



Honorable Mayor and Members of the Hermosa Beach City Council

**CONSIDERATION OF A POSITION ON LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY C LINE EXTENSION ROUTE INTO TORRANCE**
(Senior Management Analyst Ken Bales)

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends City Council:

1. Consider whether to take a position on the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) C Line extension into Torrance; and
2. Authorize Interim City Manager, if a position is taken, to provide a letter representing the City's position to the Metro Board.

Executive Summary:

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Metro Vision 2028 Plan goal of providing high-quality mobility options aligns with the mobility goals established in PLAN Hermosa, the City's general plan developed in 2017. The two finalized routes in the final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Metro C Line extension are the Right-of-Way (ROW) Option and the Hawthorne Option. On March 25, 2025, Councilmember Jackson, supported by Councilmember Seamann, made a motion to table the discussion to consider taking a position on the final route of the Metro C Line Extension into Torrance until the final (EIR) was released by Metro. The final EIR was released by Metro on September 11, 2025.

Background:

In December 2018, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) adopted a motion setting an initial one-year pilot operating plan for the K Line (Crenshaw/LAX) new light rail link. However, the inability to connect the C and K Lines due to the Airport Metro Connector (AMC) station construction precluded the opportunity to pilot the planned alternative for one year, evaluate the performance, and recommend any changes prior to the AMC opening.

Given the changing circumstances, the Metro Board directed its staff to conduct significant public outreach in March and April 2023 to provide robust public input in support of an updated C and K Lines operating plan recommendation. Based on public input, staff recommended the Metro Board adopt Option 2 (C-2 Alternative), creating a K Line, operating between Redondo Beach and Expo/Crenshaw, and a C Line, operating

between Norwalk and the LAX/Metro Transit Center. Option 2 (C-2 Alternative) creating a simple, easy-to-understand network, was the most supported option from community outreach, provides direct connection to LAX/Metro Transit Center from all C and K Line stations, creates north-south (K) and east-west (C) lines in line with regional travel patterns, utilizes lower resources and operating costs than the previous pilot option, and provides a north-south corridor consistent with Torrance and Hollywood future extensions.

At the Metro Board of Directors meeting on May 23, 2024, the Metro Board selected the staff recommended Hybrid Alternative as the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for the Proposed Project in the Final EIR. The LPA follows the ROW Option route and addresses feedback from the public, proposes changes to at-grade, elevated grade, and trench alignments along the route, etc. Metro released the final EIR on September 11, 2025 for public review ahead of certification at a future Metro Board meeting anticipated in fall 2025.

Meeting Date	Description
August 8, 2023	City Council received and filed a letter in support of the Metro C and K Line operating plan.
October 10, 2023	Staff provided City Council additional information regarding the Metro C Line extension into Torrance.
March 11, 2025	Mayor Francois requested, and Councilmembers Seamann and Keegan supported, directing staff to return with an item to consider the City’s position on the Metro C Line extension into Torrance.
March 25, 2025	Councilmember Jackson, supported by Councilmember Saemann, made a motion to table the Metro C Line discussion until the final EIR is released by Metro.

Discussion:

The City of Hermosa Beach regularly expresses its support or opposition regarding legislative matters that would have an impact on the City. For matters that pertain to longstanding City goals or stances previously expressed by Council, the Mayor may sign and submit a letter on the City’s behalf. The City of Hermosa Beach’s General Plan, PLAN Hermosa, outlines goals and policies aimed at reaching the community’s vision for the future of mobility in Hermosa Beach. PLAN Hermosa’s Mobility Element supports reducing transportation-related environmental impacts, the development of a multimodal transportation network that allows travelers the flexibility of choosing sustainable and low-cost transportation choices that promote and improve public health, environmental quality, and overall quality of life.

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s Metro Vision 2028 Plan includes the goal of providing high-quality mobility options that enable people to spend

less time traveling. Its mobility and sustainability objectives to combat climate change and reduce Los Angeles County's carbon footprint also align with the City's goals. The City recognizes the pressing need to tackle the adverse impact, in terms of congestion and environmental degradation, of car trips by single-occupancy motor vehicles. Mobility is also an imperative for transit-dependent riders.

The design of the proposed route involves two different travel corridors. The Right-of-Way Option follows the existing freight rail path through Redondo Beach and Lawndale from 190th Street north to Redondo Beach Station. The Hawthorne Option follows Hawthorne Blvd north of 190th Street to Redondo Beach Station. Both proposed Metro C Line routes fall outside of Hermosa Beach's city boundaries.

Staff recommends City Council consider whether it would like to take a position on the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) C Line extension into Torrance.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

Link:

[Metro C Line Extension Project Website](#)

Respectfully Submitted by: Ken Bales, Senior Management Analyst

Concur: Alison, Becker, Community Development Director

Noted for Fiscal Impact: Brandon Walker, Administrative Services Director

Legal Review: Jason Baltimore, Interim City Attorney

Approved: Steve Napolitano, Interim City Manager