

## Community Based Transportation Planning Grants

### La Brea Light Rail Station Area Plan

- **Grant Recipient:** Metro (formerly known as Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority)
- **County:** Los Angeles

**Project Area** - The City of Los Angeles, approximately two miles west of the boundary with the City of Culver City.

**Project Focus** - The La Brea Station is part of the first phase of the planned Exposition Light Rail Line, a project currently in preliminary engineering at Metro. Ridership for the line is expected to be heavy and will ease congestion in one of the nation's most well traveled two-way commute corridors. Hundreds of thousands travel each day from residences to jobs and recreational opportunities on the Los Angeles Westside.

**Project Goals** - Metro, along with the Transportation and Land Use collaborative of Southern California (TULC), proposes a community-based planning process to design and develop a station area community linkages plan ("plan") for the area immediately surrounding the proposed La Brea Station on the planned Exposition Light Rail Line. The project will collectively address crucial transportation and land use planning issues at, and within a  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile radius of, the La Brea Station of the proposed light rail line. Through the community and municipal collaboration proposed by this application, a plan would be developed to

create a vibrant public/private place in a unique location that links the surrounding communities with transportation, housing, jobs, retail, and recreation.

**Community Outreach** - The community outreach process included the creation of a La Brea Station Area Plan Committee. The committee was designed to include a diversity of decision-making interests involved in the Expo Light Rail program. Newsletters, creation of a website, and public workshops were also a part of the public participation process. The workshops were used to introduce a range of planning concepts and techniques that would inform the public about the development and connectivity options in preparation of the light rail system. The community workshops were highly successful. Participants were engaged and eager to learn more about the station, transit connections offered by the system, and the redevelopment potential of the project.

**Project Outcome** - A planning document to help revitalize the La Brea Station area into a safe and vibrant community place. Among issues to be considered would be station/community linkages, pedestrian safety and comfort, traffic safety and congestion, transportation oriented development concepts, streetscape, residential needs, and economic development.

#### **Planning Goals Realized** -

- Foster neighborhoods and project designs that enable more walking and biking;
- Reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality.