

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: August 26, 2019

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

FROM: Sharon M. Tso *Sharon M. Tso* Council File No.: 19-0002-S145
Chief Legislative Analyst Assignment No.: 19-08-0809

SUBJECT: Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project.

CLA RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution (Koretz - Martinez) to include in the City's 2019-2020 State Legislative Program support for administrative action by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to require the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project to include direct service to an on-campus UCLA station/Westwood Village.

SUMMARY

The Santa Monica Mountains limit transportation connections between the San Fernando Valley and West Los Angeles and requires that most people traveling between these areas be funneled primarily onto the I-405 Freeway, already ranked as one of the most traveled urban highways in the nation. More than 400,000 people travel through this area every day to commute to work, school, and other destinations along the freeway and beyond.

Funding provided through voter-approved Measure R (2008) and Measure M (2016) provides \$5.7 billion for new transit service to connect the San Fernando Valley and the Westside. Approximately \$3.8 billion of the funding is allocated to extend that service from the Westside to LAX with a 2057 opening date.

Metro is conducting a Feasibility Study to identify and evaluate a range of high-capacity rail transit alternatives between the San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles International Airport, including connections to existing and planned Metro bus and rail lines, including the Orange, Purple, and Expo Lines. To complete the project in time for the 2028 Olympics and fill an anticipated funding gap, on July 25, 2019, the Metro Board of Directors approved the use of an innovative procurement process that will invite private companies to develop proposals to build the Sepulveda Transit Corridor project.

Resolution (Koretz – Martinez) notes the importance of including direct service to an on-campus UCLA station/Westwood Village as part of the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project. It is estimated that an on-campus UCLA station on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor would be used by an estimated 18,000 to 25,000 people every day and be the busiest non-transfer station in the entire Metro Rail system. A number of alignments and station locations will be considered for the various rail alternatives. The study is to conclude in Summer/Fall 2019. Its findings will be the basis for future

environmental analysis and project refinement.



Maria Souza-Rountree
Analyst

Attachments:

1. Resolution (Koretz - Martinez)

SMT:msr

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, Measure M, approved by Los Angeles County voters in 2016, provides sales tax revenues for projects, programs, and plans to improve transportation; and

WHEREAS, among the most important and ambitious of these projects is the Sepulveda Transit Corridor, a high-speed, high-capacity fixed-guideway transit service that would operate between the San Fernando Valley and the Los Angeles International Airport, through the Westside of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is currently conducting a Transit Feasibility Study - the Alternatives Analysis phase of the planning process, which will identify and evaluate a range of fixed guideway transit project alternatives; and

WHEREAS, on July 25, 2019, the Metro Board of Directors approved the use of an innovative procurement process that will invite private companies to develop proposals to build the Sepulveda Transit Corridor project faster and for less cost; Metro staff is now developing a request for proposals that will include performance metrics for the project; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Sepulveda Transit Corridor will relieve congestion on the I-405 and provide a vital transportation link to activity centers in West Los Angeles, including, the UCLA campus, Westwood, Century City, and Beverly Hills; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that an on-campus UCLA station on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor would be used by 25,000 people every workday and be the busiest non-transfer station in the entire Metro Rail system;

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 its 2019-20 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for administrative action by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to require the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project to include a direct service to an on-campus UCLA station/Westwood Village as a connection to the Purple Line Extension subway corridor, including any proposal developed under a Public-Private Partnership/Pre-development agreement process that is currently underway by Metro.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Koretz
 PAUL KORETZ
 Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY: Mary Hurley

JUL 30 2019

msr

19-0002-5145