

South Central LRT Extension
Phoenix, Arizona
New Starts Project Development
Information Prepared November 2015

The Valley Metro Regional Public Transportation Authority (Valley Metro), in coordination with the City of Phoenix, proposes to extend the current Valley Metro Rail light rail line 5.0 miles south. The proposed extension includes seven stations, the purchase of light rail vehicles, roadway reconfigurations, and special track work to support increased service for special events in downtown Phoenix. The current estimated capital cost of the project is between \$466.8 million and \$530.7 million. Valley Metro has not identified the amount that would be sought from the New Starts program.

Valley Metro believes that the project would improve the reliability of north-south travel in the corridor, alleviate overcrowding on existing bus routes in the corridor, enhance the corridor's economic development and neighborhood revitalization, and provide more dependable mobility options between downtown Phoenix and the south Phoenix area.

In 2013, local officials completed an alternatives analysis and selected light rail as the locally preferred alternative (LPA). In June 2015, the LPA was included in the region's fiscally-constrained long range transportation plan. Valley Metro expects to complete the environmental review process with receipt of a Finding of No Significant Impact in summer 2016, enter into Engineering in 2017, receive a Full Funding Grant Agreement in 2018, and start revenue service in 2023.