

# REGIONAL TRANSIT ISSUE PAPER

Agenda Item No.	Board Meeting Date	Open/Closed Session	Information/Action Item	Issue Date
10	11/09/15	Open	Information	10/29/15

Subject: Public Scoping Meetings for the Green Line to the Airport Project

## ISSUE

This is an update to the Board for upcoming Scoping meetings for the Green Line to the Airport Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations (40 C.F.R. Parts 1500 through 1508) and for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with RT as the CEQA lead agency.

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

No action required at this time.

## FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time.

## DISCUSSION

The Green Line is a proposed light rail transit line identified in Regional Transit's (RT's) long range plans, the Sacramento Area Council of Government's (SACOG's) Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the City of Sacramento's General Plan. The Green Line would operate between downtown Sacramento and the Sacramento International Airport via the Sacramento Valley Station (SVS)/Railyards, North 7<sup>th</sup> Street/Township 9, a new crossing of the American River to Truxel Road, north on Truxel to just north of Del Paso Boulevard, then west along New Market Drive and East Commerce Way, crossing over SR99 to the future Greenbriar and Metro Air Park developments, and ultimately extending to its terminus at the Sacramento International Airport at Terminal B.

RT has been working with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on release of the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the Green Line in accordance with the requirements of NEPA and FTA's regulations and guidance implementing NEPA under 23 C.F.R. Part 771. For this project, FTA will serve as the federal lead agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will be a cooperating agency pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Section 1501.6. The EIS will be prepared as a joint document that includes an EIR prepared pursuant to CEQA with RT as the CEQA lead agency.

Public scoping meetings and written comments on the scope of the Draft EIR/EIS will provide the public opportunities to receive information on the nature of the proposed action and possible alternatives, and to invite participation in the EIS/EIR process including providing comments on the scope of the Draft EIS/EIR.

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Approved:

Presented:

Final 11/04/15

General Manager/CEO

Director, Long Range Planning

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Notice of public scoping meetings will be via the Federal Register and, working with RT Marketing, the available options (Facebook, Twitter, Newspaper, etc.) to reach out to our community. Other Elected Officials in the study area will also be notified directly.

Public scoping meetings are scheduled for the following days, times and locations:

- Tuesday, December 1, 2015; beginning at 6 p.m. at Natomas Park Elementary School at 4700 Crest Drive, Sacramento, CA 95835.
- Wednesday, December 2, 2015; beginning at 6 p.m. at the Library Galleria, Downtown Sacramento Public Library at 828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.
- Thursday, December 3, 2015; beginning at 6 p.m. at South Natomas Community Center at 2921 Truxel Road, Sacramento, CA 95833.

The format of the public scoping meetings will be “Open House” type meetings with various “stations” staffed by RT and consultant staff to answer questions and discuss the various aspects of the project and the EIS/EIR process. Opportunities will be provided for the public to provide comments and suggestions.

The locations are accessible for persons with disabilities and individuals requiring a language interpreter or other special accommodations should contact RT at least 48 hours prior to the scoping meeting.

Written comments on the scope of the Draft EIR/EIS, including: the project’s purpose and need; the alternatives to be considered; the impacts to be evaluated; and the methodologies to be used in the evaluations should be sent to RT on or before January 15, 2016.

The comments received from the public scoping and written comments received will be summarized and shared with the RT Board at a later date.

# Green Line EIS/EIR Public Scoping

Three public scoping sessions will be held:

- Tuesday, December 1, 2015; beginning at 6 p.m. at Natomas Park Elementary School at 4700 Crest Drive, Sacramento, CA 95835.
- Wednesday, December 2, 2015; beginning at 6 p.m. at the Library Galleria, Downtown Sacramento Public Library at 828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.
- Thursday, December 3, 2015; beginning at 6 p.m. at South Natomas Community Center at 2921 Truxel Road, Sacramento, CA 95833.

# The Format of the Public Scoping Meetings Will Be...

- “Open House” format with various “stations” to discuss and review the process, the segments of the Green Line (Township 9, American River Bridge Crossing, South Natomas, North Natomas, West of SR99 to Sacramento International Airport), and to receive formal written comments.
- The locations are accessible for persons with disabilities and individuals requiring a language interpreter or other special accommodations should contact RT at least 48 hours prior to the scoping meeting.

## Follow-On Activities

Following the scoping meetings...

- Written comments will be received on or before January 15, 2016
- All comments received will be summarized and reported back to the RT Board with discussion of how they will be addressed in the EIS/EIR process.
- Preparation and release of the Draft EIS/EIR will take approximately 18 months with periodic updates to the RT Board.