

MAR 04 2011

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## MOTION

The Exposition Light Rail Transit (LRT) Phase 2 Project will soon enter the design and construction stage. In the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), the adopted Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) designates an at-grade rail crossing of the LRT tracks over Sepulveda Boulevard at the Exposition Boulevard rail right-of-way in West Los Angeles. As part of the certified FEIR for the project, the Expo Board requested that a grade separated crossing and aerial station be included as part of preliminary engineering in order to analyze the cost differential between the LPA's at-grade crossing. Based on detailed preliminary engineering documents and bids submitted by the design-build contractor, the cost differential between these two options is \$5.3 million dollars.

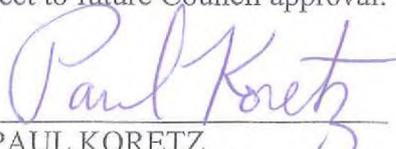
The City prefers a grade separation at this location because Sepulveda Boulevard serves as an alternate route for the I-405 Freeway and experiences periodic increases in traffic when freeway accidents occur. Dramatic increases in traffic volumes on Sepulveda Boulevard could cause extremely long traffic queues that would delay train operations on the LRT tracks. Additionally, LRT trains run more quickly and efficiently when they are separated from traffic operations on surface streets. Lastly, a grade separation would avoid the loss of 49 high demand on-street parking spaces that currently serve businesses and residences along Sepulveda Boulevard.

In order to provide the safest and most efficient grade crossing treatment at this location, it is critical that the City provide the \$5.3 million that is necessary to implement a grade separation at Sepulveda Boulevard. The West Los Angeles Improvement and Mitigation Trust Fund No. 681 is an eligible source of fund for transportation improvements and mitigations in West Los Angeles. This funding would be above the 3% local contribution for major Measure R projects that the City is setting aside for the baseline Expo Phase 2 project.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor, AUTHORIZE the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) to transfer up to \$5.3 million from the West Los Angeles Transportation Improvement and Mitigation Program (TIMP), Fund #681 into a new account within Fund #681 to fund the cost differential of the construction of a grade separation of the Exposition Light Rail Line at Sepulveda Boulevard, as shown in the project's Final Environmental Impact Report and the preliminary engineering documents, in order to provide the safest, most efficient grade crossing treatment at this location.

I FURTHER MOVE that LADOT work with the Exposition Construction Authority to develop the necessary funding agreement that identifies the terms of this commitment and a payment schedule. LADOT in consultation with the CAO shall also continue to pursue all other available funding sources for this project subject to future Council approval.

PRESENTED BY:

  
 PAUL KORETZ  
 Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District

  
 BILL ROSENDAHL  
 Councilmember, 11<sup>th</sup> District

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SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL