

METRO Gold Line Environmental Assessment

















Identifying benefits and impacts to the environment, community and businesses is an important part of the METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. To evaluate these impacts for the proposed Gold Line BRT project, an environmental assessment (EA) will be completed.

What is an Environmental Assessment?

An EA is a concise report required by the federal government under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that evaluates impacts and benefits from proposed projects. The purpose of an EA is to:

- Ensure the proposed project is compliant with state and federal laws
- Evaluate potential environmental, social, economic and transportation benefits and impacts from the project's construction and operations
- Identify solutions to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts
- Inform federal and state agencies on impacts from the proposed project as part of their decision making process

During development of the EA for the proposed Gold Line project, staff will evaluate benefits and impacts related to:

 <i>Aesthetic/ visual impacts</i>	 <i>Contaminated sites</i>	 <i>Properties</i>	 <i>Soil</i>
 <i>Air quality</i>	 <i>Historic properties</i>	 <i>Protected and endangered species</i>	 <i>Transportation</i>
 <i>Businesses</i>	 <i>Land use</i>	 <i>Noise</i>	 <i>Water</i>
 <i>Community character</i>	 <i>Parks</i>	 <i>Safety</i>	 <i>Wildlife habitat</i>

How can you participate in the Environmental Assessment?

Project staff will compile the results into the EA report for review by federal, state and local agencies. When the report is published there will be a public comment period to allow the community opportunities to view the EA report and submit comments and questions:

- The EA report will be available on the project website.
- A hard copy of the EA report will be available for viewing at public locations (for example, libraries, city halls, government centers) throughout the project corridor.
- A public hearing will be held for interested individuals to learn about the EA, talk with staff and submit written comments and public testimony.
- Comments on the EA will also be accepted throughout the public comment period by mail and email.



Wetland field walk

