



South Brentwood Residents Association
149 South Barrington Ave. #194
Los Angeles, California 90049
www.southbrentwood.org

March 7, 2024

VIA EMAIL

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952
Attn: Stephanie Molen (MolenS@metro.net), sepulvedatransit@metro.net

RE: South Brentwood Residents Association Support for Alternatives 4 and 5 on Sepulveda Transit Corridor

Dear Ms. Molen,

I am writing on behalf of the Board and members of the South Brentwood Residents Association (“SBRA”), which represents approximately 18,000 homeowners and renters who reside in the area south of San Vicente Blvd., north of Wilshire Blvd., east of Centinela Ave. and west of Federal Ave., including all residents living in multi-family dwellings throughout the entire Brentwood community.

South Brentwood is gridlocked every afternoon Monday through Friday as commuters, students, and residents from all over the city leave the Westside to get home. In particular, people driving from the Westside to the Valley have no large-scale public transportation options so they cut through the “flats” of Brentwood to avoid the also-gridlocked freeways. As such, the Sepulveda Transit Corridor project will be a game-changer and we fully support it.

In particular, the South Brentwood Residents Association concurs with the Brentwood Community Council that Alternatives 4 and 5 offer the best options to get people through the Sepulveda Pass:

Based on our review of the information that Metro has released to date:

- **Building a subway maximizes ridership** as opposed to monorail options. Alternatives 4, 5, and 6 (subway options) all have higher projected ridership options than Alternatives 1, 2, and 3 (monorail options).
- **The subway travel times (Alternatives 4, 5, and 6) are all shorter than the monorail options, so will also maximize ridership.** Monorail alternatives 1 and 2 take 39 minutes and 32 minutes to get from Van Nuys to UCLA respectively, which is long enough that a lot of people will opt to drive instead of taking a train, especially since those routes don't stop on the UCLA campus.
- **Any alternative must stop on the UCLA campus.** This is a no-brainer. Requiring a shuttle for tens of thousands of people daily will add travel time and reduce ridership, if an adequate number of shuttles can even be provided.
- **Cities all over the world, including Los Angeles, have been able to construct and run subways with no damage to property at or above ground level.** While we respect the concerns of some residents of Bel Air that construction might harm their homes, we note that cities like New York, San Francisco, Tokyo, Shanghai, Paris, and Santiago, Chile all have subway lines running under tall buildings, homes, and hillsides. We are unaware of instances of people in other parts of Los Angeles including the Westside having their homes damaged by building subway tunnels deep underground, and given the press on the issue think it's likely that any such problems would have been heavily publicized.
- **Minimize visual blight and protect wildlife.** A monorail will disrupt views of the hillsides in the Sepulveda Pass and it poses a new threat to mountain lions and other wildlife.
- **Building the subway is less disruptive than building a monorail between Sherman Oaks and UCLA.** We were already subjected to many years of freeway widening in the Sepulveda Pass and would appreciate construction to be limited to underground as much as possible.
- **We also support Alternative 6, another subway option.** While it would bring the subway to Bundy/Exposition instead of Sepulveda/Exposition to meet the Expo/E Line, Bundy/Exposition is over a 30 minute walk for most South Brentwood residents. **The future VA station on the D/Purple Line is also over a 30 minute walk from most areas of South Brentwood and we hope that someday Metro will continue the**

D/Purple Line to Bundy and Santa Monica as was originally planned but which has yet to be funded.

We want to thank Metro and its private partners for providing so much information on this project and for the opportunity to give input during this process. We would love to see this much opportunity for community input all of Metro's projects.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lauren Cole

President, South Brentwood Residents Association

Cc: Kathryn Barger, Los Angeles County Supervisor, 5th District
The Honorable Karen Bass
Marian Ensley, West Area Representative, City of Los Angeles
Janice Hahn, Los Angeles County Supervisor, 4th District
Lindsay Horvath, Los Angeles County Supervisor, 3rd District
Carolyn Jordan, Chair, Brentwood Community Council
Paul Krekorian, Councilman, Los Angeles Council District 2
Jody Litvak, Executive Officer, Community Relations, Los Angeles Metro
Holly Mitchell, Los Angeles County Supervisor, 2nd District
Traci Park, Councilwoman, Los Angeles Council District 11
Congressman Brad Sherman, 32nd District
Hilda Solis, Los Angeles County Supervisor, 1st District
Katy Yaroslavsky, Councilwoman, Los Angeles Council District 5