



Exhibit A

Consider At-Grade Colorado Alignment Alternative in Addition to Olympic Boulevard Alternative to Ensure the Most Successful Implementation of the Light Rail Line in Santa Monica

	Olympic Boulevard	Colorado Avenue
Planning Considerations		
Land Use/Urban Fabric	Approach to Downtown along Olympic would require aerial structure 23-35' over Lincoln Boulevard and the freeway ramps to the downtown (approximately 1/2 mile of aerial structure). Large concrete structures creates visual impact.	Tracks would run at-grade in the middle of Colorado Avenue. Experience in other cities has shown that at-grade station can become a major activity generator for surrounding uses. Some flexibility re location of station.
		
Landscaped Median Island	Current study proposal would remove median island and Coral trees (alterative would be to remove travel lanes - see traffic below)	No impact to median island on Olympic Boulevard
Traffic	Council could recommend an alignment that removes one travel lane in each direction (to retain median island and Coral trees) from Cloverfield Blvd westward to beginning of aerial track at downtown	Council would need to recommend removing one travel lane in each direction from 17th Street westward (light rails remains on dedicated Expo ROW for 4+ additional blocks to 17th Street)
Downtown Station	Downtown station is 35' above the sidewalk. Separates station from ground-level activity. Requires passenger to use stairs, elevators or escalators to traverse the 3+ stories to the sidewalk	Station would be at-grade.
Parking	Could affect some parking on Olympic (i.e. at mid-city station, transitions)	Could affect approximately half of the on-street parking spaces, depending on the priorities for street.
SCHEDULE IMPACT		The Expo Construction Authority expressed concern that the additional time required to study a new alternative could affect their ability to be ready to submit for the New Starts ranking in July 2007 unless the study is conducted within a compressed time frame.
COSTS		
Additional Study Cost		The cost to analyze the additional Colorado Alternative within an accelerated time frame is estimated at not-to-exceed \$300,000. This cost would be born by the city - not currently in Expo budget.
Future Capital Costs	Capital intensive cost to build required aerial structures.	May cost less to build at-grade alignment.