetings, written comments on the scope of the Draft EIR will be accepted Monday, June 17, 2019 through Wednesday, July 31, 2019. Metro does not anticipate extending the scoping comment period. Therefore, written comments should be sent to Metro on or before Wednesday, July 31, 2019 at the postal address or e-mail address below. You may also call the North Hollywood to Pasadena BRT Corridor Project hotline number at (213) 418-3228 and leave a message.

**ADDRESS:** Please send all written comments to Scott Hartwell, Project Manager, Metro, One Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop 99-22-6, Los Angeles, CA 90012, or via email to [nohopasbrt@metro.net](mailto:nohopasbrt@metro.net).

Date June 17, 2019

Signature  
Title



Manjeet Ranu, Senior Executive Officer