

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 WEST 4TH STREET, SUITE 500
LOS ANGELES, CA 90013



January 15, 2026

ENVR 20260100002

Mitali Gupta
Project Manager
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza mail Stop 99-22-32
Los Angeles, Ca 90012

Re: LA River Path Project [SCH 2019100443](#) — *Draft Environmental Impact Report*

Dear Mitali Gupta:

The California Public Utilities Commission (Commission/CPUC) has jurisdiction over rail crossings (crossings) in California. CPUC ensures that crossings are safely designed, constructed, and maintained. The Commission's Rail Crossings Engineering Branch (RCEB) is in receipt of the *Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)* for the proposed LA River Path Project. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) is the lead agency.

LACMTA, through this project, intends to construct 8 miles of bikeway along the LA River from Elysian Valley, through downtown Los Angeles and the City of Vernon, to the City of Maywood. The proposed bike path would provide connections between Downtown Los Angeles; the surrounding communities of Elysian Valley, Cypress Park, Elysian Park, Lincoln Heights, Chinatown, the Arts District, Little Tokyo, the Industrial District, Boyle Heights, and East Los Angeles; and the City of Vernon and Maywood. The section proposes three alternative designs of which will run along shared railroad corridors through the cities of Maywood, Vernon, and Los Angeles. The project would close the gap between the LA River Greenway Trail and the LA River Bicycle Path. The bike path runs parallel to multiple active rail lines and crosses over or under several rail bridges (grade separated **crossings**) from the following railroads: Metrolink, Metro A Line, Metro E Line, Union Pacific Railroad, BNSF Railway and Amtrak tracks and facilities. Please see a list of grade separated crossings and facilities that the bike path will run parallel, under or over:

- [Metro Division 21](#) rail facility (Directly between Elysian park (to the north/west) at the Los Angeles River (to the east) serving the A line and E line light rail equipment.
- [Riverside Drive](#) (CPUC# 101RI-2.11-A / DOT # 746822Y)
- [Pasadena freeway](#) (SR 110) NB (CPUC # 101RI-1.99-A / DOT # 747490K)
- Westbank Tracks LA Metro (CPUC # 084-01.53-BG, 101R1-1.56-AT/ DOT # 922842U)
- [North Broadway](#) (CPUC # 101RI-1.46-A / DOT # 027605P)
- [North Spring Street](#) (CPUC # 101RI-1.36-A /DOT # 027606W)
- [North Main Street](#) (CPUC # 101RI-1.17 / DOT # 027607D)
- [Aliso Viaduct/101 Freeway](#) (CPCU # 101RI-482.74-A / DOT # 811254E)
- [East 1st St](#) (CPUC # 101RI-483.10-A/ DOT # 811229W)
- [East 4th St](#) (CPUC # 101RI-483.40-A / DOT # 811240W)
- [6th St](#) (CPUC# 101RI-141.70-A / DOT # 027624U)
- [7th St](#) (CPUC # 101RI-142.00-A / DOT 027625B)
- [10 Freeway](#) (CPCU # 101RI-142.40-A / DOT # 027626H)
- [Olympic Blvd](#) (CPUC # 101RI-142.70-A / DOT # 027627P)

Currently the design alternatives do not show the bike path crossing any at-grade crossings, but it does pass over or under grade separated crossings. Given that the bikeway will likely increase pedestrian and bicycle traffic in the vicinity of the railroad tracks and nearby crossings, RCEB recommends that the LACMTA evaluate the impact to all nearby rail and implement improvements. These include current standards in compliance with ADA

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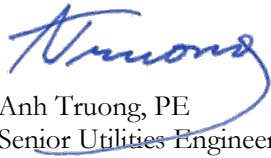
requirements. LACMTA should also restrict access to all active railroad tracks through fencing and other deterrence measures along the bikeway. Lighting should also be considered along the trail and along the LA River.

Any proposed crossing improvement project, including modifying above or below a grade separated crossing, will require authorization from the CPUC under CPUC [General Order 88-B](#) (GO 88-B) and must also conform to the goals of the CPUC's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan. This includes improving safety and access to transportation, improving local air quality and public health, and expanding outreach and public participation opportunities in disadvantaged communities. For more information, please visit <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/esjactionplan>.

RCEB is available to discuss any potential safety impacts or concerns at this location and address any questions from LACMTA.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Palas at (213) 999-3403, or Christopher.palas@cpuc.ca.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anh Truong', is written over a faint circular stamp.

Anh Truong, PE
Senior Utilities Engineer (Supervisor)
Rail Crossings Engineering Branch
Rail Safety Division

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