

## Supporters of the Expo Line:

Light Rail for Cheviot sent out an email last month notifying you all that on November 10, 2011 (this Thursday), the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will consider approval of the crossings for Phase 2 of the Expo Light Rail Line. The CPUC is the state agency that reviews safety concerns at any point where a rail line crosses a street or walkway. The CPUC approval is a crucial step in getting the Expo Line to Santa Monica, and it is important that the commissioners hear from supporters of the project.

WE HAVE NOW LEARNED that Expo opponents are staging a write-in campaign to have the Expo Crossings removed from CPUC consideration until the Neighbors For Smart Rail (NFSR) lawsuit has been resolved. The suit alleges that the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared by Expo is deficient and does not address impacts to safety, traffic, parking, air quality, and noise and vibrations. We feel that these allegations are false, and the judge at the trial court agreed. NFSR has appealed, and the appeal will be heard in mid-2012. However, there is no reason for CPUC consideration of the crossings to be delayed by this appeal. **DO NOT ALLOW EXPO OPPONENTS TO DELAY THE PROJECT!**

The Expo Phase 2 project underwent an almost three-year-long environmental review process with extensive public participation and significant community input. The Exposition Construction Authority received and responded to more than 9,000 comments from area stakeholders during the environmental process, including comments on the grade crossings, safety and traffic. The Expo Phase 2 grade crossings have been environmentally cleared and have been deemed safe through extensive review and study by the City of Los Angeles, the City of Santa Monica, Metro and CPUC staff.

LET'S COUNTER EMAIL WITH EMAIL! Please write to the CPUC requesting APPROVAL of the Expo Line crossings on November 10. Even if you wrote before, email the Commissioners again requesting that they keep the Expo Crossings on the agenda. The meeting is this Thursday, so email now so that it will be received in time to be seen.

If you live near one or more of the crossings let them know what you think about the proposals by Expo for that crossing. (For example, "I live near the future Overland Avenue at-grade crossing. I have seen fantastic at-grade light rail in Portland, Oregon, and am sure that Angelenos will be able to live with it safely as Oregonians have.")

You can email your comments to the CPUC by clicking on the link below. BE SURE to include your name and address and to refer to APPROVE CPUC Resolution SX-100 in your subject line:

[Link to submit comments to the CPUC](#)

The Commissioners and Staff are:

Michelle Cooke, Interim Director  
Jose Pereyra, Utilities Engineer  
President Michael R. Peevey  
Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon  
Commissioner Michel Peter Florio  
Commissioner Catherine J.K. Sandoval  
Commissioner Mark J. Ferron

CPUC Board of Commissioners  
California Public Utilities Commission

505 Van Ness Ave  
San Francisco CA 94102

#### POINTS TO CONSIDER:

The Phase 2 environmental process, which included significant community input, took place from February 2007-December 2009.

During that time, the Authority held 17 community meetings, 38 stakeholder meetings, participated in 11 community events and gave almost 40 presentations.

The Authority received and responded to over 9,000 comments during the environmental process.

The Authority provided opportunities for the public to speak at the Board meetings where the DEIR and the FEIR were approved. Several hundred people attended these meetings and over 200 people spoke at these meetings.

Comments on the DEIR and FEIR included extensive discussion on the crossings, safety, and traffic.

The Expo Board of Directors voted to approve the project with the crossings as environmentally cleared in the FEIR.

The Authority has met with the City of Los Angeles, City of Santa Monica, Metro and PUC staff which have all agreed that the crossings as environmentally cleared in the FEIR are safe as proposed.

The Authority, in conjunction with the other entities, evaluated the safety of each crossing through the development of a hazard analysis process started in the summer of 2009 and completed in the summer of 2011.

Except for the addition of the Sepulveda Boulevard grade separation which was funded by the City of Los Angeles, there have been no changes to the proposed grade crossings since the FEIR was approved in 2010.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Expo Line.

Karen Leonard and Sarah Hays - co-chairs Light Rail for Cheviot