



## **North Santa Monica Boulevard (SMBld) Reconstruction Project**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

*The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) below are intended to communicate information with our residents and businesses regarding the North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project. The FAQs will continue to be updated as the project proceeds.*

### **General Project Information**

#### **1) What is the North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project?**

This project will completely reconstruct the Santa Monica Boulevard roadway, between Wilshire Boulevard and Doheny Drive.

#### **2) Why does North Santa Monica Boulevard need to be reconstructed?**

*Santa Monica Boulevard currently carries up to 50,000-60,000 vehicles a day. The roadway is in poor condition due to age and use and needs to be reconstructed to maintain an efficient travel corridor for automobiles, bicycles and buses.*

#### **3) What will the project do to improve the roadway?**

This project will:

- Rebuild the roadway with a rubberized asphalt surface to provide a smoother, quieter and safer ride.
- Upgrade the drainage system, relieving ponding and damage caused by standing water at various locations.
- Upgrade and create new curbs and gutters
- Widen the south side between Canon Drive and Wilshire Boulevard
- Install a uniform, improved street-lighting system along the north side, which provides lighting for both sides of the street.
- Install ADA compliant access upgrades
- Upgrade existing sidewalks and driveways



- Construct drainage landscaping (grass swales) which captures surface water run-off from both the street and the adjacent park areas, that complies with urban water quality regulations
- Upgrade the Landscaping on the south side of the boulevard.

**4) Will North Santa Monica Boulevard be widened.**

SM Blvd will be widened by 2' 4" between Wilshire Boulevard and Canon Drive on the south side of the street.

**5) Will there be changes to South Santa Monica Boulevard?**

There will be no permanent changes to South Santa Monica Boulevard (SSMB) as part of this project. However, street parking on SSMB has been removed to increase traffic capacity for the duration of the project. Additionally, the City has installed six additional Pedestrian loading Zones on Camden Drive, Bedford Drive, and Roxbury Drive. Added Public Parking Arrows are installed at many mid-block locations along South Santa Monica Boulevard.

**6) Was there an environmental review process conducted for this project?**

Yes, there was and it was determined that this project qualified for a California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) Class 1 Categorical Exemption. Categorical Exceptions include projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment. Class 1 exemptions include the repair and maintenance of existing highways, streets, sidewalks and gutter.

**7) What will the project cost and how is it funded?**

The construction contract is approximately \$20 million and is funded by the City.

**8) What was the public process that led to the project approval?**

A committee of involved citizens, called a Blue Ribbon Committee, was appointed by the City Council to make recommendations on the design of the roadway. Their ideas were incorporated in the final design. Additionally, there were two business community meetings, two residential community meetings, a City Council Ad Hoc meeting, and several commission and committee meetings to discuss the project.

**9) How will the subway work on Beverly/Rodeo impact the North Santa Monica Boulevard construction?**



The Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction project will be complete before major construction starts on the Beverly/Rodeo station. However, there will be some overlap with the La Cienega Station. Project Staff have been monitoring the construction progress and actively coordinating with the surrounding local transportation governments. This monitoring and coordinating will continue for both projects throughout the construction activities with the Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project.

## **Construction Schedule**

### ***1) During what dates and times will construction take place?***

The project started on Jan. 16, 2017, and is scheduled to complete late summer of 2018. Construction activities generally occur on Monday through Friday 8:00am-6:00pm.

### ***2) Will construction occur at night and on the weekends and holidays?***

Night work and day work have commenced, and will continue through most of January in order to prepare the roadways for restriping on South Santa Monica Boulevard and drainage work on North Santa Monica Boulevard., possibly into February. Some limited nighttime work and weekend work will be required after this preparatory work due to heavy traffic volume during normal construction hours. No work is planned during holidays.

### ***3) What is the anticipated construction phasing schedule?***

To achieve the least impact, to both businesses and residences, the project is planned to be constructed in three distinct roadway work segments. Segment 1, which is from Wilshire Boulevard to Rodeo Drive, progressing eastward towards Segment 2, which reconstructs the roadway between Rodeo Drive and Alpine Drive. The last Segment, Segment 3 continues from Alpine Drive eastward toward the construction limit at Doheny Drive. Each one of these segments will be constructed in four phases to maximize the number of opened lanes.

## **Construction Impacts – Traffic and Noise**

### ***1) How will the traffic be impacted and what is the City doing to reduce negative impacts?***

The creation of three distinct construction segments has taken both current and historic traffic counts and anticipated behaviors into consideration. Driver access throughout both westbound



and eastbound lanes can be maintained with the multiple- phase approach, ensuring the public has at least two left turn lanes into the business triangle throughout construction. 4

***2) Will the road be closed entirely or just individual lanes?***

Traffic will always support travel in both directions, but at times, the work will require lane restrictions. The only exception is a short duration reroute of eastbound traffic along S. Santa Monica Boulevard.

***3) Will there be Traffic Control Officers (TCO) to direct traffic during street closures?***

Traffic signals will be operational during construction as well as traffic control plans, which will be established ahead of any construction sequence or area change. However, TCOs will be present throughout the entire construction schedule, as needed.

***4) Will traffic signal timing be adjusted along construction route?***

Timing of traffic signals likely will be adjusted, based on traffic conditions.

***5) What will the City do to minimize noise impacts?***

The City is managing this primarily by limiting construction related noise to daytime hours. However, work, at times, will extend beyond these hours. When these unique periods occur, the noisier types of activities (roadway and structural concrete removals) will be restricted to Monday through Friday 8:00am-6:00pm. Additionally, the City has included provisions in the contract documents requiring the contractor to provide additional sound attenuation devices to limit noise levels during construction after normal daytime hours.

***6) Where will the earth removal occur and what haul routes will be used to dispose of the material?***

Earth removal will occur within construction footprint of whatever segment of construction is underway at the time. Minor excavation work for drainage pipe installations will occur within the Beverly Gardens Park. Trucks will be routed into and out of the work zones with flaggers and other traffic support signage and tools. Currently, the primary haul routes for incoming loads and deliveries will be from the I-405 freeway along Santa Monica Boulevard and will exit towards the I-405 freeway along Santa Monica Boulevard. Occasionally the contractor will utilize a different approved haul route but the primary route is I-405.



## **Bicycles**

### ***1) Will there be a bike lane on North Santa Monica Boulevard after the reconstruction work is complete?***

When completed, the widened street creates additional width that can support a bike lane. However, a final decision has not been made on whether to stripe the road for bike lanes.

## **Getting Around During Construction**

### ***1) What are the alternate routes and how will they be communicated?***

Updates on all aspects of the construction will be posted on City's website and the City's social media sites.

### ***2) Can I drive through residential streets if/when main roads are closed?***

Alternate routes provided by the City will not include residential streets.

### ***3) Will the bus routes and/or bus stops be changed?***

Bus stops will be relocated with coordination with Metro on temporary bases as the work progresses through the various Metro Bus stops at various city blocks.

### ***4) What number can I call to find out bus schedule changes?***

You can reach both Bus and Rail transit system information by calling 323.GO. METRO (323.466.3876) 6:30a.m. – 7:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday). You can also contact the bus line by emailing them at [customerrelations@metro.net](mailto:customerrelations@metro.net).

### ***5) The projects indicate that left turns are prohibited; where am I supposed to turn left?***

Construction operations have been developed and construction progress has been centered on these roadway segments to ensure that left turn lanes from westbound traffic have the ability to travel south, into the business triangle. Left turns will generally be restricted for eastbound traffic within the work segment.



## **Safety**

### **1) Will emergency (e.g. police, fire) access be impacted?**

The Police and Fire Departments have allocated resources necessary to maintain current response times throughout the entire project period. This includes additional equipment and ongoing coordination between the construction project management and these departments to keep these departments current with ongoing construction work areas. Resource allocation will be reviewed and adjusted as the project progresses.

## **Businesses**

### **1) What is being done to inform shoppers and people who work in Beverly Hills of alternate routes and parking options during construction?**

*Businesses and visitors are encouraged to sign up for the City's social media pages: facebook/cityofbeverlyhills, twitter/cityofbevhills and Instagram/citybh. Register to receive enotices at [www.beverlyhills.org/enotice](http://www.beverlyhills.org/enotice) and/or make regular visits to [www.beverlyhills.org/future](http://www.beverlyhills.org/future).*

*In addition, way-finding and parking signage will be installed to give enough guidance to shoppers, businesses and residents.*

### **2) Who do I call for more information on the project?**

*Call the Helpline (424)339-9033 or Public Works Customer Service (310) 285-2467.*

### **3) Will electronic traffic signs be installed outside the City limits to provide advanced notice to motorists suggesting they take an alternate route?**

*Construction Message Signs have been posted far enough north, west, and east of the City limits to provide drivers enough time to consider and adopt lane changes for their desired alternative routing.*

### **4) What type of outreach is being used to inform and involve local residents and businesses affected by the project?**

*In addition to the signage, website and social media, there will be scheduled public meetings to keep citizens informed. Updates will be provided in the City's quarterly newsletter *In Focus*, flyers and other written materials. Outreach preceding construction currently consists of the above*



information as well as door to door business flyer delivery, mailings, email blasts and notices on social media and the City Website.

Banners highlighting the many shopping and dining experiences in the Business Triangle will be located on the poles along the northern side of North Santa Monica Boulevard and a variety of poles along South Santa Monica Boulevard.

**5) Will there be special events to attract visitors to Beverly Hills?**

Regular ongoing City events will continue. Construction schedules will be adjusted to accommodate citywide events.

**6) How will tour bus staging be impacted?**

The tour bus stop on Santa Monica Boulevard will be relocated to Third Street.

**7) Will the tourist sightseeing buses be requested to use alternate routes during the period of construction?**

Yes, but once each segment is finished, traffic can resume as before construction within those segments.

**8) How will the construction impact businesses in neighboring cities?** The City will be communication with neighboring communities about construction activities in order to reduce impacts.

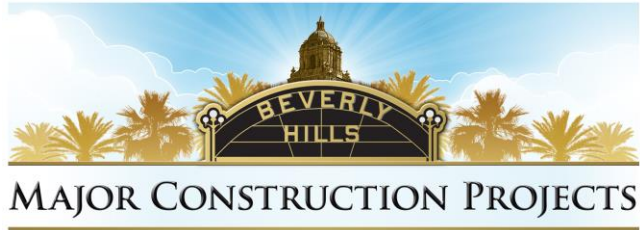
**Parking**

**1) How will parking be affected?**

Street parking along SSMB between Wilshire Boulevard and Beverly Drive will be temporarily removed to accommodate traffic, but the City has implemented a strategy to add approximately the same number of removed parking to new parking spaces on the elevated level of the five parking structures fronting Santa Monica Boulevard.

**2) What is the city doing to mitigate parking impacts?**

The contract documents require the contractor to closely coordinate the construction activities, which are near public parking with notifications well ahead of the start of the work.



## **Stay Informed**

### **1) How can I stay informed?**

*Sign up for the City's social media pages: [facebook/cityofbeverlyhills](https://www.facebook.com/cityofbeverlyhills), [twitter/cityofbevhills](https://twitter.com/cityofbevhills) and [Instagram/citybh](https://www.instagram.com/citybh). Register to receive notices at [www.beverlyhills.org/enotice](http://www.beverlyhills.org/enotice) and/or make regular visits to [www.beverlyhills.org/future](http://www.beverlyhills.org/future).*

**2) Who do I call for more information on the project?** Call the Helpline (424)339-9033 or Public Works Customer Service (310) 285-2467.