

**Westside Purple Line Extension Section 3**  
**Los Angeles, California**  
**New Starts Project Development**  
**Information Prepared January 2017**

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) is planning to extend the existing heavy rail system 2.6 miles from the future Century City Constellation Station that is part of the Westside Purple Line Extension Section 2 project to be under construction in 2018. Section 3 will extend the Purple Line to the Westwood/Veterans Affairs Hospital area. The extension project is located entirely underground, and includes two stations, 16 vehicles, train controls, and signals.

The corridor between Downtown Los Angeles and Santa Monica along Wilshire Boulevard has very high levels of congestion, even with extensive bus service. To accommodate existing travel demand, LACMTA is currently constructing peak-period bus-only lanes along Wilshire Boulevard that will improve the reliability of existing rapid bus service. However, per LACMTA, even with the bus-only lane, the long planned extension of heavy rail service is the most effective option for improving transportation capacity in the corridor, which has the highest density of population and employment in Los Angeles County.

Following completion of an alternatives analysis in January 2009 and publication of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in September 2010, the LACMTA board selected the locally preferred alternative (LPA) in October 2010. The LPA was adopted into the fiscally constrained long range transportation plan in October 2010. Under SAFETEA-LU, FTA approved the then 8.9-mile project into New Starts Preliminary Engineering in January 2011. The Final EIS was completed in May 2012, and FTA issued a Record of Decision in August 2012. Due to financial constraints, LACMTA decided in November 2012 to construct the project in three sections. Section 1 of the project received a Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) from FTA in May 2014, and Section 2 received an FFGA in December 2016. Section 1 is currently under construction.

LACMTA anticipates that Section 3 will enter Engineering in spring 2017, receive a Full Funding Grant Agreement in April 2018, and begin revenue service in August 2025.