

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's office at (310) 618-2780. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]
Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 618-618-2937 or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

**TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M.
WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
CITY HALL, 3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD**

**THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM LISTED
ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission members Cabrera, Carrasco, Hsiao, Klinenberg, Kraemer, Sargent, Chair Polcari

2. FLAG SALUTE:

3. REPORT OF THE CITY CLERK ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, March 16, 2023 /s/ Rebecca Poirier

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 15 minute period)

This portion of the meeting is reserved for public comment on items on the agenda or on topics of interest to the general public. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, Commissioners cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. Speakers under this Public Comment period will have no longer than 1 minutes per speaker. Your comment to the Commission meeting will be recorded as part of the meeting. By staying in the meeting and making public comment during the meeting, you are agreeing to have your comment recorded.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Recommendation of Cultural Services Manager that your Honorable Body approve the Cultural Arts Commission minutes of February 27, 2023.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION UPDATES

Recommendation of the Cultural Services Division that the Cultural Arts Commission receive and file updates on the Cultural Services activities.

7B. LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY C-LINE EXTENSION

Recommendation of the Transit Director that the Cultural Arts Commission receive and file the report from staff regarding the C-Line Extension to Torrance.

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. Adjournment of the Cultural Arts Commission Meeting to MONDAY, April 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, February 27, 2023, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Cabrera, Carrasco, Hsiao, Klinenberg, Kraemer and Chair Polcari.

Absent: Commissioner Sargent.

Also Present: Cultural Services Manager Monica Harte and Community Services Director John La Rock.

MOTION: Commissioner Hsiao moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Sargent. Commissioner Klinenberg seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (Commissioner Sargent absent).

2. FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Klinenberg.

3. REPORT OF THE CITY CLERK ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Chair Polcari reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's website on Thursday, February 23, 2023.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS:

-None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

-None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 23, 2023

MOTION: Commissioner Cabrera moved to approve the January 23, 2023 minutes as amended. Commissioner Klinenberg seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 6-0 approval (Commissioner Sargent absent).

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. 2023 EXCELLENCE IN ARTS

MOTION: Commissioner Klinenberg moved to have the 2023 Excellence in Arts Awards Ceremony, Sunday, October 15, 2023. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 6-0 approval (Commissioner Sargent absent).

7B. APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION AD-HOC COMMITTEE EXCELLENCE IN ARTS

Commissioners Cabrera and Carrasco volunteered to be on the Excellence in Arts ad-hoc committee; Cultural Services Manager Harte confirmed that Commissioner Sargent sent in an email stating that she would volunteer for the Excellence in Arts ad-hoc committee as well.

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved to nominate Commissioners Cabrera, Carrasco, and Sargent to be on the Excellence in Arts ad-hoc committee. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 6-0 approval (Commissioner Sargent absent).

7C. APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION AD-HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE SUMMER CONCERTS SERIES

Commissioners Klinenberg, Kraemer, and Chair Polcari volunteered for the Summer Concerts Series ad-hoc committee.

Commissioner Klinenberg inquired if there were any limitations to sponsor the events. Cultural Services Manager Harte replied that she could investigate the matter.

Commissioner Klinenberg inquired on food vendors. Community Services Director La Rock replied that food vendors successfully participated in the summer movie series, Movies in the Park, and could be correlated into the Summer Concert Series.

MOTION: Commissioner Hsiao moved to have Commissioners Klinenberg, Kraemer, and Chair Polcari serve on the ad-hoc committee for the Free Summer Concert Series. Commissioner Carrasco seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 6-0 approval (Commissioner Sargent absent).

7D. CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION UPDATES

Cultural Services Manager Harte presented Cultural Services Division Updates.

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the Commission spoke.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the City Calendar did not have the Cultural Arts Commission Meetings on the schedule and requested it be adjusted to reflect the Cultural Arts meetings.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the Visions of Unity will take place Monday, March 27, 2023, at Torrance High School.

Commissioner Klinenberg requested that an Item be placed in the March 2023 agenda regarding a discussion on trios and quartets in Torrance parks during the Spring and early Fall, 2023.

Chair Polcari suggested taking a tour of renovations at Torrance Arts Facilities.

Chair Polcari spoke on her experiences at the Salvation Army facility and suggested an offsite Commission meeting to see what the City of Torrance has to offer.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: At 7:46 p.m., Commissioner Klinenberg moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, March 20, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hsiao; a roll call vote reflected a 6-0 approval (Commissioner Sargent absent).

###

Subject to Approval

For Commission Meeting
March 20, 2023

TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: MONICA HARTE, CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER

RE: CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION MANAGER- DIVISION UPDATES

Recommendation of the Cultural Services Division Manager that the Cultural Arts Commission receive and file updates on the Cultural Services Division:

- Torrance Art Museum is opening March 25th with their annual international, emerging artists collaborative project: Co/Lab 2023.
- Cherry Blossom Festival is March 26th. We have 47 craft vendors and 7 performing organizations in addition to our customary community booths.
- Torrance Theatre Company opens with *Wild With Happy* April 1st.
- Torrance Rose Float Association has chosen the 2024 Rose Float Design.
- Torrance Sister City Association is preparing for 2023 Bunka Sai April 15th and 16th.
- The Free Concert Series in the Park is slated to include one or two films that have recently entered the public domain.
- TAM will install an art installation in the Cultural Arts Center to brighten and beautify the center.

Respectfully Submitted,



Monica Harte
Cultural Services Manager

For Commission Meeting
March 20, 2023

TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: MONICA HARTE, CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER

SUBJECT: CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION REPORT – March 2023

Administration

Staff has been working on digital and social media promotion for the Cherry Blossom Cultural Festival. New imaging, print work, and website designs were made.

Staff is doing research on potential grant opportunities for the division.

Nico Clifton, Performing Arts Program Coordinator

Winter classes continued throughout February with no issues. A few classes were cancelled due to instructor absences, but make-up classes will be held in March. The Cultural Services Program Leaders deserve recognition for their efforts and reliability during the winter session. Despite being a small staff, they have stepped up and provided incredible support to the division.

Spring registration opened for Torrance residents on February 28th. Non-Torrance residents will be able to register on March 7th. Patrons will have the opportunity to sign up for new classes such as Sewing and Quilting, Shibori and Early Morning Yoga. Winter surveys were created and will be sent out the last week of the session (week of March 6th) to all participants.

Gia Jordahl, Producing Artistic Director, Torrance Theatre Company

Torrance Theatre Company

Rehearsals for WILD WITH HAPPY by Colman Domingo (Tony Award-winning playwright) are underway. The cast of five includes four new faces, and one returning actor. It's a feel-good story directed by Daniel Xavier Scipio, a Torrance Theatre Company favorite. The show opens April 1st and closes April 22nd. Tickets are on sale now at www.torrancetheatrecompany.com

Our new improv shows, HOT TIP, are so successful we're continuing to add 9:00 pm performances. The next shows are Sunday April 2nd, and feature special guest Cindy Shields. Tickets are on sale now at www.torrancetheatrecompany.com. HOT TIP is slated to do a couple performance in the park during the Summer Concert Series.

TTC is excited to add summer camps at Wilson Park this year, featuring two weeks of Improv, and one week of Shakespeare. More info on these new offerings will be available in the Summer Seasons Guide and in the next report.

Starlight Productions is returning to the Ken Miller Center this summer for 6 weeks of drama camp after an extremely successful outing last summer.

Auditions for the last play of the TTC's 22-23 season will be in early April. The show is NATIVE GARDENS by Karen Zacarias, and will be directed by Glenn Kelman. The show will open the first week of June.

Announcements for the TTC 23-24 season, including the annual summer musical are coming soon!

Torrance Civic Chorale

The Torrance Civic Chorale is preparing their concert, Broadway in Torrance, featuring everyone's favorite Broadway tunes. The concert is at the James R. Armstrong Theatre on Saturday, April 22nd at 7:30 pm. Tickets available at www.TorranceCivicChorale.net.

Torrance Sister City Association

The Sister City's 50th anniversary celebration, and delegation related events went very well in February. The group is now preparing for the annual fundraising event, BUNKA SAI, which will be held on April 15 and 16, 2023 from 11:00 am – 5:00 pm at the Ken Miller Recreation Center. The event includes plate lunches, sweets, arts and crafts, cultural performances, exhibitions and demonstrations. For more info visit www.torrancesistercity.org

Rose Float Association

The Rose Float Association held their monthly meeting in early March where Tim Estes from Fiesta Floats attended to review the student submissions for the 2024 float design. An initial design was chosen, and artwork is being created. The TRFA and the City will then approve the design, and it will be shared with the community.

Max Presneil, TAM Curator and Director

TAM concluded the exhibition, *Bridging the Pacific*, on March 4th. It opened on January 28 and had 1,353 visitors over the course of the 25 days. It was open to the public.

The exhibition will be reviewed by both Artillery Magazine and Art & Cake.

The next project is an international one, Co/Lab (opening Saturday March 25, 6-9pm), that brings 4 non-profit, artist-run art galleries to Torrance to engage in a partnership with 4 SoCal artist-run galleries. All 8 spaces will show together. This year they come from Madrid (Spain), Seoul (South Korea), Stockholm (Sweden) and Johannesburg (South Africa).

Cultural Arts Commission
3/20/2023

Agenda Item No. 7B

TO: Cultural Arts Commission
FROM: Kim Turner, Transit Director
SUBJECT: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority C-Line Extension

RECOMMENDATION

The Transit Director recommends that the Cultural Arts Commission receive and file the report from staff regarding the C-Line Extension to Torrance.

BACKGROUND

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) is currently studying the extension of its passenger light rail system to Torrance. The C-Line, formerly known as the Green Line, will extend from its existing terminus in Redondo Beach following two potential alignments. These two alignments include following existing LA Metro railroad right-of-way (ROW) or following alongside I-405, then utilizing the median of Hawthorne Blvd. before returning to ROW at 190th St. There will be two new stations established – one in Redondo Beach near the South Bay Galleria and another in Torrance adjacent to the Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center.

There are three potential options being studied by LA Metro. The first, named the Proposed Project: Metro ROW Elevated/Street-Level, follows existing LA Metro owned railroad right-of-way. The second, named the Trench Option, follows along the same alignment, but adds a below-grade trench between Inglewood Ave and 182nd St. The last option, named the Hawthorne Blvd. Option, leaves LA Metro owned right-of-way to travel along I-405, then travels south through the median of Hawthorne Blvd. from 162nd St. to 190th St. At south of 190th St., all options travel along LA Metro owned right-of-way.

The following is a chronology of previous events related to the issue:

June 29, 2018 Release of Supplemental Alternatives Analysis

On June 29, 2018 LA Metro released the Supplemental Alternatives Analysis to establish the need for a passenger light rail extension, determine the project area, outline the goals for the project, and augment earlier alternatives analyses that had been completed prior to the passing of Measure M.

August 16, 2022 LA Metro Community Meeting

On August 16, 2022, LA Metro staff hosted a community meeting at the Toyota Meeting Hall in Torrance to provide members of the public information about the C-Line Extension project. Residents of Torrance and the surrounding communities were given the opportunity to speak directly with LA Metro staff to ask any questions or raise any concerns or hopes regarding the project.

September 28, 2022 Transportation Committee Meeting

On September 28, 2022, the City Council Transportation Committee met to hear updates from staff regarding the service changes relating to the opening of the Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center, service duplication with Long Beach Transit and the current resolution process, and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro) C-Line Extension to Torrance.

Metro staff provided background and a potential timeline for the C-Line Extension project. City staff reaffirmed the city's position that the C-Line Extension project should utilize Metro's existing Right of Way. The Committee also affirmed their support for The Right of Way Alignment and request that Metro's Board of Supervisors consider an alternative that would place the passenger light rail underground.

October 25, 2022 City Council Meeting

On October 25, 2022, City Council voted to accept and file the report of the Transportation Committee, and voted unanimously to submit a letter to LA Metro's Board of Directors that established the council's official position of preference for the Proposed Project: Metro ROW Elevated/Street-Level.

January 26, 2023 LA Metro Release of Draft Environment Impact Report

On January 26, 2023, LA Metro released the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) related to the C-Line Extension project. This DEIR has informed all staff analysis of impacts on the City of Torrance and its residents.

February 21, 2023 LA Metro Public Hearing

On February 21, 2023, LA Metro held a public hearing in Torrance at the Toyota Meeting Hall. This hearing gave residents of Torrance and the surrounding communities the opportunity to learn more about the project options, and allowed community members to speak directly to LA Metro staff about their concerns or hopes for the project.

ANALYSIS

The extension of LA Metro's passenger light rail system will provide a number of benefits to the City of Torrance and the South Bay Region as a whole. The project provides an alternate mode of transportation to those who would otherwise be traveling on I-405 and displaces an estimated 17,083,851 on-road vehicle miles travelled annually. This reduction in vehicle miles travelled reduces greenhouse gas emissions in the region by approximately 2,369.4 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent annually.

The project also serves as a driver of economic growth, serving an estimated 65,000 jobs in the project area by 2042. Connections to a number of high value destinations are also provided, such as a seat-ride to LAX, SoFi Stadium via the Inglewood Transit Connector, the South Bay Galleria, Del Amo Fashion Center, and Old Torrance. The majority of ridership will travel in and out of Torrance, with projected new daily trips of 10,600 to 16,200.

The extension also improves equity by serving 18% of the low-income communities and 47% of the minority communities in the project area, will also providing connections with local transit agencies and the rest of the South Bay.

City Council has unanimously voted to support the Proposed Project: Metro ROW Elevated/Street-Level. This option is the most cost-effective, costing an estimated \$1.96 billion, with an estimated completion of Fall 2033. This option does not encroach on I-405, and avoids traffic and parking impacts on Hawthorne Blvd. and other arterial roads. This option also avoids costly impacts to businesses and residents along Hawthorne Blvd.

The Trench option has an estimated completion of Spring 2036 with an estimated cost of \$2.84 billion. Major construction work would be required and would result in considerable air quality impacts.

The Hawthorne Blvd. Option will have the greatest negative impacts on the city of Torrance and its residents. The estimated cost is the highest at \$2.96 billion, with an estimated completion of Fall 2035. This option fails to fully utilize existing investment in transit infrastructure by creating a walk between the newly established Redondo Beach Transit Center and proposed South Bay Galleria Station. This option also requires the modification of a number of intersections and roads within the city of Torrance during the construction phase and throughout operation.


Throughout construction, the communities surrounding Hawthorne Blvd. would be subject to significant and unavoidable levels of both noise and vibration. The Hawthorne Blvd. option would also require a considerable amount of property acquisition from LA Metro.

All three project options were found to have a less than significant impact to aesthetics and cultural resources after mitigation measures are implemented. These measures include the use of shielded, down-ward facing construction lighting and the requirement that construction crews be trained in the identification of archeological resources that may be discovered during excavation. These mitigation measures are consistent across all three of the potential project options.

In the past, LA Metro has partnered with local artists to beautify stations and buses throughout the region. There will be opportunities for local artists to submit work as part of station and train designs, provide art tours and exhibitions, integrate cultural artwork within the built environment, and collaborate with community-based organizations in support of innovative, community-responsive, arts and cultural programs in transit.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Turner
Transit Director

By 
David Mach
Senior Business Manager

Attachment 1: Presentation for C-Line Extension to Torrance



L.A. Metro C-Line Extension: Regional Benefits

PRESENTED BY TORRANCE TRANSIT

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Project Background

- L.A. Metro is bringing passenger light rail to the South Bay via an extension of the existing C-Line (formerly referred to as the “Green Line”)
- Studying two potential alignments (with 3 possible options) – existing railroad Right-Of-Way owned by L.A. Metro or utilization of Hawthorne Blvd.
- **Torrance City Council has voted unanimously to support Proposed Project: Right-of-Way with Elevated/At-Grade Option**



Why does the region need the C-Line passenger light rail extension?

- Provides an alternate mode of transportation for those traveling along the I-405 corridor
 - Time spent commuting expected to increase by approximately **30%** by 2045
- Reduces air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions by making transit a more viable transportation choice
- Avoids and minimizes environmental impacts on environmental resources to the maximum extent feasible
- Provides more equitable access to regional destinations by improving connections to the L.A. Metro regional rail system

Who would utilize this project?

- **Those traveling on I-405**
- Travelers using major arterials within the South Bay Region (Hawthorne Blvd., Crenshaw Blvd., etc.)
- South Bay region-wide commuters (traveling to Downtown L.A., Orange County, or beyond)
- **LAX Passengers – expected to increase to 151 million annually by 2045**



Source: KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY IMAGES



Ridership

Estimated to serve **65,000** jobs in the project area by 2042

Majority of ridership traveling to and from Torrance

Los Angeles drivers spent an average of **95** hours in traffic, costing **\$1,601** per driver annually

Displaces an estimated **17,083,851** on-road vehicle miles traveled annually

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately **2,369.4** metric tons of CO₂ equivalent annually

Auto Trips and Emissions



Regional Benefits

- **Improves equity** by serving **18%** of low-income communities and **47%** of minority/non-white communities in the project area
- Provides connections with local transit agencies and surrounding South Bay and Gateway Cities:
 - L.A. Metro Bus and Rail
 - Torrance Transit
 - Beach Cities Transit
 - Los Angeles Department of Transportation Commuter Express
 - Gardena Transit
 - Long Beach Transit
 - Norwalk Transit
 - Lawndale Beat



Regional Benefits

- Connections to a number of high value destinations:
 - **One seat ride to LAX**
 - SoFi Stadium via Inglewood Transit Connector
 - South Bay Galleria
 - Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center
 - Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center
 - Del Amo Fashion Center
 - Old Torrance
- Projected to generate between **10,300 – 16,200** new daily transit trips
- Estimated travel time savings of up to **23.1** minutes per rider



Regional Benefits

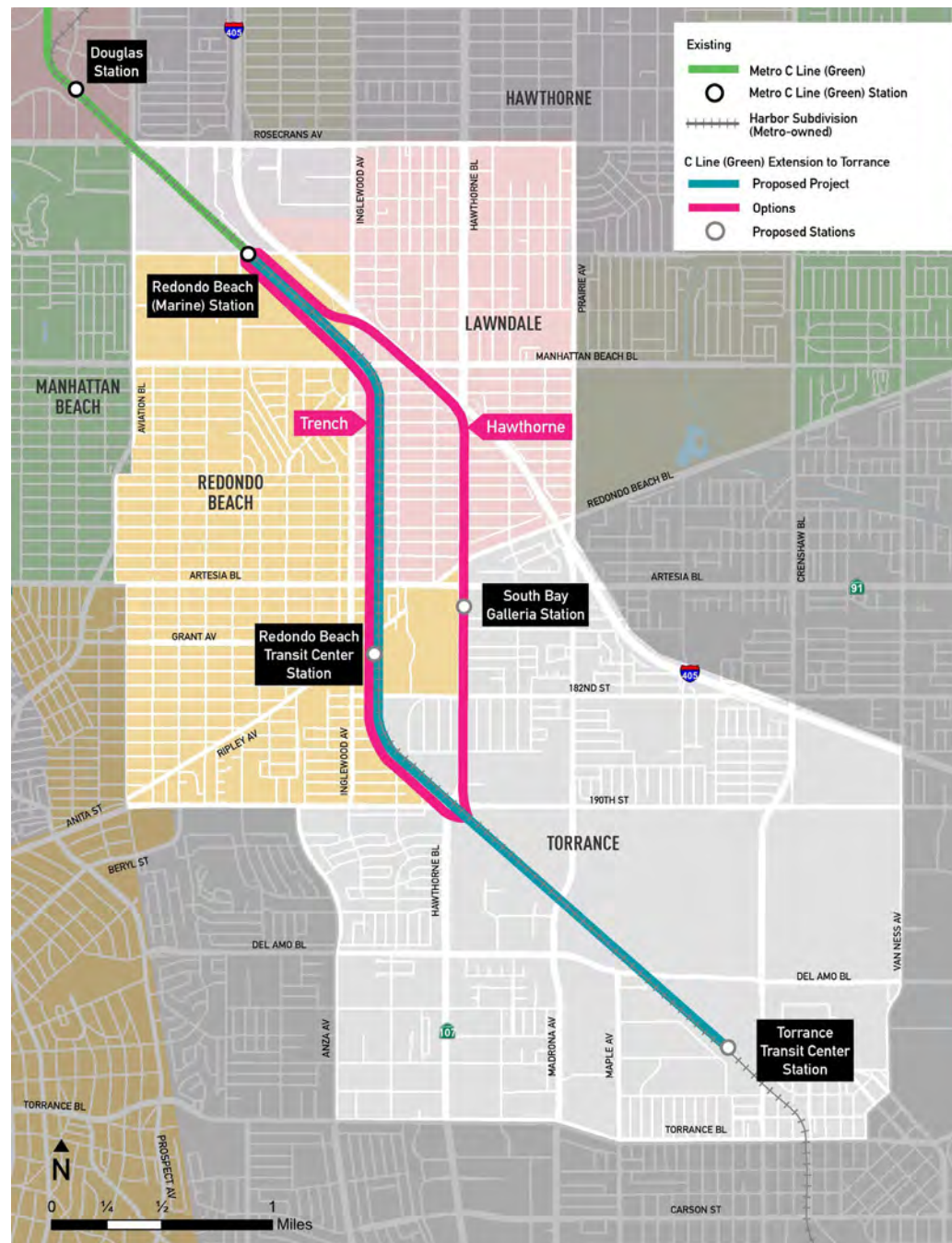
- Less than significant impact to aesthetics and cultural resources following implementation of mitigation measures
 - Use of shielded, down-ward facing construction lighting and the requirement that construction crews be trained in the identification of archeological resources that may be discovered during excavation
 - These mitigation measures are consistent across all three potential project options
- LA Metro to provide opportunities for local artists to submit their work as part of stations and buses design
 - Art tours and exhibitions
 - Cultural artwork integration within the built environment
 - Artwork Design Services for Temporary Construction Site Visual Mitigation Banners
 - Collaboration with community-based organizations in support of innovative, community-responsive, arts and cultural programs in transit



Regional Benefits from the Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center

- At the Mary K. Giordano Regional Transit Center, the C-Line will connect with Torrance Transit's:
 - Line 1
 - Rapid 3
 - Line 4X
 - Line 5
 - Line 6
 - Line 10
 - Future planned Red Car Urban Trolley
- Torrance Transit Center Station would provide the majority of estimated ridership gains

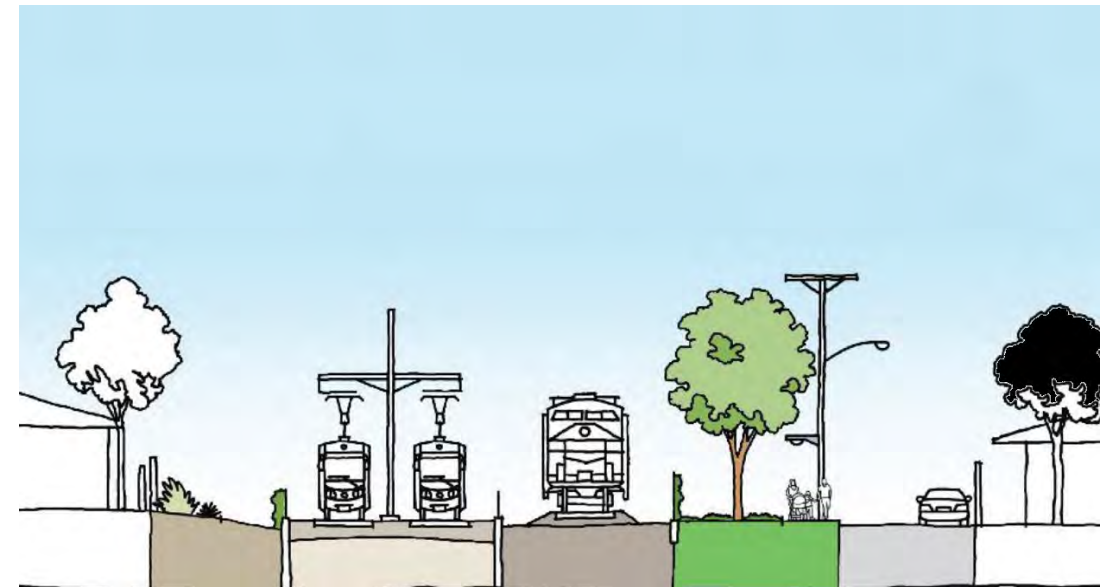
Project Options



Source: L.A. Metro

Project Options – Proposed Project (Elevated/At-Grade)

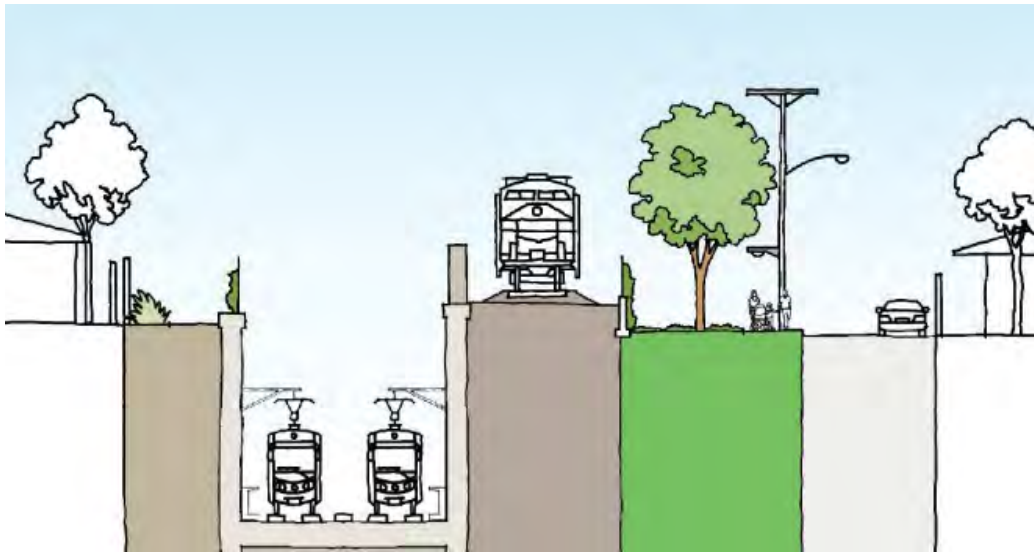
- Utilizes existing L.A. Metro Right-of-Way with combination of elevated and at-grade segments
- **Most cost effective (Estimated \$1.96 billion)**
- Estimated completion Fall 2033
- Does not encroach on I-405
- Avoids traffic and parking impacts on Hawthorne Blvd and other arterial roads
- **Avoids impacts to businesses and residents near Hawthorne Blvd**



Source: L.A. Metro

Supported by Torrance City Council

Project Options – Right-of-Way/Trench



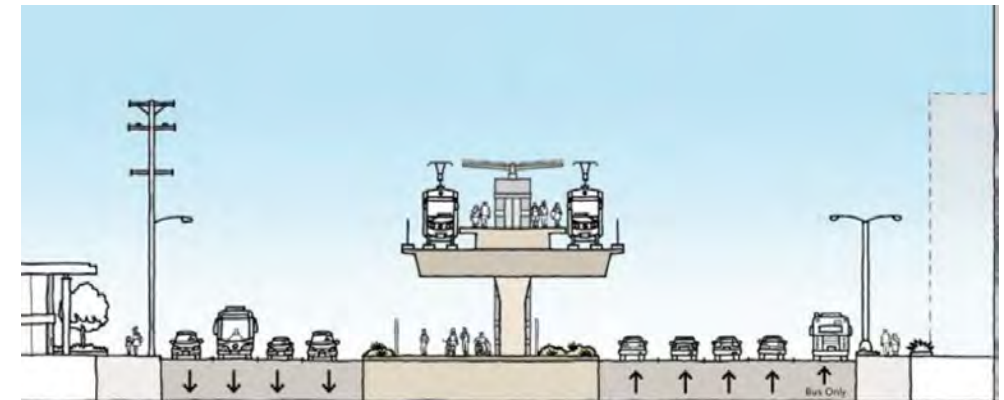
Source: L.A. Metro

- Follows existing Right-of-Way and includes a combination of trench and at-grade segments
- Estimated completion early 2036
- Estimated cost of \$2.84 billion
- Major construction work required
- Major air quality impact due to construction



Project Options – Elevated Hawthorne Blvd.

- Elevated rail structure along the center median of Hawthorne Blvd.
- Most expensive (costs \$2.96 billion)
- Estimated completion of Fall 2035
- Significantly impact to residents and local businesses along Hawthorne Blvd.
- Adds longer walk for connections to new Redondo Beach Transit Center. Does not utilize existing transit investments
- Significant noise and vibration during construction
- Requires modification of travel lanes
- More property acquisitions



Source: L.A. Metro



Getting Involved

- Support for the C-Line Extension to Torrance and the Proposed Project R.O.W. Alignment can be provided to Metro via:
 - Email – greenlineextension@metro.net
 - Phone – 323-330-4015
 - Mail: Georgia Sheridan, Senior Director, Mobility Corridors
One Gateway Plaza, MS 99-22-2 Los Angeles, CA 90012
 - General questions can be directed to Georgia Sheridan, Project Manager
 - Phone – 213-922-4004
- Comments regarding City of Torrance's position can be provided to David Mach:
 - Email – Dmach@TorranceCA.gov
 - Phone – 310-781-6294