



Board Report

File #: 2024-0399, **File Type:** Informational Report

Agenda Number: 9.

PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE JULY 17, 2024

SUBJECT: COUNTYWIDE PLANNING MAJOR PROJECTS STATUS REPORT

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE Countywide Planning & Development Major Projects Status Report.

ISSUE

Countywide Planning and Development's major projects status report provides highlights of capital projects in planning phases of development. These include transit corridor projects such as rail and bus rapid transit, Measure M active transportation corridor projects, and highway projects.

BACKGROUND

Metro's mission is to provide a world-class transportation system that enhances the quality of life for all who live, work, and play within Los Angeles County. Countywide Planning and Development (CPD) oversees the planning of major capital projects to support this mission. The attached Project Status Report (Attachment A) provides an update on the planning progress of Metro's four Pillar Projects - Southeast Gateway Line, Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2, C (Green) Line Extension to Torrance, and Sepulveda Transit Corridor, as well as other transit and active transportation corridor projects.

In addition, the quarterly report includes complete streets and highway projects in various stages of development. At the request of Director Horvath, this report also includes an update from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) on safety improvement projects planned on the Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) in Malibu.

DISCUSSION

The status report provides a quarterly update on major projects as they advance through alternatives and feasibility analyses, technical analyses for environmental certification, selection of preferred projects, cost estimation and funding development, and evaluation of project delivery method. Following environmental planning milestones, projects typically transition from CPD to Program Management and are included in the Program Management Major Project Status report, which is

provided on a quarterly basis to the Metro Board's Construction Committee.

EQUITY PLATFORM

This report is provided on a regular basis and includes updates for multiple projects, including equity assessments. Equity assessments for all reports in this quarterly update were previously provided as baseline summaries which included descriptions of potential project benefits to Equity Focus Communities, and which found no unmitigated project equity impacts.

With the addition of this report's updates on safety improvement projects on the PCH, an equity assessment is provided as follows:

- The various PCH projects do not consist of any Metro Equity Need Index (MENI) or Equity Focus Community (EFC) locations. However, the projects are intended to improve the safety of all modes to better serve pedestrians, cyclists, and transit bus riders by upgrading the raised medians, turning lanes, signal timing, geometric alignments, and sidewalks. These improvements are also intended to reduce the number of vehicle collisions on PCH.

There are no updates or changes to other project equity assessments this quarter.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The development of projects included in this report supports Strategic Plan Goal #1 by delivering high-quality mobility options that enable people to spend less time traveling.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue to advance these projects through the planning phases. The next quarterly update will be provided in October 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Project Status Report

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Stephanie N. Wiggins
Chief Executive Officer

Major Capital Projects Update Countywide Planning and Development

July 17, 2024

Presented By

Allison Yoh

Deputy Chief Planning Officer
(Interim)

Michelle E. Smith

Executive Officer
Complete Streets and Highways



Transit and Active Transportation Projects



> Major Pillar Projects

- (1) Southeast Gateway Line
- (2) C Line Extension to Torrance
- (3) Sepulveda Transit Corridor
- (4) Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2

> Other Projects in Planning

- Vermont Transit Corridor
- Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor
- Los Angeles River Path
- E. San Fernando Valley Shared ROW
- K Line Northern Extension

Southeast Gateway Line



Prelim Studies

DEIR/S

LPA

FEIR/S

Cert

Pre-Constr

Award

Constr

Open

Recent Activities

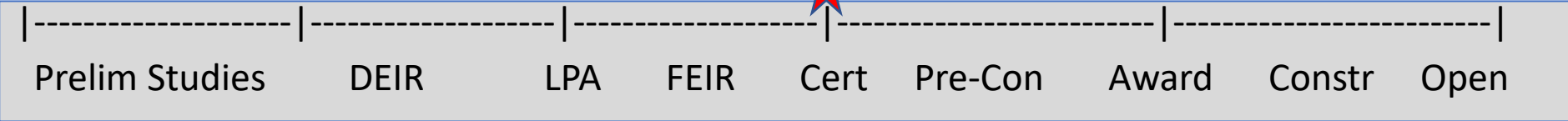
- April 2024: Board Certification of the Final EIR and approval of the project (CEQA action), Board approval of FLM Plan, Release of CMGC RFP
- June/July 2024: Release RFP for ROW consultant to the bench

Next Actions

- Continue monthly coordination with FTA Project Management Oversight Committee (PMOC)
- July 2024: Record of Decision anticipated from FTA (NEPA action)
- Summer 2024: Project Study Report/Project Report (PSR/PR) approval from Caltrans
- August 2024: Complete FTA Project Development Phase (six-month FTA review period)
- Winter 2024: Request entry into Project Engineering
- Fall/Winter 2024: Present Slauson/A Line to LAUS study findings to the Board

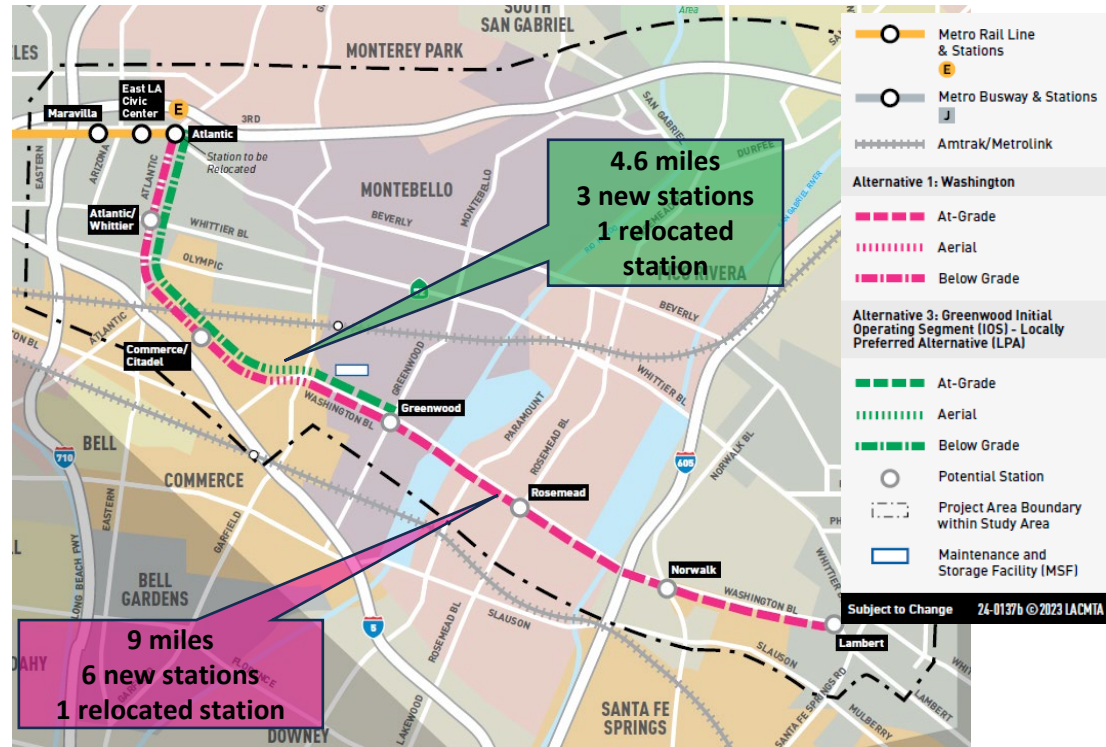


Eastside Transit Corridor Phase 2



Recent Activities

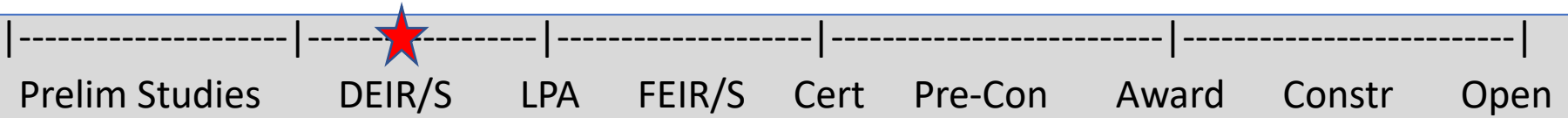
- May: Board certified Final EIR (for LPA and full project), and Project approval per CEQA
- June: Conclusion of 30-day statute of limitations for legal challenges per CEQA
- Coordinating with City of Montebello and stakeholders on MSF rightsizing
- Ongoing coordination with corridor cities on 3% contribution, first/last mile planning, co-operative agreements, geotechnical investigations and coordination with utility owners



Next Actions

- July 2024: Board action on contract modification for PE (30% design) and begin formation of corridor city manager TAC
- Summer/Fall 2024: Coordinate with FTA for entry into NEPA and scoping requirements

Sepulveda Transit Corridor



Recent Activities

- Community meetings held in May 2024 to receive input on Alternative 2
 - 1 virtual and 2 in-person in Van Nuys and Westwood
- Environmental technical analysis supporting Draft EIR, approx. 50% complete
- Development of cost and funding information

Next Actions

- Continue environmental technical studies and analysis
- Continue development of outreach plan
- Early 2025: Draft EIR release anticipated



C (Green) Line Extension to Torrance

Prelim Studies

DEIR

LPA

FEIR

Cert

Pre-Con

Award

Constr

Open

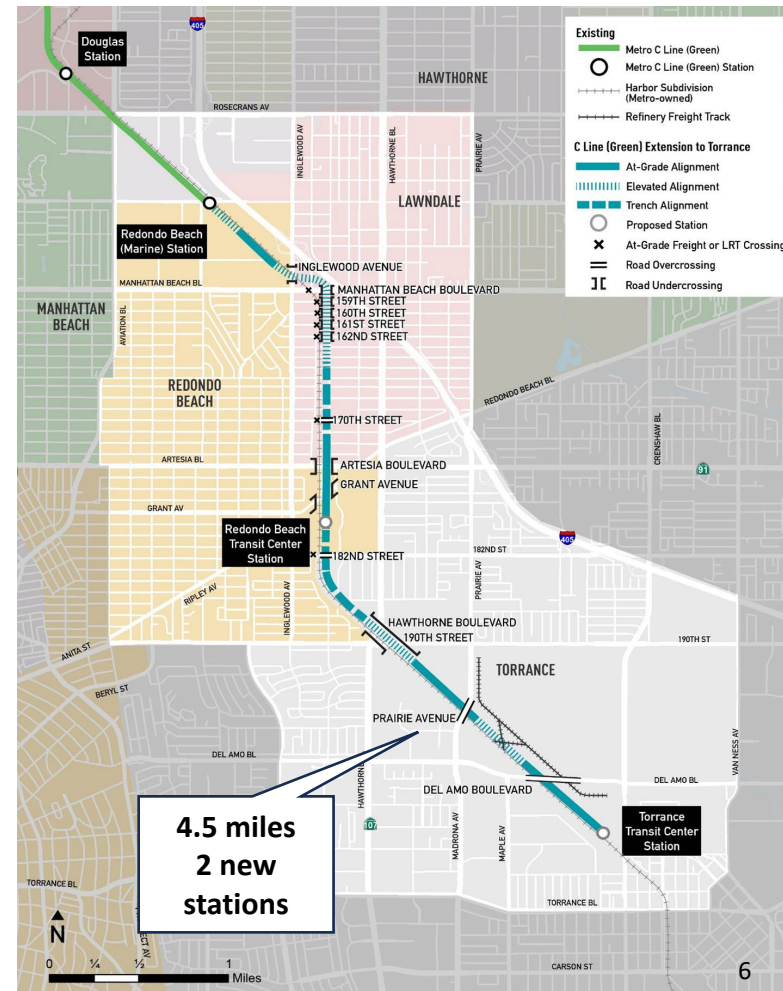


Recent Activities

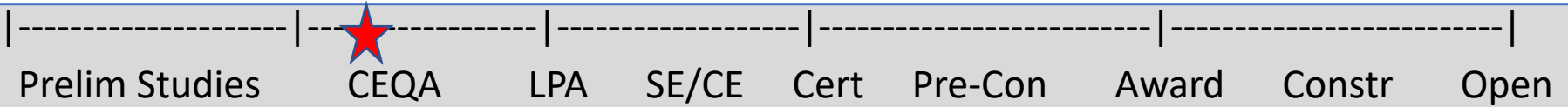
- May: Board approved Hybrid Alternative as Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) and directed staff to:
 - Prepare Final EIR under CEQA
 - Complete studies to fully respond to public comments on the ROW and Hawthorne Blvd alignments
 - Refine cost estimates and funding plan for the LPA

Next Actions

- Initiate work on responding to public comments on the ROW and Hawthorne alignments
- Re-engage BNSF on discussions on ROW



Vermont Transit Corridor



Recent Activities

- Near-term bus service improvements being led by Metro Operations (anticipated early 2025)
- May/June 2024 – Held 7 design workshops
 - Received input on BRT and station design
 - Over 600 attendees
- Meeting with elected officials, Neighborhood Councils, CBOs, and other key stakeholders on corridor
- Ongoing project coordination with both City and County of LA

Next Actions

- Preparation of materials for abbreviated CEQA review
- Fall 2024 - Develop Advanced Conceptual Engineering (ACE) drawings



Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor

Segment B

Prelim Studies

Environmental / Design

Final Design

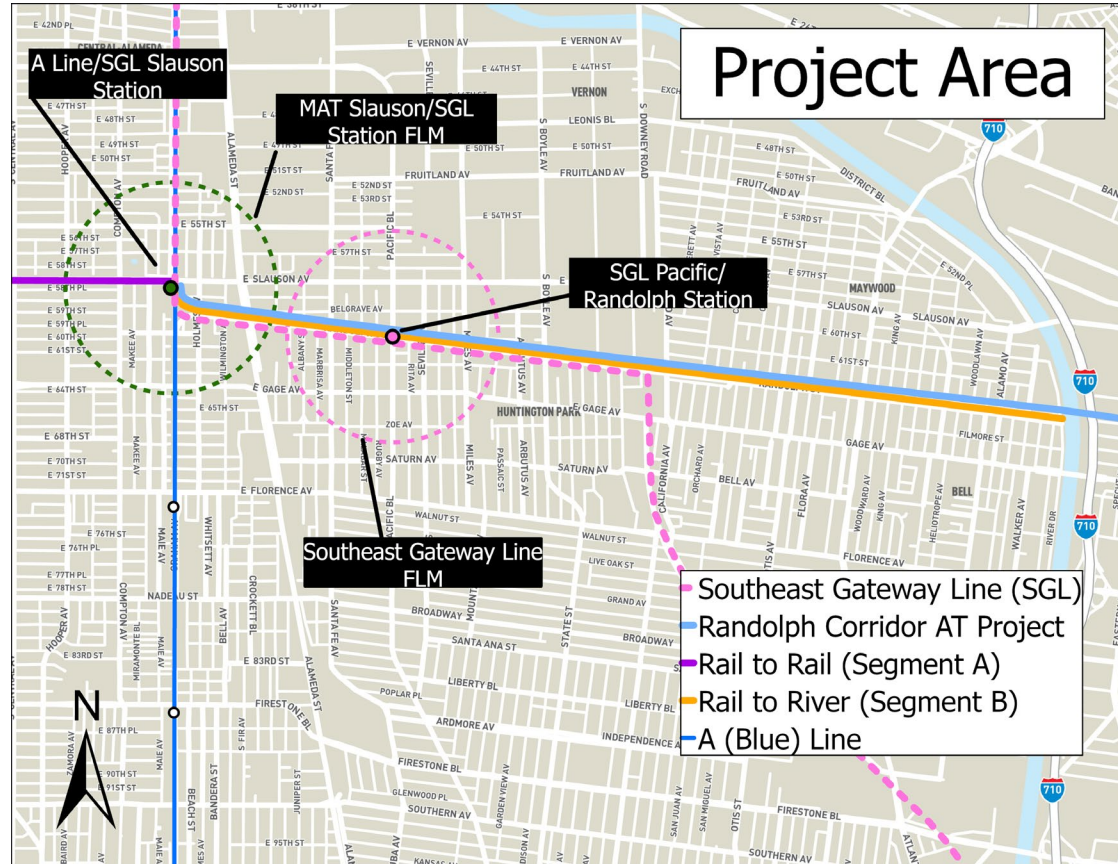
Construction

Recent Activities

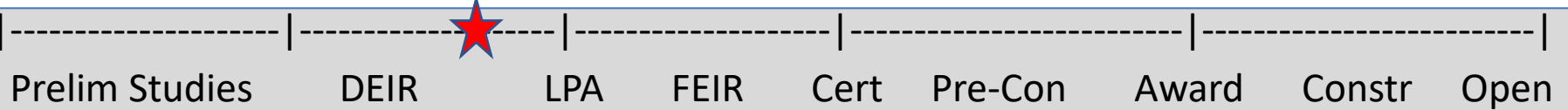
- Project coordination meetings with corridor cities/other related project teams
- Receive input from Randolph Corridor AT Project and corridor cities on proposed design concepts

Next Actions

- Continue coordination with corridor cities/other related projects
- Community meetings (Summer/Fall 2024)



Los Angeles River Path



Recent Activities

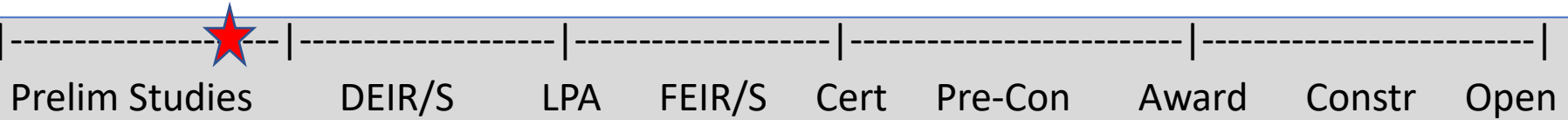
- Coordination meeting with County's Transportation and Water Resources Senior Leadership
- Executed LOA with County for project coordination
- Project Update presentation to the City of Vernon Business and Industry Commission



Next Actions

- Metro and US Army Corps Leadership Meeting in July
- Project update presentation to the LA River Cooperation Committee (LARCC) in October
- Preparation of Board Box to inform Metro Board on Project Cost, Phasing, O&M, and DEIR

East San Fernando Valley Shared ROW Study



Recent Activities

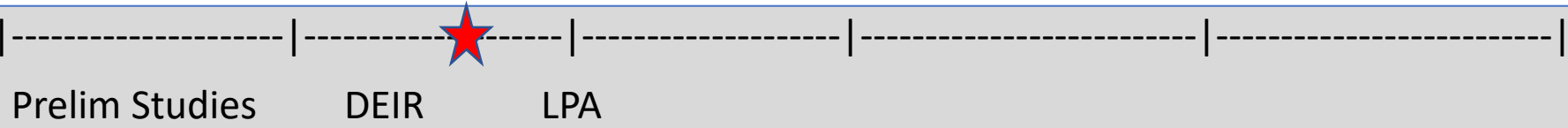
- May 20: Presentation to the City of San Fernando City Council
- Finalizing technical work on grade separation analysis
- Development of cost estimation for scenarios
- On going coordination of technical analysis with City of San Fernando, Metrolink

Next Actions

- Fall/Winter 2024: Coordinate finalization of the study report and presentation to the Board



K Line Northern Extension



Recent Activities

- Preparation of Draft EIR for public release
- Received and reviewed West Hollywood proposal for EIFD funding strategy
- Held Popup events (CicLAvia, Pride, Farmers Markets)



Next Actions

- July 23, 2024 : Release Draft EIR for public comment

Quarterly Major Projects Report

Complete Streets & Highway Projects

Presented by Michelle E. Smith
Executive Officer, Complete Streets & Highways

July 17, 2024

I-605 Corridor Improvement Project (I-605 CIP) (I-10 to I-105)

91/605/405 Hot Spots Program



Scope and Purpose/Need

- Improve safety, operations, and person throughput; enhance local and regional connectivity and access.
- Reduce corridor footprint to minimize and/or avoid residential displacements.
- The project will be aligned with various local and state policies related to equity, greenhouse gas emissions, and smart freeway management technology such as transportation system management and transportation demand management (TSM/TDM).

Multimodal elements evaluated in draft EIR/EIS include bicycle, pedestrian, and equestrian trail improvements as well as roadway connections to Norwalk Station and El Monte Transit Station.

Status/Schedule

- Begin community re-engagement in July 2024.
 - Meet with community groups and organizations.
 - Convene corridor-wide community meetings.

Challenges

- Corridor needs greatly exceed available local funds.



I-605/Beverly Boulevard Interchange Improvements

91/605/405 Hot Spots Program



Scope and Purpose

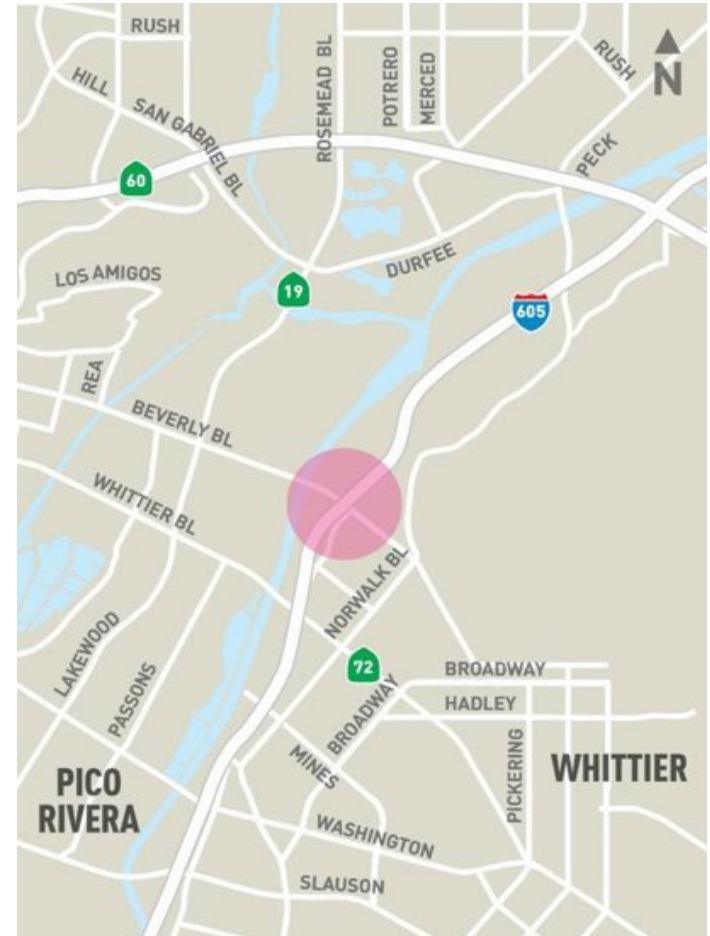
- Improve southbound operations by eliminating short “weaving” length between existing loop ramps.
- Implement diamond interchange design and signalize the intersection to allow for right and left turn movements.

Multimodal Elements

- High visibility continental crosswalk 400lf.
- Includes 5ft shoulder for City to restripe for future Class II bicycle lane on overcrossing.

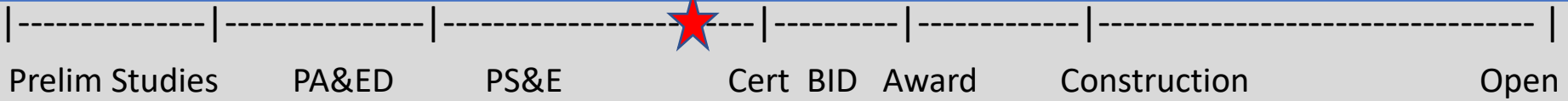
Status/Schedule

- Design phase completed.
- Start construction anticipated Winter 2025.
- Construction status to be reported by Program Management at Construction Committee meeting.



I-605/Valley Boulevard Interchange Improvements

91/605/405 Hot Spots Program



Scope and Purpose/Need

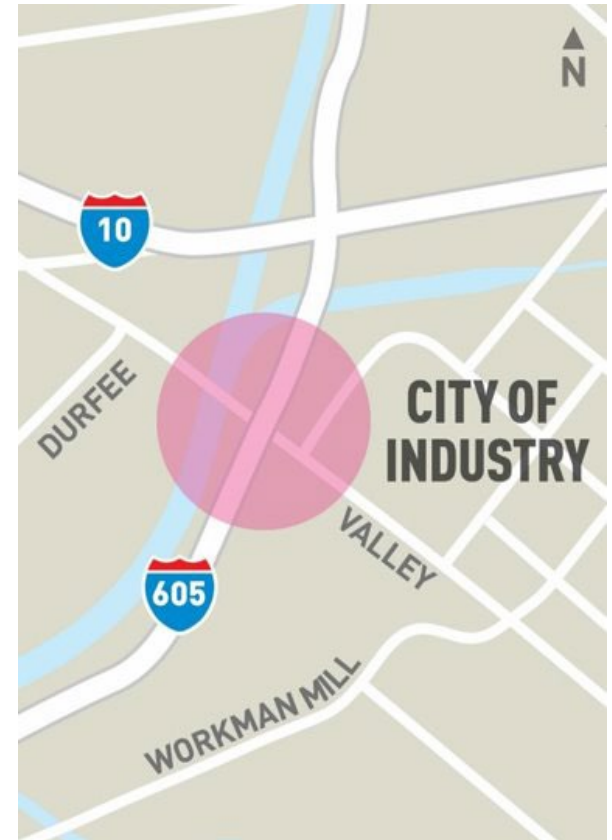
- Reconfigure/modify on and off ramps to improve mobility and safety, and to reduce congestion, weaving conflicts and queuing; upgrade and coordinate signals; rehab local roads; and provide railroad safety upgrades.
- 45% of freeway mainline collisions occurred in the interior lanes; predominant types of collisions are rear ends (60%) followed by sideswipes (30%) related to heavy congestion during peak commute hours.

Multimodal Elements

- ADA infrastructure upgrades (curb ramps, sidewalks, and pedestrian pathways) .
- Pedestrian safety features (gates at railroad crossings, special signals, shorter crosswalk, and median island refuge).

Status/Schedule

- Design phase expected to be completed in Summer 2024.
- Grant funding (\$33.57M) secured for construction phase.
- San Gabriel Valley COG to build project.



SR-91 Westbound Improvements (Alondra to Shoemaker)

91/605/405 Hot Spots Program



Scope and Purpose/Need

- Add a lane between Shoemaker Ave. and Alondra Blvd. on WB SR-91 to NB I-605.
- Address safety and congestion and increase person throughput.

Multimodal Elements

- Bike lane 200 linear feet; ADA upgrades, pedestrian and sidewalk improvements.

Status/Schedule

- Design phase completed.
- Transition to Program Management underway.
- Target begin construction in Summer 2025.
- TCEP grant funding (\$69.67M) secured for construction phase and allocated in June 2024.



Challenges

- Updating Caltrans latest design upgrades.

SR-91 Improvements (Central to Acacia)

91/605/405 Hot Spots Program



Scope and Purpose/Need

- Consolidate multiple access points from the Central Avenue, Wilmington Avenue, and Acacia Court interchanges into a single access point, reducing the number of ingress/egress points on the freeway mainline and redirecting the short weaving areas from the freeway mainline.

Multimodal Elements

- Class II buffered bicycle lane with bicycle tolerable drainage grates and conflict zone green paint at driveways and intersections on EB and WB Artesia Blvd between Central Ave and Acacia Ct and on Albertoni St between Lysander Dr and Central Ave.
- ADA-compliant curb ramps at all intersections, high-visibility crosswalks, sidewalk upgrades, LED lighting for pedestrian elements.



Status/Schedule

- Design phase underway and expected to be completed in early 2025.

Challenges

- Close construction funding gap estimated to be \$297M.

I-405 Auxiliary Lanes (I-105 to Artesia Boulevard)

I-405 South Bay Curve Improvements



Scope and Purpose/Need

- Provide NB and SB auxiliary lane improvements between freeway on/off ramps within Caltrans ROW.
- Improve safety and operations by reducing conflicts at high congestion on/off ramp locations.
- Predominant collision types: sideswipe, rear end, broadside, and hit object. Collisions may be attributed to traffic congestion on the ramp, ramp terminal intersection, and weaving/lane changing activities at the freeway junctions.

Multimodal Elements

- Pedestrian/bicycle facilities, transit stops to be studied.
- High visibility crosswalks, pedestrian flashing beacons, and cyclist signage.

Challenges

- Close construction funding gap estimated to be \$106M.



Status/Schedule

- Design phase underway, 95% design submittal anticipated by Summer 2024.

I-405 Improvements (I-110 to Wilmington Avenue)

I-405 South Bay Curve Improvements



Prelim Studies

PA&ED

PS&E

Cert BID

Award

Construction

Open

Scope and Purpose/Need

- Improve safety and operations by reducing freeway conflicts at high congestion on/off ramp locations.
- Provide northbound and southbound auxiliary lane improvements between freeway on/off ramps within Caltrans right of way.
- Predominant collision types: rear-end collisions, which are associated with congestion, and sideswipe incidents that typically occur when conflicting lane changes are made.

Multimodal Elements

- Pedestrian/bicycle facilities and transit stops to be studied.
- High visibility crosswalks, pedestrian flashing beacons, and cyclist signage.

Status/Schedule

- Environmental phase underway and expected to be completed in Fall 2026.



Challenges

- Construction phase is not fully funded.
- Consensus on VMT analysis to be conducted.

SR-14 Safety Improvements – North County (Newhall Avenue Undercrossing to Pearblossom Highway)



Prelim Studies

PA&ED

PS&E

Cert BID Award

Construction

Open

Scope and Purpose/Need

- Evaluate lane reconfigurations where there are gaps, ramp realignment, structure widening, retaining wall construction, and drainage modifications.
- Address traffic safety concerns (exceeds statewide average incident rates).
- Eliminate bottleneck areas within the project limits to minimize conflicting weaving and merging by motorists (exceeds statewide average incident rates).

Multimodal Elements

- Environmental document to include evaluation of multimodal elements (e.g., commuter rail, bike, pedestrian improvements).



Status

- Environmental phase underway and expected to be completed in Summer 2026.

Challenges

- VMT analysis and potential mitigation to be determined.

City of Malibu Projects on the Pacific Coast Highway

Measure R Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) Projects

Malibu PCH Median and Channelization Project

- Improvement of the existing raised medians on PCH from Webb Way to Puerco Canyon Road.
- Construction to be completed in July 2024.

Malibu PCH Signal Synchronization Project

- \$1.8 million reallocation request to go before Board in July 2024 to fund new pedestrian signal and lighting; install red light enforcement cameras and new safety adaptive signal timing system.
- Project Manager requested extension, updated schedule, and funding plan from City in May 2024.

Malibu PCH Trancas Canyon Road Intersection Improvements

- Board approved additional funds in June 2023.
- Target executing funding agreement in August 2024 contingent on City Council approval.
- City cannot start project until Caltrans completes the Trancas Bridge replacement project.

Malibu PCH and Las Flores/Rambla Pacifico Intersection Improvements

- Recommended in 2015 PCH Safety Study.
- Target executing funding agreement in August 2024 contingent on City Council approval.



Caltrans Safety Improvements on the Pacific Coast Highway

Caltrans Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) Master Plan

- The PCH Master Plan will be a guidance document intended to identify potential mobility improvements that can enhance safety and multimodal accessibility along the PCH within the Malibu City Limits. The plan will also be used to initiate a Project Initiation Document (PID), once completed.
 - Target PCH Master Plan completion: December 2024.
- Beginning in Summer 2024, Caltrans will initiate stakeholder engagement activities, community outreach, and visioning. These outreach and engagement efforts, which include meetings, a website, and charrettes, will be captured in the PCH Master Plan development report at the end of the year.
 - In advance of procurement, Caltrans has initiated near-term activities for developing the Master Plan, including assessing existing conditions and identifying engagement and outreach materials.
- Caltrans has submitted a request for non-SHOPP resources from Headquarters to develop a PID for improvements on PCH in Malibu.
 - If approved, resources will be provided in FY 24-25 for PID development, pending completion of the PCH Master Plan.