



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

213.922.2000 Tel
metro.net

NOVEMBER 2, 2016

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: PHILLIP A. WASHINGTON *PAW*
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: JAMES T. GALLAGHER *JTG*
CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

SUBJECT: EXPO SERVICE INCREASES – TRAFFIC CONGESTION

ISSUE

Since Metro opened operations of Section 2 of the Expo Line in May, ridership numbers have reached levels not anticipated until 2030. Due to the ridership growth and increased service demands, Metro increased service on the Expo Line in late October from twelve minute headways to six minute headways. As a result of this increased service, traffic congestion at some of the busier street crossings in the City of Los Angeles has increased from previous levels.

DISCUSSION

During the environmental phase of the Expo 2 project, a grade crossing study was performed for each of the street crossings in collaboration with the City of Los Angeles and the City of Santa Monica. The studies were based on the ultimate train frequency of five minute headways for projected year 2030 traffic volumes. The at-grade crossings in the City of Los Angeles are Bagley Avenue, Overland Avenue, Westwood Boulevard, Military Avenue and Barrington Avenue. Based on the Expo 2 crossing study, it was determined that at-grade crossings with traffic engineering and capacity improvements would be the most appropriate alternative. These recommendations were implemented as part of the Expo 2 Project.

To maintain the increased service and also help address the traffic concerns that have developed, Metro will be working internally and with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) staff to identify ways in which we can incorporate engineering improvements to help reduce traffic congestion through the crossings.

NEXT STEPS

Metro staff will work with LADOT to prioritize the intersections with the most critical traffic volumes and evaluate options such as traffic signal phasing to reduce congestion.