




May 14, 1999

Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA
90012-2932

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: JAMES L. de la LOZA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER 
REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: EXPOSITION RIGHT-OF-WAY REGIONAL BIKEWAY

ISSUE

The MTA, in partnership with the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), will be constructing a bikeway on the MTA-owned Exposition rail right-of-way (ROW) from Vermont Avenue to Culver City limits at Ballona Creek. To the extent possible, the bikeway will be built along the perimeter of the ROW, thus avoiding possible relocation due to future transit projects. In some locations, however, where either the ROW is narrow or the bikeway is being designed away from the edge of the ROW to avoid possible conflicts with existing leases and landscaping designs by the local community, it may be necessary to relocate the bikeway to accommodate future transit projects.

Phase I of the bikeway, from Vermont Avenue to La Brea Boulevard, is under design and scheduled to begin construction in mid-2000. Phase II, from La Brea Boulevard to the Culver City limits at Ballona Creek, is scheduled to begin construction in mid-2001. The project team has met with elected officials' staff and community organizations in the surrounding area to brief them about the project and receive feedback. These briefings will continue. The cities of Culver City and Santa Monica are in support of the project and have applied in the MTA 1999 Call for Projects for funding to extend the bikeway in their cities.

BACKGROUND

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) awarded funds for an Exposition Boulevard Right-of-Way Regional Bikeway from Vermont Avenue to the Westside in the 1994 State Transportation Improvement Program. The grant was \$4.647 million in Transportation Enhancement Activity (TEA) funds. An MTA local match of \$695,000 in Proposition C funds was approved by the MTA Board in the 1995 TIP Call for Projects. The MTA also awarded money to the LADOT in the 1995 Call for Projects to begin the design of the first phase of the bikeway.

The MTA will be transferring the sponsorship of this project to LADOT, since they are the lead agency in the City of Los Angeles responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of bikeways. The MTA will negotiate and execute Agreements with the City to utilize the TEA Grant and the MTA match.

The Exposition Boulevard Regional Bikeway is included in the August 1995 MTA Bicycle Master Plan for the Westside. The Plan recognized that the bikeway would be a combination of Class I bike paths (exclusive right-of-way for bicyclists) and Class II bike lanes (on-street striped lane in the curb lane).

NEXT STEPS or CONCLUSION

The MTA will negotiate and execute Letters of Agreement (LOA) for Phase I and Phase II of the Project with the City of Los Angeles to utilize the TEA Grant for design and construction. The MTA will also negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City to convey the MTA's local match funds. Caltrans has conducted the Field Reviews and given its Notice to Proceed to design as required by the TEA funding guidelines. Caltrans approval to proceed with construction will be required after final design is completed.

Prepared by: Lynne Goldsmith, Project Manager
Rail, Busway, Non-Motorized Planning, Station Area Development
Transportation Development & Implementation