Upcoming Opportunities for Community Participation

South Gate’s collaboration with business and residential communities is of paramount importance to the development of the Specific Plan. The City will host three community meetings between January and Fall 2016.

1. Community Meeting 1: Project Initiation Meeting
   Wednesday, January 27, 2016
   The focus of the initial meeting is to increase project awareness, provide interested residents and business groups information about the Specific Plan’s purpose, study goals and timeline, and to gather feedback on the TOD vision for South Gate.

2. Community Workshop 2: Project Specific Workshop
   Spring/Summer 2016
   The second meeting will be a workshop where the information gathered from the first meeting, as well as technical work, will be shared. Participants will provide feedback and input on preliminary land use and design scenarios, including public access and open space. Information gathered from the workshop will help define the Specific Plan’s goals and policies, and will be used to develop the Public Review Draft Specific Plan.

   Summer/Fall 2016
   The third meeting will provide the community an opportunity to review and comment on the Public Review Draft Specific Plan. Participants will have the chance to review key components of the Specific Plan, such as site design concepts, proposed land uses, pedestrian- and transit-oriented concepts, and strategies for public access and open space. Comments will be documented and be responded to in the Final Gateway Specific Plan. This meeting will also provide next step information for the public to consider, and information related to the public review process, including Planning Commission and City Council Hearings.

For More Information

Additional Information will be posted on the City’s website, Facebook page, and Twitter handle, and mailed to residents living near the project location. Please use the following contact tools to access more project information, ask questions, provide comments and to request to be added to the project database.

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Overview

In anticipation of the planned Eco-Rapid Transit South Gate Station, the City of South Gate is preparing a Specific Plan (Plan) for the Gateway District to establish a comprehensive vision for the future rail station area. The Plan is an opportunity for the City to create a Transit Oriented Development (TOD) which is mixed-use, pedestrian- and transit-focused. The Plan will define goals for a livable, vibrant, and pedestrian-friendly area, while accommodating vehicular, truck, bus and light rail transit traffic on Firestone Boulevard and Atlantic Avenue, one of the City’s busiest intersections. Through design and policy, the Plan will make it possible to introduce housing, shopping, entertainment, jobs, civic areas, and open spaces planned around the South Gate station.

The South Gate Station will link the city of South Gate to other employment regions, commercial areas, and residential neighborhoods along the Eco-Rapid Transit Corridor of which the southern portion, from Downtown Los Angeles to the city of Artesia, is known as the West Santa Ana Branch Transit Corridor (WSAB). The Eco-Rapid Transit Corridor spans 40-miles from Bob Hope Airport to the city of Artesia and will grant South Gate residents, business owners and visitors alike, increased access to local and regional bicycle routes, multi-purpose trails and nearby transportation corridors, including Amtrak, Metrolink and Metro’s Blue, Gold, Green, Red and Purple Lines.

The Gateway District Specific Plan is being funded through a $200,000 Compass Blueprint Grant from Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

Background Planning Efforts:

In 2015, the City of South Gate completed the Firestone and Atlantic Station Area Plan, a concept plan for the future station and the surrounding Gateway District. The City of South Gate has continued to team with OLDA/Eco-Rapid Transit Authority to continue to provide input into the WSAB development, including refinements to the future South Gate station plan. Thus far, recommendations for this gateway to South Gate have been shaped by community and stakeholder input as well as community engagement efforts of the 2009 General Plan and 2015 Zoning Code update. This Specific Plan effort will build on prior collaboration to refine the framework and establish a final Specific Plan document.

Goals of the Gateway District Specific Plan:

- Design a transit-oriented center that allows for a mixed-use community and enhances the regional transportation network.
- Reduce carbon emissions and noise levels by providing services accessible by walking, biking, transit and other forms of non-motorized transportation.
- Create a pedestrian and bicycle friendly environment to support the walkability and transit options within South Gate.
- Incorporate cultural, public and green spaces for outdoor activities.
- Plan a district that respects and represents the overall architectural character of the City.
- Increase access to education and employment centers throughout the region.

Eco-Rapid Transit

The Eco-Rapid Transit is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) comprised of 13 members, representing 12 Southern California cities, including South Gate and the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority. The purpose of the JPA is to pursue a high speed transit system that is environmentally friendly, enhances transportation options for riders in the Southern California region and expands economic growth.

The Eco-Rapid Transit system will link economic development and transportation via a 40-mile corridor from Bob Hope Airport to the City of Artesia. The corridor is broken up into two sections: 20-miles from Bob Hope Airport to Downtown Los Angeles and 20 miles from Downtown Los Angeles to the City of Artesia, the latter portion is known as the West Santa Ana Branch or (WSAB). Transit via the WSAB will run through South Gate and connect 4 million residents to the Los Angeles regional transportation system.