

Eco-Rapid Transit, formerly known as the Orangeline Development Authority, is a joint powers authority (JPA) created to pursue development of a transit system that moves as rapidly as possible, uses grade separation as appropriate, and is environmentally friendly and energy efficient. The system is designed to enhance and increase transportation options for riders of this region utilizing safe, advanced transit technology to expand economic growth that maximizes ridership in Southern California. The Authority is composed of the following public agencies:

- City of Artesia
- City of Bell
- City of Bell Gardens
- City of Cudahy
- City of Downey
- City of Glendale
- City of Huntington Park
- City of Maywood
- City of Paramount
- City of South Gate
- Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority

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Councilmember
City of Huntington Park

- Vice-Chair
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City of Glendale

- Internal Auditor
- Jose R. Gonzalez
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City of Cudahy

- Executive Director
- Michael R. Kodama

- General Counsel
- Teresa L. Highsmith

- Ex-Officio
- William Rawlings
City Manager Representative

A G E N D A R E P O R T

TO: Members of Eco-Rapid Transit Board of Directors

FROM: Michael Kodama, Executive Director

DATE: September 9, 2020

SUBJECT: UPDATE AND/OR ACTION REGARDING ECO-RAPID TRANSIT’S NORTHERN CORRIDOR AND HIGH SPEED RAIL ALTERNATIVES

Public comments on items on the agenda will be taken at the time the item is called and are limited to 3 minutes per speaker

ISSUE

Eco-Rapid Transit staff will provide an update and seeks your guidance and input regarding next steps for the Eco-Rapid Transit Northern Corridor and California High Speed Rail Authority.

BACKGROUND

Eco-Rapid Transit staff has been working on issues related to high speed rail in the northern corridor. At the direction of the Board of Directors, we are in support of a concept to bring high speed rail to Southern California with service from Hollywood Burbank Airport to Union Station and to Anaheim.

We also submitted a comment letter to the California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) re the Draft Burbank to Los Angeles Section Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). Eco-Rapid Transit supports high speed rail from Hollywood Burbank Airport to Union Station and on to Anaheim but expressed our concerns, especially as it relates to a real need to build upon existing uses in the Hollywood Burbank Airport station area.

As part of our research effort, staff included excerpts from a Mineta Institute Study authored by Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris, Ph.D., Deike Peters, Ph.D. and Wenbin Wei Ph.D. that looks at Promoting Connectivity at California’s High-Speed Rail Stations (July 2015). It includes a section on the Hollywood Burbank Airport Station, looking at the station’s intermodality and connectivity that could create a plane to train connection with the possibility of promoting and enhancing airport business rather than just building a surface parking lot as proposed by CHSRA.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Discuss information presented and offer action items; and/or
2. Receive and file the item