



Metro

Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

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**MEASURE R PROJECT DELIVERY COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 18, 2010**

**SUBJECT: HOLLYWOOD/WEST HOLLYWOOD TRANSIT CORRIDOR
CONNECTION TO CRENSHAW/LAX TRANSIT CORRIDOR
INITIAL REVIEW**

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file this report on the issues, options and costs to conduct an Initial Review of a possible Hollywood/West Hollywood Transit Corridor that would connect the Metro Red Line Hollywood/Highland Station to the Exposition/Crenshaw Station (currently under construction). Such a corridor would have the potential to provide a north/south transit connection with the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor, the South Bay Metro Green Line Extension and future potential extensions that could ultimately extend as far south as Long Beach and/or San Pedro. Attachment A shows the potential future study corridor.

ISSUE

At the October 2010 Measure R Project Delivery Committee, staff recommended the deletion of Westside Subway Extension Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) Alternatives #4 and #5 which would have extended a branch of the Metro Red/Purple Line through West Hollywood along Santa Monica Boulevard between the Hollywood/Highland Station on the Metro Red Line and Wilshire Boulevard (Attachment B). Staff indicated that other transit modes, such as light rail, may be more appropriate to serve this corridor.

The Committee requested that staff return in 30 days with a report on the issues, alignment options and costs to conduct an initial review of transit modes which could serve this corridor and connect to the Crenshaw/LAX Corridor/South Bay Metro Green Line and points south. This report provides the requested information.

DISCUSSION

The Westside Subway Draft EIS/EIR identified high ridership potential for the alternatives that would travel through West Hollywood; however, because of the high cost of heavy rail subway, the cost-effectiveness of these alternatives were not within the competitive range for New Starts federal funding grants. As a result, heavy rail subway alternatives were not recommended for implementation as part of the Westside Subway Extension. The Draft EIS/EIR however, did identify that because of the ridership potential for this corridor that other potential lower cost transit alternatives may be viable options should funding become available in the future.

Options for the Initial Review

Previous studies have been conducted as part of the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor for a future extension of that project north from Exposition Boulevard to Wilshire Boulevard (Attachment C). The Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor Wilshire/LaBrea Light Rail Extension Study (June 2009) identified possible connection points to the Westside Subway at La Brea, Fairfax, La Cienega or San Vicente with future extensions farther north to West Hollywood and Hollywood. Such an extension could operate along the same route as the heavy rail subway alternatives that were considered in the Westside Subway Draft EIS/EIR.

As shown on Attachment C, should the Hollywood/West Hollywood Line be connected to the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor, it would also provide the opportunity to connect with the Metro Green Line, the future South Bay Metro Green Line Extension and points farther south along the Harbor Subdivision Right of Way. The Harbor Subdivision Alternatives Analysis Study approved by the Board in December 2009, a precursor to the South Bay Metro Green Line Draft EIS/EIR currently being conducted, considered extensions as far south as San Pedro and Long Beach.

Should all of the above connections be considered as a possible continuous transit corridor, the total length would extend for 34-37 miles as shown on the following chart.

	Hollywood to Long Beach Transit Corridor Length by Project Segment (Assumes LRT Mode)	Phase Of Development	Length (Miles)	Cumulative Length (Miles)
1	Crenshaw/LAX Corridor	FEIS/FEIR/PE	8.5	8.5
2	South Bay Metro Green Line Extension (should Light Rail be approved)	AA/DEIS/DEIR	4.0	12.5
3	Northern Extension to Hollywood	Future	6.5-9.5	19-22
4	Southern Extension to Long Beach (Willow)	AA Study	10.0	29-32
5	Southern Branch to San Pedro	AA Study	5.0	34-37

Costs to complete an Initial Review of a Hollywood/West Hollywood Transit Corridor connection to the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor could be undertaken for approximately \$1.5 million and would take approximately 12 months to complete following notice to proceed. Such a study would evaluate conceptual alignments, station locations, connection points with existing and planned transit lines and potential ridership and costs. Since this corridor is currently included in the unfunded, strategic element of the adopted Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), no funding currently exists for the completion of this study or the implementation of this project. The South Bay Metro Green Line Extension to Long Beach and/or San Pedro is also included in the Strategic element of the adopted LRTP. Staffing is not available to complete this work. Additional staff would need to be hired to prepare a Statement of Work, procure consultant services and to conduct the Initial Review.

NEXT STEPS

We will continue to work on the environmental clearance and Preliminary Engineering for the Westside Subway and Crenshaw/LAX Corridors so that we can meet our Record Of Decision schedules. For the South Bay Metro Green Line Extension, we will continue to work on the draft environmental document.

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Renee Berlin, Executive Officer, Countywide Planning

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Potential West Hollywood to San Pedro/Long Beach Transit Corridor
- B. Westside Subway Extension Alternatives that would serve the Santa Monica Boulevard/West Hollywood Transit Corridor
- C. Possible Connections between Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor and West Hollywood/Hollywood Transit Corridor

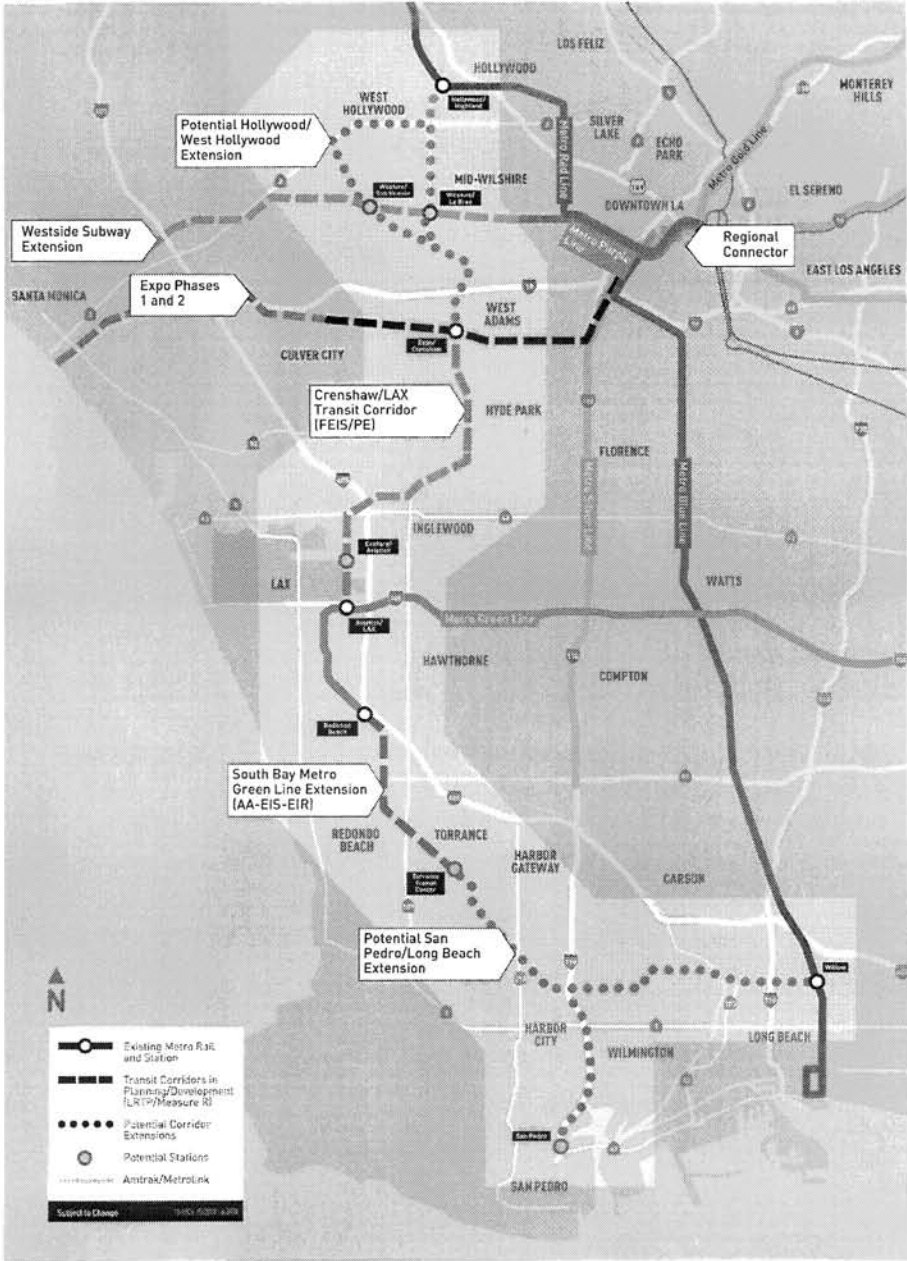


Martha Welborne, FAIA
Executive Director Countywide Planning

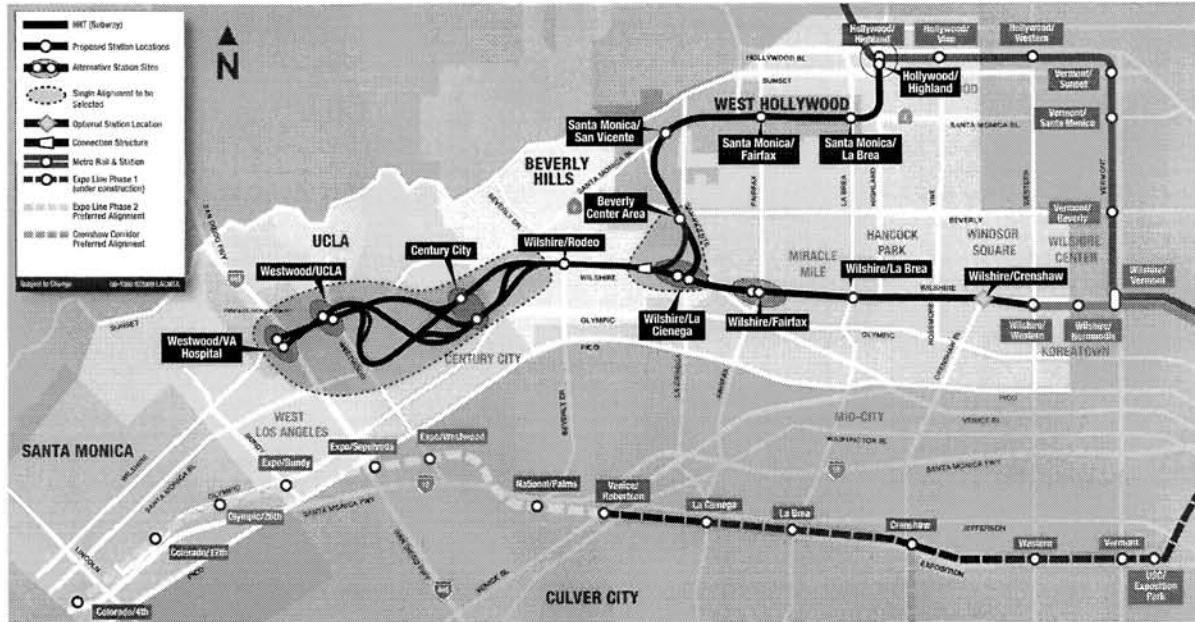


for Arthur T. Leahy
Chief Executive Officer

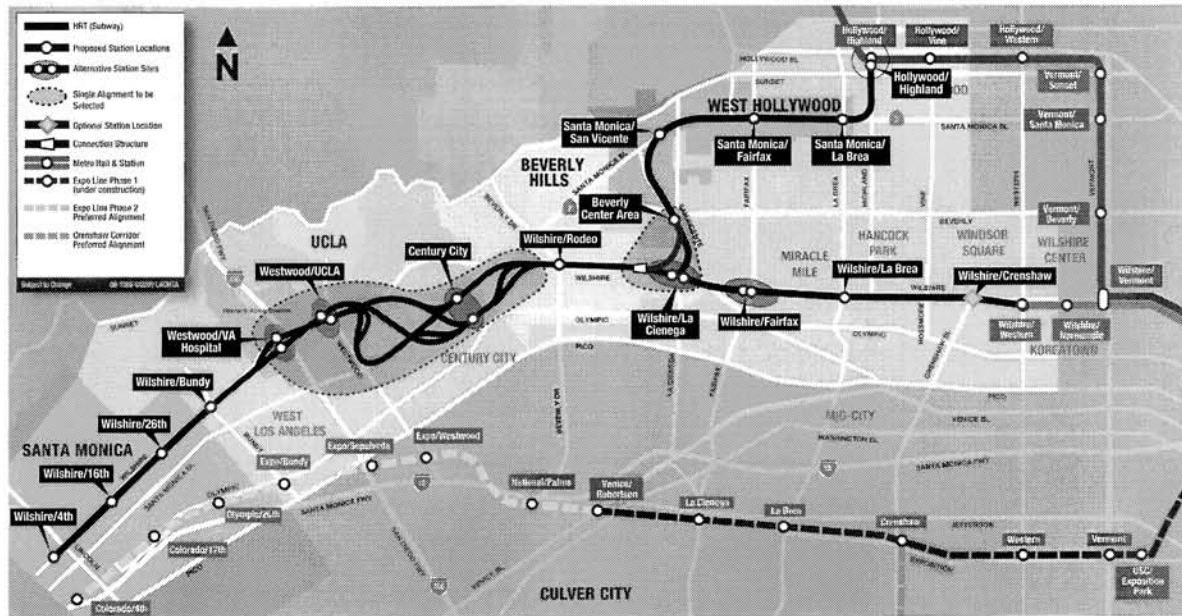
Potential West Hollywood to San Pedro/Long Beach Transit Corridor



Westside Subway Extension Alternatives that would serve the Santa Monica Boulevard/West Hollywood Transit Corridor



Alternative 4: Westwood/VA Hospital + West Hollywood Extension



Alternative 5: Santa Monica + West Hollywood Extension

Possible Connections between Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor and West Hollywood/Hollywood Transit Corridor (LRT)

