



Metro

April 8, 2014

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ARTHUR T. LEAHY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: MARTHA WELBORNE
CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER

SUBJECT: EASTSIDE TRANSIT CORRIDOR PHASE 2 STATUS

ISSUE

It is anticipated that the Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2 Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/DEIR) will be released for public review and comment summer 2014. To prepare project stakeholders for the release of the DEIS/DEIR, we will be conducting targeted outreach efforts in May.

BACKGROUND OR DISCUSSION

Throughout the DEIS/DIER phase of the Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2 project, we have coordinated closely with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the project's three Cooperating Agencies, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Army Corps of Engineers and Caltrans. All four agencies have received, reviewed and provided comment on the Administrative DEIS/DEIR. The three Cooperating Agencies have indicated that Metro has addressed their comments and are in support of releasing the DEIS/DEIR for public review and comment. We are awaiting final comments from the FTA.

As confirmed by FTA, once we have addressed their final comments, the DEIS/DEIR will be allowed to be released to the public. It is expected that this will occur this summer.

The goal of the pre-release outreach effort is to prepare project stakeholders for the release of the DEIS/DEIR. To this end, we will provide a project overview, inclusive of project history and walk through each of the alternatives being analyzed. We will also inform stakeholders of the process and timing once the DEIS/DEIR is made available for review and comment. We have confirmed meetings with the executive directors of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) and Gateway Council of Governments and will be holding a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. Lastly, we will be

presenting at each of the project City Councils. City Council presentations will be held at Commerce, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pico Rivera, Rosemead, Santa Fe Springs, South El Monte and Whittier.

Once the document is made available to the public, we will hold a 60 day public comment period. During this time we will also host an agency meeting, TAC meeting and four public hearings.

Staff is available to provide a project briefing to board staff upon request.

NEXT STEPS

Upon receiving FTA's final comments, we will address and finalize the DEIS/DEIR. Staff will also be conducting outreach to project stakeholders throughout May.