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Metro Board Approves Subway under Beverly Hills High School *City's Scientific Data, Alternate Routes Ignored*

Beverly Hills, CA – The Metropolitan Transit Authority Board has approved the Westside Subway Extension route underneath Beverly Hills High School despite critical questions raised about the accuracy and thoroughness of the science contained in the environmental impact report. At their board meeting on Thursday, Metro denied the City's request to delay the decision and approved the remainder of the Purple Line Extension including a stop in Century City on Constellation Boulevard that involves tunneling under the core of the historic high school.

"We are very disappointed that Metro proceeded with its decision without seriously considering the excellent scientific data and alternate routes presented by the City," said Mayor William W. Brien MD. "Although we have no desire to pursue legal action, the board's decision leaves us very little choice."

Metro made its decision following public comment from Beverly Hills residents, expert consultants, and school district and City officials who urged the board to delay their decision and conduct additional studies and testing.

The City of Beverly Hills is a long-time supporter of the Westside Subway Extension. A citizens' committee worked closely with Metro in 2006 to locate two stops in Beverly Hills: one on Wilshire and La Cienega boulevards and the other at Wilshire Boulevard and Beverly Drive. Opposition to the proposed route arose when Metro revealed its proposal to locate a subway stop on Constellation Boulevard, which meant an alignment that tunneled under Beverly Hills High School. A tunnel under the high school would limit the Beverly Hills School District's ability to expand and build for the future.

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