

Metro



Board Report

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**REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JUNE 24, 2021**

Motion by:

DIRECTORS SOLIS, KUEHL, MITCHELL, BUTTS, SANDOVAL, AND GARCETTI

LA Aerial Rapid Transit Project

The proposed LA Aerial Rapid Transit Project (LA ART) will connect Union Station and Dodger Stadium with the intent of taking car trips off nearby roadways during game days. However, there are important concerns that should be addressed prior to moving the project forward. The LA ART travels through several neighborhoods whose residents been deeply impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. These are neighborhoods that were already experiencing displacement and economic instability even before the onset of the pandemic. Affordable housing, access to healthy foods, cultural preservation, workforce opportunities and economic development initiatives focused on small business growth are sorely needed in order to support the communities along the Project alignment. Any major infrastructure investments that Metro is involved in near these neighborhoods should consider what community benefits are being brought to the table as part of those investments. Additionally, much of the on-street parking near the Chinatown LA ART station is not metered, and the surrounding community may see spillover parking impacts caused by patrons traveling between the Chinatown LA ART station and Dodger Stadium. These unintended consequences should be addressed as part of the larger project.

SUBJECT: LA AERIAL RAPID TRANSIT PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE Motion by Directors Solis, Kuehl, Mitchell, Butts, Sandoval, and Garcetti that the Board of Directors direct the Chief Executive Officer to report back in July 2021 with an update via Board Box and again in August 2021 with a final report that includes the following:

- A. Analysis of Metro's duties and available authority to impose conditions when acting as the lead agency for non-Metro projects with regards to environmental clearance;
- B. Recommendations for community benefits developed in collaboration with the project owner to be included as part of the project scope. Recommendations should consider, but not be limited to:
 - Mitigations for potential parking impacts

- Local job creation
 - Workforce training
 - Small business support and partnerships
 - Affordable housing, and
 - Housing/business preservation.
- C. Any completed studies that can be made publicly available as part of the LA ART Project, including any preliminary traffic analyses and demand modeling that estimate how many car trips will be taken off the street as a result of the Project; and
- D. List of all public agencies that must provide approvals for the LA ART Project as well as a map detailing right-of-way needs and properties owned by public agencies.