



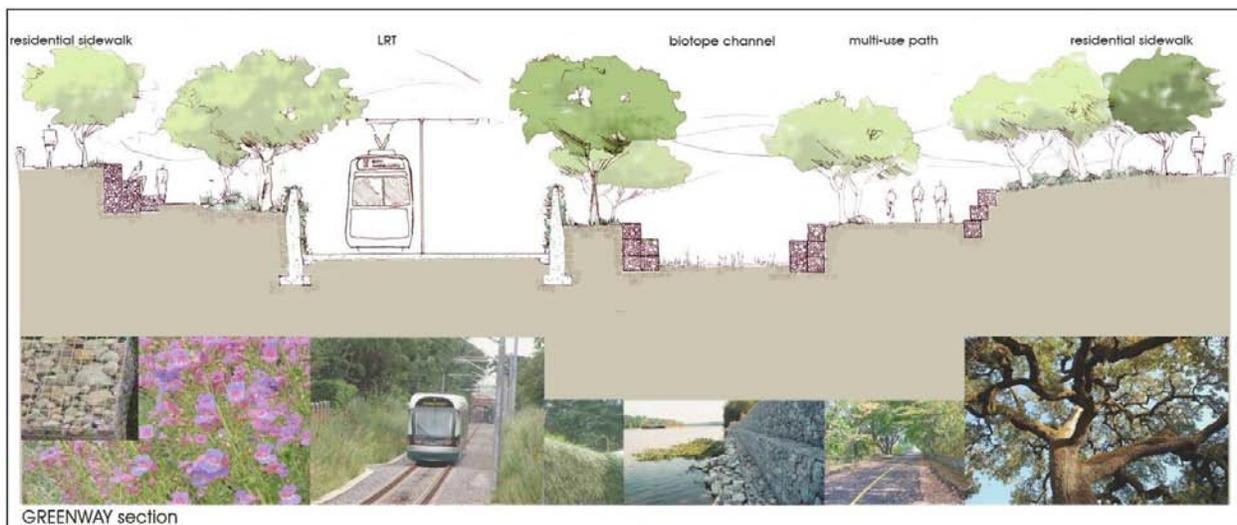
# Parks *not* parking



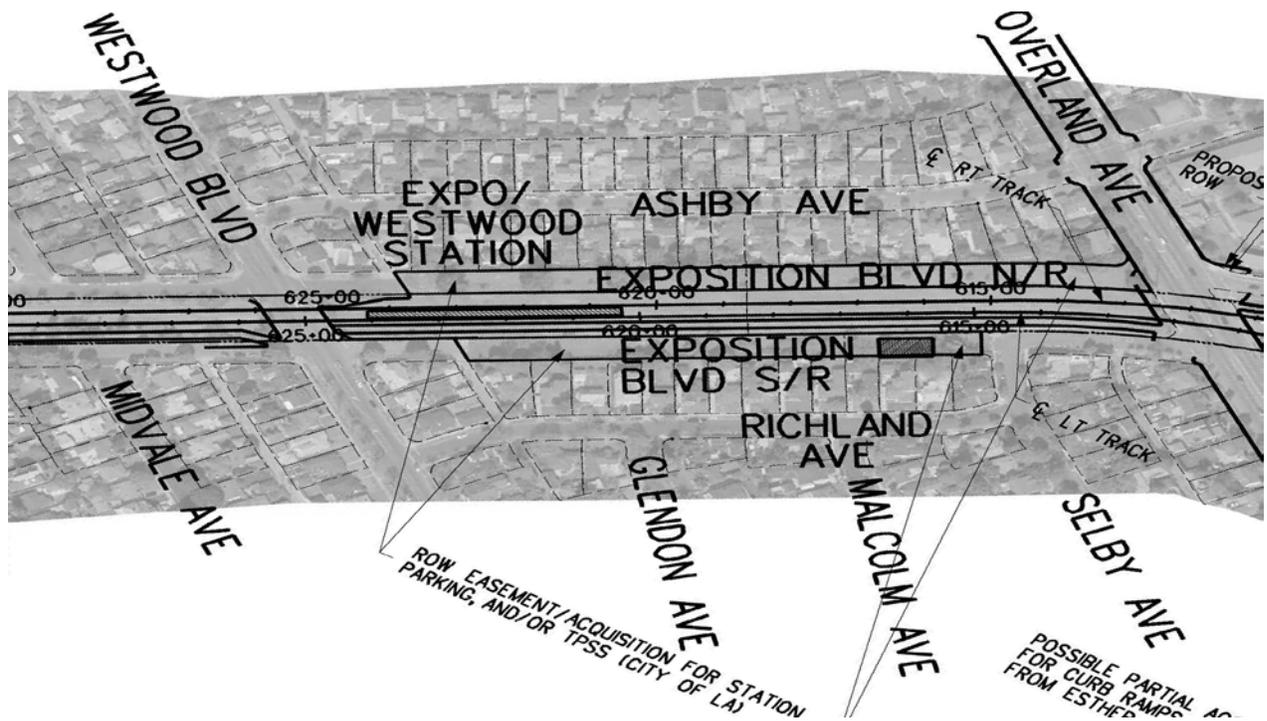
Phase 2 of the Exposition Light Rail line, connecting Los Angeles and Santa Monica, will traverse a unique Right of Way (ROW) in the Rancho Park area. First, unlike the ROW to the east and west, the City of Los Angeles has retained much of the land adjacent to the ROW, so there is room for many concurrent uses. Second, waterways draining 15 square miles of Westside land cross here, carrying runoff and storm water to the ocean.



Recognizing this possible win-win-win for remediation, recreation, and transit, the City proposes the **Exposition Greenway Corridor**: a multi-benefit greenway to provide *urban runoff treatment, a simulated stream, green space, native landscaping, a tree-lined vegetative buffer, a bikeway, access to public transit, and educational and recreational opportunities.*



Unfortunately, in its Expo Phase 2 Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), Expo proposes combining the City land with its ROW for 170 parking spaces, not greenway.



This DEIR “Real Estate Map” labels the City land as Exposition Boulevard North and South Roadways. A close look shows that there is no roadway on most of the land; instead, there is 50 feet of City land on either side of Expo’s 100 foot ROW.

Parkland is possible for most of this area, especially where the tracks will take up only 15% of the width (30 feet of 200). Palms Park abuts the right of way. A walkway from the National Boulevard/Overland Avenue intersection provides park access to Palms, Westdale, and Westside Village, while a pedestrian bridge connects Palms Park to Cheviot Hills. Paths for bicycles and pedestrians could connect Palms Park to the Right of Way. Ample space would remain for walking paths, benches, and an outdoor classroom. A waterway might encourage more urban plants and wildlife, making the experience even more welcoming.

While parking is important, this potential parkland is not the place to put it. Instead, additional light rail parking could be located at the Sepulveda/Exposition station (where a proposed parking structure could have additional decks). At the Palms/National/Exposition station (where no parking is proposed) there is currently an unused commercial lot (formerly a KFC) yards away from the proposed station. Additional parking could be located in the area.

**Parks, Not Parking.**

**BEFORE MARCH 13TH, PLEASE SEND YOUR COMMENT TO THE EXPO AUTHORITY ENCOURAGING IT TO PROVIDE A PARK, NOT PARKING,** on the ROW in the Rancho Park area, consistent with the City’s proposed **Exposition Greenway Corridor**. Mail: Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority, Monica Born, PE, Project Director, 707 Wilshire Boulevard, 34th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017; Email: phase2@exporail.net; Fax: (213) 243-5553.