EXPOSITION LIGHT RAIL

• Volunteers, supported by
  – Neighborhoods, businesses, environmental groups
  – Hundreds of individuals

• Importance of Exposition
  – Traffic, destinations, population, light rail success

• Neighborhood issues
  – Quiet, safety, property values

• Support staff recommendations to proceed with EIR

EAST-WEST TRANSIT COALITION

www.exporail.net

3/23/00
Westside Traffic

• World-record traffic, in both directions!
• Noise; Pollution; Danger
  – 1,666 deaths—including 315 pedestrians—L.A. County, 1998.
  – Double-deck freeways?
Exposition Destinations

• Along this old “Red Car” line...
• Downtown at each end—
  – Coliseum, USC, Staples Center (sharing existing Blue Line)
• Downtown at each end—
  – Digital Coast jobs—Santa Monica, West L.A., Culver City
  – Recreation
  – “I could walk to the station and ride a train to Staples Center or Santa Monica. It would change the way I feel about Los Angeles.”
Population

- Dense population—
  - 11,600/sq.mi. within ½ mile; 13,200/sq.mi. — 810,000 people — within 2 miles
  - > Blue Line; = Wilshire west of Western
  - 2–3 times San Diego (6,000), Portland (4,600)
Light Rail for Livable Communities

- Popular & Proven—nearly every western U.S. City

  L.A.-Long Beach, **Portland, San Diego**, San Francisco, Silicon Valley, Sacramento, **Dallas**, Salt Lake City, Denver, St. Louis, Pasadena, Houston, Minneapolis, Seattle, Phoenix, Orange County
Light Rail

- **Speed, Comfort, Capacity**
  - Blue Line = nearly 60,000 riders per day
  - One train = 6 buses = a bus every 30 seconds??

- **Curitiba, Brazil?**
  - Small city, slow buses—6-mile lines average 12 mph (20 km/hr)
  - Most riders stand on “270-passenger” 57-seat buses
Neighbors

- **Recommend 35 mph** if not grade-separated for safety & quiet (like a bus—no bells or horns—but without engine noise & exhaust) → **plan in EIR**
- **“safety issues are the most important factor in the decision to build a rail line rather than dedicated busways”** – L.A. Councilman Nick Pacheco, L.A. Independent
- Parks and a bike path along Exposition line
- Value of rail access

Sacramento Bee

**WALK to river, lite rail.**
Butterfield 4br 2 1/2 ba

Los Angeles Times

**LB** 2br cond, gar, park flr,
4 blks to bch + blu line, ...

SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

2000sf, 5br, 2ba fam rm... on quiet cul-de-sac walk to trolley & park. ...

Contra Costa Times

**RARE FIND!**
3000 sq. ft., 5 bdrm., ...
family room, formal dining room, minutes to BART. ...
**Schools**

- **Danger, noise, pollution** now
- **MTA plans a grade separation at Overland**
- **Long Beach** Los Cerritos School
  - Blue Line is not a problem
  - Benefit of taking field trips by train
- **East L.A.**
  - Mary Lou Trevis, a teacher at San Antonio de Padua Elementary School and president of the Mothers of East L.A., “said **bus exhaust regularly pollutes the school**…. Trevis and her students then testified before the MTA board for the **need of light rail** in her community.” —L.A. Independent