July 23, 2018

To: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Stakeholders and Interested Persons

From: City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Bureau of Engineering
1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600
Los Angeles, CA 90015-2213

Subject: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment for the Restoration of Historic Streetcar Service in Downtown Los Angeles Project

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in coordination with the City of Los Angeles (the City) is proposing to restore historic streetcar service in downtown Los Angeles. FTA is the federal lead agency pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared at the direction and under the supervision of the City of Los Angeles as the local lead agency. Development of the Project and its environmental review process are being managed through the joint cooperation of the City Department of Transportation (LADOT), Bureau of Engineering (LABOE), and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro). Additional support is being provided by the City Council District 14 and Los Angeles Streetcar Inc. (LASI), an independent non-profit agency.

Based on information contained in this EA and any comments submitted, FTA will determine whether environmental effects are substantial to warrant preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. If the FTA decides there are no adverse effects, it will prepare and sign a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The determination will be made available to the general public and all who commented on this EA.

Project Location: Located in downtown Los Angeles, the Project would construct and implement streetcar service along an alignment that would begin at the corner of Hill and 1st Streets. From 1st Street, the streetcar would turn south on Broadway, traveling to 11th Street where it would turn west and continue to Figueroa Street. The streetcar would then turn north on Figueroa Street and travel to 7th Street, where it would turn east. From 7th Street, the streetcar would turn north on Hill Street, then continue back to 1st Street, completing the circuit. Potential inclusion of a Grand Avenue Extension would also provide a two-way alignment spur west along 1st Street, beginning at Hill Street, and continuing south along Grand Avenue to a stop north of 2nd Street. The loop would be up to 3.8 miles in length.
**Project Description:** The City of Los Angeles is proposing to construct and operate electrically powered streetcar service along the route shown in Figure 1. The current plans include up to 24 platforms. The streetcars would make stops at 23 stations along the alignment, and the potential Grand Avenue Extension includes one additional station. The number of platforms is subject to change based upon further design of the Project. Platforms would be located adjacent to the sidewalk under the Project, although the Grand Avenue Extension would include a platform in the center of Grand Avenue. Streetcar service would operate seven days a week; round trip running times would be approximately 35 to 40 minutes. Power to the streetcars would be provided by a series of traction power substations located along the alignment and delivered by means of overhead catenary wires supported on trolley poles located in the sidewalks along the alignment. A maintenance and storage facility (MSF) would also be constructed to service streetcar vehicles. Two sites are being assessed for the MSF: (1) the southeast corner of 11th and Olive Streets; or (2) the west side of Broadway between 2nd and 3rd Streets.

**Public Review Period:** The EA is being made available for public review for a 30-day period which begins on July 23, 2018 and closes on August 21, 2018. Public comments on the EA will be received during this period. The EA and all documents referenced in the EA may be viewed at the following locations:

- Bureau of Engineering, Environmental Management Group, 1149 S. Broadway, 6th Floor, contact: William Jones at (213) 485-5760
- Los Angeles Central Public Library; 630 W. 5th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071
- Little Tokyo Branch Library; 203 S. Los Angeles Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Additionally, the EA and Appendices may be viewed at the following location:

- Project website: [http://eng.lacity.org/historic_streetcar](http://eng.lacity.org/historic_streetcar)

During the public review period, a public meeting will be held to provide an opportunity for interested parties to comment on the EA. The public meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 2, 2018 at 100 South Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Responses are requested at the earliest possible date, but not later than 30 days after receipt of this notice.

Please send your response to:

City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works  
Bureau of Engineering  
1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600  
Los Angeles, CA 90015-2213  
Attention: William Jones  
eng.lastreetcarproject@lacity.org

Comments may also be submitted at the public meeting.
Note: Platform locations subject to change in final design.