

# NORTHRIDGE SOUTH TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS

COMMITTEE CHAIR: MATT ZEBRO

## Metro Releases DEIR for Sepulveda Project



Rendered Image of Alt 4/5 Automated Train

Metro recently released the **Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)** for the **Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project**, which aims to improve transportation along the Sepulveda Pass corridor, connecting the San Fernando Valley to the Westside of Los Angeles while also enhancing and complimenting Metro's inter-connectivity.

### Key highlights of the DEIR:

1. **Purpose of the Project:** The primary goal is to reduce congestion and improve connectivity between the San Fernando Valley and West Los Angeles.
2. **Project Options:** The DEIR presents multiple options for how the project could be implemented, including:
  - **Monorail:** A light rail option along the 405 with less capacity than heavy rail. (Alternatives 1,3)
  - **Heavy Rail:** A high-capacity subway running through the Sepulveda Pass. (Alternatives 4-6)
  - **No-Build Plan:** As required by state law, this option assesses the scenario where no new transit infrastructure is implemented, serving as a baseline for comparison.
3. **Environmental Analysis:** The report assesses potential environmental impacts of each alternative, including air quality, noise, land use, and impacts on surrounding communities and ecosystems.
4. **Public Review:** The DEIR is open for public comment, the community, stakeholders, and government agencies to provide feedback on the proposed alternatives with public meetings also scheduled to gather input.
5. **Timeline:** After the public comment period, Metro will review feedback, refine the project, and prepare a Final EIR. The project will then move into the design and construction phase with the goal of opening by the 2030s.

The DEIR is a very dense document so Metro released an interactive tool on their project hub to help guide users through the many components. The DEIR is a significant milestone in the progression of the project that aims to alleviate congestion through one of the city's most congested corridors. *(Continued on page 2)*

**Metro Releases DEIR for Sepulveda Project (continued)**

Options or Alternatives Being Considered by Metro

|                                | ALT 1              | ALT 3                          | ALT 4                               | ALT 5                          | ALT 6                      |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Project Partner</b>         | LA Skyrail Express |                                | Sepulveda Transit Corridor Partners |                                | HTA Partners               |
| <b>Mode</b>                    | Automated Monorail |                                | Automated Heavy Rail                |                                | Driver Operated Heavy Rail |
| <b>Alignment</b>               | Aerial             | Aerial/Underground             | Aerial/Underground                  |                                | Underground                |
| <b>Length (miles)</b>          | 15.1               | 16.1                           | 13.9                                | 13.8                           | 12.9                       |
| <b># of Station</b>            | 8<br>(All Aerial)  | 8<br>(7 aerial, 2 underground) | 8<br>(4 aerial, 4 underground)      | 8<br>(1 aerial, 7 underground) | 8<br>(All underground)     |
| <b>UCLA Connection</b>         | Bus                | Station                        | Station                             | Station                        | Station                    |
| <b>Daily Boardings</b>         |                    |                                |                                     |                                |                            |
| Metro E Line                   | 10,374             | 10,962                         | 18,384                              | 18,212                         | 15,518                     |
| Santa Monica Blvd              | 3,190              | 3,405                          | 5,077                               | 5,107                          | 5,625                      |
| Wilshire/Metro D Line          | 18,200             | 19,812                         | 33,384                              | 33,448                         | 30,918                     |
| UCLA Gateway                   |                    | 17,459                         | 18,411                              | 18,416                         | 16,320                     |
| Getty Center                   | 1,366              | 1,301                          |                                     |                                |                            |
| Ventura Boulevard              | 5,727              | 5,937                          | 7,210                               | 7,232                          | 7,163                      |
| Metro G Line                   | 8,919              | 8,683                          | 15,148                              | 14,991                         | 13,569                     |
| Sherman Way                    | 1,553              | 1,523                          | 6,678                               | 6,598                          |                            |
| Van Nuys Metrolink             | 12,262             | 12,762                         | 18,485                              | 19,549                         | 17,981                     |
| <b>Total Daily Boardings</b>   | <b>61,590</b>      | <b>81,842</b>                  | <b>122,775</b>                      | <b>123,551</b>                 | <b>107,092</b>             |
| <b>Capital Cost (2023 \$M)</b> | <b>\$15,377</b>    | <b>\$20,807</b>                | <b>\$20,042</b>                     | <b>\$24,201</b>                | <b>\$24,418</b>            |
| <b>End-to-End Travel Time</b>  | <b>22:54</b>       | <b>32:35</b>                   | <b>20:10</b>                        | <b>19:36</b>                   | <b>18:20</b>               |

The 90-day comment period will end on August 30, 2025. Comments will be accepted throughout the comment period online, via email, project hotline and U.S. Mail as follows:

- Comment form - [tinyurl.com/3hm99v4p](https://tinyurl.com/3hm99v4p)
- Email: [sepulvedatransit@metro.net](mailto:sepulvedatransit@metro.net)
- Project information line: 213.922.7375
- U.S. Mail: Peter Carter, Metro, One Gateway Plaza, MS 99-22-6, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Public information sessions to provide an overview of the Draft EIR and accept written public comment will be held at the following dates and locations:

**San Fernando Valley Scheduled Community Meetings****Saturday, July 12, 2025****10:00am - 12:00pm**

**Westfield Topanga Community Center**  
**21710 Vanowen St**  
**Canoga Park, CA 91303**

**Monday, July 21, 2025****5:30pm-7:30pm**

**Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center**  
**5056 Van Nuys Blvd, Building B**  
**Sherman Oaks, CA 91403**

**Metro<sup>1</sup>****Bureau of Street Lighting's Escalating Repair Backlog**

The time to repair broken streetlights is expected to reach up to a year, largely due to stagnant funding, rising maintenance costs, and widespread copper wire theft. The city's street lighting bureau has been operating on nearly unchanged revenue since 1996, with fee increases restricted by Prop 218. City officials are turning to solar-powered lighting as a sustainable and theft-resistant solution to improve safety and reduce the repair backlog. **LAist<sup>2</sup>**

**City Council Explores Ending Parking Mandates**

Councilmembers Bob Blumenfield and Nithya Raman have introduced a motion asking city planners to study the removal of on-site parking requirements for new housing and commercial developments. The proposal is in early review and would need approval from both the planning committee and the full council. Supporters cite cost savings and lower rents, while critics warn it could worsen parking shortages and harm lower-income residents without better transit options. **LAist<sup>3</sup>**

**Metro Bus Service Updates**

Metro is implementing several bus service changes on June 22nd throughout LA County to enhance frequency and reliability. In Northridge, Lines 152 (Roscoe Blvd) and 166 (Nordhoff St) will see increased frequency during peak periods reducing wait times from 15min to 10min. Lines 167 (Studio City - Chatsworth) and 240 (Universal - Northridge) are also getting time updates. **Metro<sup>4</sup>**

## Mayor Bass signs \$14B Budget

Los Angeles' \$14B budget for 2025-26 has been signed by Mayor Bass, prioritizing public safety and essential city services amid a projected \$1 billion deficit. The plan includes restoring 240 LAPD recruits and sustains funding for homeless programs and animal shelters as well as capital support for Sepulveda Basis improvements and Palisades Fire recovery amongst many other items. However, the budget includes layoffs across various departments, including transportation, sanitation, and street services, potentially impacting the city's ability to maintain and improve infrastructure. **ABC7<sup>5</sup>**

## Trump Admin. Moves to Cut \$4B in California Rail Funding

The Trump administration has threatened to revoke nearly \$4 billion in federal funding for California's high-speed rail project, citing delays and rising costs, but CA officials remain committed to delivering the nation's first true high-speed rail system, emphasizing that real progress is being made and the majority of funding comes from the state itself. **Bloomberg<sup>6</sup>**



## LAX Transit Hub Opens

The LAX/Metro Transit Center Station officially opened on June 6th marking a significant milestone in connecting LAX to public transit. This nearly \$900 million facility features a spacious design and connects the airport to Metro's C and K Lines and 14 bus routes. Currently service to the airport is provided by free shuttles but travelers will soon have direct access to the upcoming Automated People Mover, enhancing public transit options for locals and visitors ahead of major events like the 2026 FIFA World Cup, the 2027 Super Bowl, and the 2028 Summer Olympics. **Metro<sup>7</sup>**

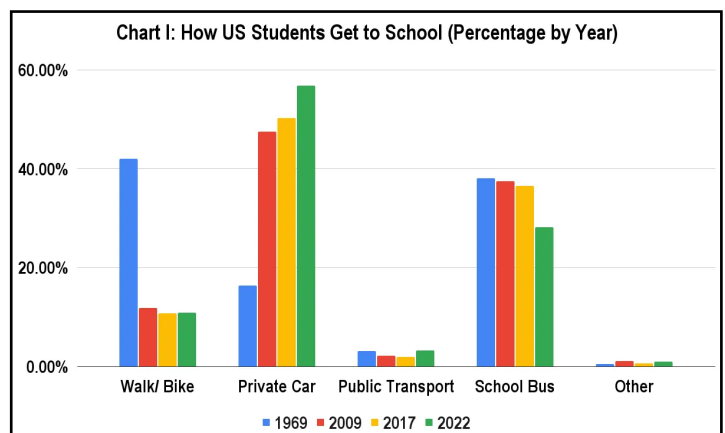
## NSNC Park Assessment Statement on Vanalden Park & Aliso Creek Pocket Park

NSNC submitted a report on June 2, 2025 to LA City Parks as part of the ongoing Park Needs Assessment. Access to public parks is vital for health, community cohesion, and environmental benefits, yet Northridge South ranks among LA's most underserved areas for green space. Vanalden Park, the only official park in the district, suffers from major deficiencies—limited recreation facilities, poor maintenance, safety concerns, and inadequate accessibility—making it unwelcoming for families and residents. The report recommends much needed upgrades to Vanalden Park and official city adoption of the well-used, community-built Aliso Canyon Pocket Park to address the green space access gap with minimal cost and maximum benefit. A copy of the report can be accessed here: **[tinyurl.com/NSNC-Parks<sup>8</sup>](https://tinyurl.com/NSNC-Parks)**

### OPINION

## School Pickups Reveal Deeper Problems

Soka University Professor Ryan Allen's recent exploration on how school commuting has changed in the last 50 years feels relevant to highlight in light of the recent tragedy at Campbell Hall School in Studio City where a student was killed in the parent pick-up line. The article argues that America's reliance on school car pickup lines reflects deeper issues of urban sprawl, unsafe infrastructure, and cultural fears that limit children's independence. To fix this, communities must invest in safer walking and biking options and shift away from car-centric design. **CollegeTowns<sup>9</sup>**





**LA Public Library Survey**

LAPL has launched a community survey to help shape its strategic plan and ensure its services reflect the needs and values of the communities it serves. Your feedback will play an important role in guiding the Library's future.

**LAPL<sup>10</sup>**

**Shaping the Future of LA Parks**

The Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks is conducting a citywide Park Needs Assessment to gather community input on park and recreation priorities. The assessment aims to evaluate the condition, accessibility, and community needs of parks across the city to guide future improvements and investments. Residents can participate by attending public meetings, visiting pop-up events, or filling out the mid-2025 online survey on their website (5-8 minutes) **LA City Parks<sup>11</sup>**

**Next Community Meeting Pop Up**

**Saturday June 28th (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)**

**Granada Hills Recreation Center**

**LA100 Clean Energy Meetings**

LADWP invites the community to attend upcoming virtual community meetings to learn about the city's transition to 100% clean energy. Guided by the LA100 Plan—a 25-year roadmap updated every two years—LADWP is exploring various scenarios to reach 100% clean energy by 2035 in alignment with local and state climate goals. Four virtual meetings will be held between June 23–28 with times available on their website. **LADWP<sup>12</sup>**

**Monthly Trash Cleanup!**

Volunteers Cleaning Communities is hosting their next Northridge cleanup on **Sunday July 13th from 8-10AM at Reseda/Nordhoff**. Cleanups are led by NSNC member and VCC leader **Matt Zebro**.

Email **cleanup818@gmail.com** or sign up here for more information: **[tinyurl.com/y955nevp](https://tinyurl.com/y955nevp)**

**First Phase of East SFV Light Rail Construction Underway**

Work on the East San Fernando Valley light rail line is now visible along Van Nuys Boulevard, with advanced utility work underway between Nordhoff Street and Woodman Avenue. K-rail barriers are being installed, maintaining two lanes of traffic in each direction through the fall. The first phase of the \$3.6-billion project, which secured nearly \$900 million in federal funding, will cover 6.7 miles of the route and include 11 stations, with connections to the G Line, Metrolink, and Amtrak. The light rail line is expected to be completed by 2031, with a potential second phase extending the line further to the Sylmar/San Fernando Metrolink Station.





# State Legislation & Other Updates from Sacramento

## Transportation Bills

### **SB71** California Environmental Quality Act: exemptions: transit projects. **ACTIVE**

Makes permanent and expands existing exemptions under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for sustainable public transit projects.

Introduced 4/16/25 by Sen. Wiener, **Passed Senate 36-0 6/3/25, sent to Assembly 6/4/25, Referred to Committee on Natural Resources 6/9/25**

### **SB79** Local government land: public transit: housing development: transit-oriented development. **ACTIVE**

Legalizes and streamlines the construction of multi-family housing within a half-mile of major public transit stops, such as rail stations and rapid bus lines

Introduced 1/15/25 by Sen. Wiener, **Passed Senate 21-13 6/3/25, sent to Assembly 6/4/25, Referred to Committee on Housing and Community Development 6/16/25**

### **SB445** Transportation: planning: complete streets facilities: sustainable transportation projects **ACTIVE**

Amends Section 671.5 of the Streets and Highways Code to streamline permitting approval process for transit projects including street projects that enhance pedestrian, cyclist, and public transit access.

Introduced 4/10/25 by Sen. Wiener, **Passed Senate 34-1 5/28/25, sent to Assembly 5/28/25**

### **SB720** Automated traffic enforcement system programs. **ACTIVE**

Authorizes local jurisdictions to implement automated traffic enforcement systems—commonly known as red light cameras—to detect traffic signal violations.

Introduced 4/9/25 by Sen. Ashby, **Passed Senate 31-3 6/3/25, sent to Assembly 6/4/25, Referred to Committee on Housing Development 6/9/25**

### **SB273** Surplus land. **STALLED**

Amends Section 54220 of Government Code, reaffirms the commitment to utilize surplus land near transit for housing development, promoting efficient land use and transit-oriented growth .

Introduced 2/4/25 by Sen. Grayson, **Referred to Committee on Rules 2/14/25**

### **SB545** High-speed rail: economic opportunities. **ACTIVE**

Directs the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation to assess how the California high-speed rail can spur economic growth and local benefits along its route.

Introduced 2/20/25 by Sen. Cortese, **Passed Senate 27-9 6/2/25, sent to Assembly 6/3/25, Referred to Committees on Transportation and Local Government 6/9/25**

**AB394** Public transportation providers.**ACTIVE**

Bolsters safety for public transit workers and riders by strengthening legal protections and expanding enforcement tools across transit systems

Introduced 2/20/25 by Asm. Wilson, **Passed Assembly 76-0 6/2/25**, sent to Senate 6/2/25, Referred to Committees on Public Safety and Judiciary 6/11/25

**AB1085** License plates: obstruction or alteration.**ACTIVE**

Increases penalties for buying and selling license plate covers. Would increase the fine from \$250 to \$2,500 per item sold or manufactured and would impose new state-mandated local programs.

Introduced 4/9/25 by Asm. Stefani, **Passed Assembly 69-0 5/15/25**, sent to Senate 5/15/25, Referred to Committee on Public Safety 6/11/25

**Public Works Bills****AB942** Net energy metering: eligible customer-generators: tariffs.**ACTIVE**

Requires new homeowners who purchase a property with rooftop solar to switch to the current Net Billing Tariff, ending their eligibility for older, more generous solar compensation rates. Solar customers would also no longer receive the California Climate Credit, the yearly rebate funded by cap-and-trade.

Introduced 2/19/25 by Asm. Calderon, **Passed Assembly 46-14 6/3/25**, sent to Senate 6/3/25, Referred to Committee on Utilities & Energy 6/18/25

**Assembly-40th**  
**Pilar Schiavo**

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>SB71</b>  | <b>SB545</b>    |
| <b>SB79</b>  | <b>AB394</b> ✓  |
| <b>SB445</b> | <b>AB1045</b> ✓ |
| <b>SB720</b> | <b>AB942</b> —  |
| <b>SB273</b> |                 |

**Senate-20th**  
**Caroline Menjivar**

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| <b>SB71</b> ✓  | <b>SB545</b> ✓ |
| <b>SB79</b> ✗  | <b>AB394</b>   |
| <b>SB445</b> ✓ | <b>AB1045</b>  |
| <b>SB720</b> ✓ | <b>AB942</b>   |
| <b>SB273</b>   |                |

**New California Budget Could Slash \$1.5 billion From Transit**

Governor Newsom's 2025-2026 budget proposal would cut \$1.5 billion in transit funding from California's Cap-and-Invest program, putting already struggling agencies like BART, Muni, and LA Metro at further risk. Transit leaders and lawmakers, are pushing back, warning that the cuts could gut essential services and halt major projects statewide. With a July 1 deadline looming, advocates are urging the governor to restore funding and recognize public transit's vital role in climate action and economic recovery.



# Links for Further Reading and More Info

**<sup>1</sup>Metro Releases DEIR for Sepulveda Project - [tinyurl.com/4hay77jz](https://tinyurl.com/4hay77jz)**



**<sup>8</sup>NSNC Park Assessment Statement - [tinyurl.com/NSNC-Parks](https://tinyurl.com/NSNC-Parks)**



**<sup>2</sup>Bureau of Street Lighting Escalating Repair Backlog - [tinyurl.com/ymk9b3r9](https://tinyurl.com/ymk9b3r9)**



**<sup>9</sup>School Pickups Reveal Deeper Problems - [tinyurl.com/y3v48kn9](https://tinyurl.com/y3v48kn9)**



**<sup>3</sup>City Council Explores Ending Parking Mandates- [tinyurl.com/4eh7akkc](https://tinyurl.com/4eh7akkc)**



**<sup>10</sup>LA Public Library Survey - [tinyurl.com/3hf33u7x](https://tinyurl.com/3hf33u7x)**



**<sup>4</sup>Metro Bus Service Updates - [tinyurl.com/mumz6knx](https://tinyurl.com/mumz6knx)**



**<sup>11</sup>Shaping the Future of LA City Parks - [tinyurl.com/j6vfucez](https://tinyurl.com/j6vfucez)**



**<sup>5</sup>Mayor Bass signs \$14B Budget - [tinyurl.com/3fk7bnzm](https://tinyurl.com/3fk7bnzm)**



**<sup>12</sup>LA100 Clean Energy Meetings - [tinyurl.com/twrsxhuz](https://tinyurl.com/twrsxhuz)**



**<sup>6</sup>Trump Admin. Moves to Cut \$4B in California Rail Funding - [tinyurl.com/mu86ca3u](https://tinyurl.com/mu86ca3u)**



**<sup>13</sup>East SFV Light Rail - [tinyurl.com/2jsjr2tn](https://tinyurl.com/2jsjr2tn)**



**<sup>7</sup>LAX Transit Hub Opens - [tinyurl.com/358u37v3](https://tinyurl.com/358u37v3)**



**Northridge Monthly Trash Cleanup Signup**

Google Signup: [tinyurl.com/y955nevp](https://tinyurl.com/y955nevp)  
Email [cleanup818@gmail.com](mailto:cleanup818@gmail.com)



**Look up Legislation by Bill**

**[tinyurl.com/4awahpsr](https://tinyurl.com/4awahpsr)**



*California*

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

Thank you for reading! For any questions, concerns, or comments, please email [mzebro.nsncc@gmail.com](mailto:mzebro.nsncc@gmail.com)