





Metro

Faxed: 10/19/04

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ROGER SNOBLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER 

FROM: JAMES L. de la LOZA
CHIEF PLANNING OFFICER 

SUBJECT: ORANGE LINE REVISED ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

ISSUE

This is to inform the Board that the MTA expects to release the Revised Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the San Fernando Valley East-West Transit Corridor (the Metro Orange Line) for circulation and public comment during the week of October 18 to 22, 2004.

DISCUSSION

The Revised FEIR considers and analyzes three multiple-route Rapid Bus alternatives as additional alternatives to the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and Transportation Systems Management (TSM) alternatives that were evaluated by the MTA in the Final EIR. The project as approved by the MTA was the BRT together with the TSM improvements (Project).

The Revised FEIR has been prepared in accordance with the decision of the California Court of Appeal dated July 19, 2004 which found that the Final EIR should have considered multiple Rapid Bus routes as an additional alternative in response to public comments.

The California Office of Planning and Research approved a public comment period of 30 days for this Revised Final EIR. Once the public comment period has expired, MTA will evaluate and respond to the significant environmental issues raised in the comments. These comments and responses will be incorporated into the Revised FEIR.

NEXT STEPS

After the circulation period has closed and MTA has incorporated comments and responses into the document, the Revised FEIR will be presented to the MTA Board for consideration of certification and approval of the Project.