

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: May 10, 2013

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections and the Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Gerry F. Miller *Gerry F. Miller* For Council File No.: 13-0002-S71
Chief Legislative Analyst Assignment No. : 13-05-0373

SUBJECT: Resolution (LaBonge-Koretz) to Support a Transit Option on Sepulveda Boulevard.

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution to include in the City's 2013-2014 Legislative Program SUPPORT for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to reopen consideration of a transit option on Sepulveda Boulevard for the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Project.

SUMMARY

Resolution (LaBonge-Koretz) was introduced May 1, 2013 seeking support from Metro to reopen consideration of a Sepulveda Boulevard option for the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Project (Project). The Project is being developed by Metro in partnership with the City of Los Angeles. In April 2013, the Transportation Committee considered a report from Department of Transportation (DOT) relative to the status of the Project. The DOT report advised that Metro conducted a Project Alternative Analysis with a total of thirty alternatives being reviewed. The following two alternatives have been recommended for further study as part of the DEIS/DEIR phase of the project:

1. Bus rapid transit (BRT) connecting the Sylmar Metrolink Station to the Metro Orange Line Van Nuys Station primarily via Van Nuys Boulevard.
2. Light rail transit (LRT) - an at grade light rail from Sylmar Metrolink Station on Van Nuys Boulevard/San Fernando Road to either the Orange Line Van Nuys Station or Ventura Boulevard.

The Resolution states that in order to provide the best transportation link, Metro should reopen the consideration of a transit option on Sepulveda Boulevard in the San Fernando Valley.

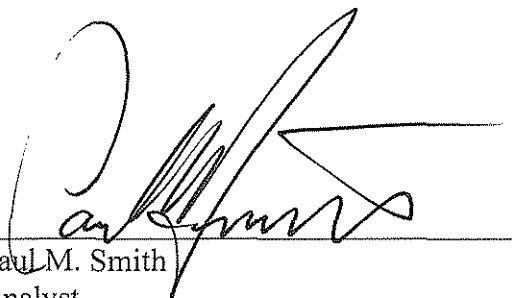
During the Transportation Committee's consideration of this matter, Metro staff indicated that it continues to coordinate the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Project with the Sepulveda Pass Project and is considering options to extend the line south to the Los Angeles International Airport.

On May 6, 2013, Councilmember LaBonge sent a letter to Metro in support of a Sepulveda-Van Nuys alignment for the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Project and requested that Metro undertake additional study for such an alignment. The letter requested that Metro address the following:

1. Developing a Van Nuys-Sepulveda Alignment, with dedicated right of way, terminating at

- Ventura Boulevard.
2. Implementing the project as light rail or light rail ready on the Van Nuys-Sepulveda alignment.
 3. Constructing the line underground just north of Ventura Boulevard and creating an underground station at Ventura and Sepulveda, which would connect to the Sepulveda Pass rail corridor, UCLA and LAX.
 4. Incorporating the 405 Freeway into the alignment as a replacement for some portion of Sepulveda Boulevard.
 5. Identification of the impacts of terminating the proposed line at Metro's Orange Line, both the subject Project as well as future efforts along the Sepulveda Corridor.

The Resolution seeks additional analysis and study of the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Project while the City continues to participate in the Project through the environmental process and other phases of development.



Paul M. Smith
Analyst

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before, a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, on April 5, 2013, the Council took an action to Note and File report by the Department of Transportation relative to the status of the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor project; and

WHEREAS, this project is being developed by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) in partnership with the City of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, Metro completed a planning study (Alternatives Analysis) for the project, which was received by the Metro Board of Directors in January 2013; and

WHEREAS, a total of thirty alternatives were screened during the Alternatives Analysis phase of the project; and

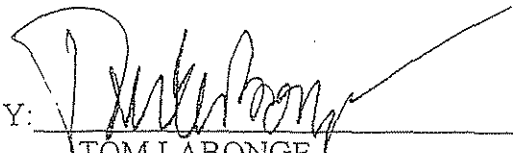
WHEREAS, the following two alternatives have been chosen for further study in the draft environmental impact statement/report (DEIS/DEIR) phase of the project:

- A bus rapid transit option connecting the Sylmar Metrolink Station to the Metro Orange Line Van Nuys Station primarily via Van Nuys Boulevard.
- An at-grade light rail alternative from the Sylmar Metrolink Station on Van Nuys Boulevard/San Fernando road to either the Orange Line Van Nuys Station or Ventura Boulevard.

WHEREAS, in order to provide the best transportation link, Metro should re-open consideration of a transit option on Sepulveda Boulevard in the San Fernando Valley;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in the 2013-14 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to re-open consideration of a transit option on Sepulveda Boulevard for the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Project.

PRESENTED BY:



TOM LABONGE

Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY:

