

File# 2025-0953

Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit Environmental Impact Report



Metro

Executive Management Committee

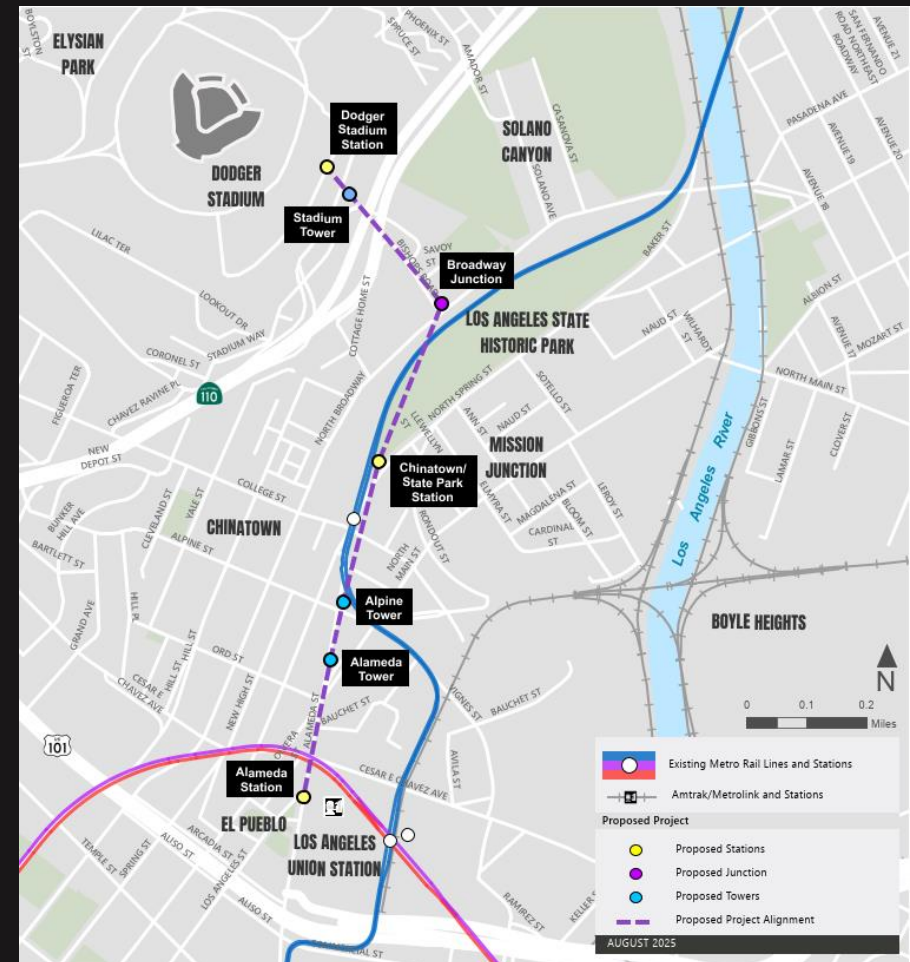
November 20, 2025

Project Background

- LA Aerial Rapid Transit Technologies LLC is proposing the Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit (LA ART) Project, which would connect Los Angeles Union Station to the Dodger Stadium property with an intermediate station at the Los Angeles State Historic Park via a zero-emission aerial rapid transit gondola system in downtown Los Angeles
- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Metro certified the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Project in February 2024
- The LA ART EIR was subsequently challenged in two separate lawsuits
- The Court directed Metro to prepare a Supplemental EIR (SEIR) before reapproving Project
- Metro prepared the Draft SEIR to address the issues regarding construction noise

Proposed Project

- Permanent **zero-emission, fully ADA accessible** transit connection from Union Station to Dodger Stadium and Elysian Park via a 1.2-mile “3S” aerial gondola system
- 7-minute travel time with a max speed of 13.4 mph; 53 cabins in service at maximum capacity
- Approximately 5,000 people per hour per direction (headways of 23 seconds and approximately 30-40 people per cabin), similar to other mass transit gondolas around the world.
- Design Option A – Adjusts location of Dodger Stadium Station so that the Project would not be over any single-family residential property



SEIR Public Review Period

- Draft SEIR released on September 29, 2025
- 45-Day Public Review Period (September 29 – November 13, 2025)
 - Virtual Informational Workshop with 26 attendees
 - Virtual Public Hearing with 169 attendees
 - Received comments via postal mail, e-mail, and voicemail
- All meetings had simultaneous interpretation in Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, and Taishanese
- Meeting materials provided in English, Spanish, Chinese (Traditional), and Chinese (Simplified).
- Final SEIR Section 3.0, Responses to Comments, includes responses to all comments received on the Draft SEIR

SEIR Comments

Key Comment Topics	Summary of Response in Final SEIR
Scope of Draft SEIR	The Draft SEIR was prepared specifically to address the Court of Appeal’s decision regarding the adequacy of the LA ART EIR’s construction noise mitigation analysis. The SEIR’s statement that commenters should focus on the supplemental analysis reflects CEQA established practice and was intended to assist readers by identifying the portions of the environmental analysis that had been revised and recirculated. Metro nevertheless accepted all comments, included them in the Final SEIR, and provided them to the decisionmakers.
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) Consultation	On July 30, 2025, Metro sent a consultation request to SMMC, inviting it to respond within 30 days if it wished to consult. SMMC did not respond and did not request consultation during that period. Metro satisfied its consultation obligation by issuing a request and allowing SMMC a reasonable opportunity to participate. On November 18, 2025, SMMC submitted a comment on the proposed Project’s Draft Supplemental EIR. Metro considered SMMC’s comments and responded to them, which are included in Responses PA1-1 through PA1-3 in Section 3.0 of this Final SEIR.
Temporary Construction Noise Mitigation	Many of the suggested measures are not feasible. The Project Sponsor agreed to provide personal hearing protection devices as part of a voluntary Project commitment and to expand the community outreach component of PDF-NOI-B to include coordination for special or community events and outreach in multiple languages.
Project Changes, Changed Circumstances, and Significant New Information	New information is not “significant” under CEQA unless it would change the document in a way that deprives the public of a meaningful opportunity to provide feedback. No such triggers apply that would require additional CEQA review.



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Recommendation

A. SETTING ASIDE Metro's action on February 22, 2024:

1. Approving the Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit Project with Design Option A;
2. Certifying the Final Environmental Impact Report;
3. Adopting the Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations; and
4. Adopting the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

AND CONSIDER:

B. RECERTIFYING, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), as supplemented by the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR), if the Board concludes that it satisfies the requirements of CEQA and reflects the Board's independent judgment following CEQA Guidelines section 15090;

C. CERTIFYING, in accordance with CEQA, the SEIR if the Board concludes that it satisfies the requirements of CEQA and reflects the Board's independent judgment following CEQA Guidelines section 15090;

D. ADOPTING, in accordance with CEQA, the:

1. Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Considerations setting forth the reasons and benefits of approving the Project with full knowledge that significant impacts may remain (Attachment A); and
2. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (Attachment B);

E. APPROVING the Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit Project ("Project") with Design Option A pursuant to Public Utilities Code (PUC) section 130252 and subject to Motion: Empowering Community Through an Inclusive Community Benefits Agreement (Attachment C); and

F. AUTHORIZING the Chief Executive Officer to file a Notice of Determination (Attachment D) with the Los Angeles County Clerk and the State of California Clearinghouse.



Thank You



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