



### **Spring Semester 2013**

PPD 553L: Transportation Studio

### **Transportation Policies and Programs along the Metro Gold Line: What Could Phase 2 Cities Learn From Phase 1?**

Thursday 6:00 to 9:30 pm

Location: VKC 161

Instructor: Eric C. Shen, P.E., PTP

Office Hours & Location:

Thursday 5:00 to 6:00 pm (by appointment)

Contact Information:

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### **Course Objectives:**

- Review and analyze the effectiveness of multi-dimensional transportation strategies, policies, and services in concert with relevant land use requirements along the current Metro Gold Line (Phase 1) Light Rail stations between Los Angeles and Pasadena.
- Review and analyze proposed/approved developments at/near six stations along the Metro Gold Line (Phase 2) between Arcadia and Azusa.
- Develop recommendations on appropriate transportation policies, guidelines, and/or implementation strategies for cities of Arcadia, Monrovia, Duarte, and Azusa in anticipation of the new Gold Line Light Rail service.

### **Course Description**

This course provides practical training in developing a set of recommendations on transportation at each of the six new Gold Line stations between Arcadia and Azusa (Phase 2A), based on lessons learned during the first decade of Gold Line service between Los Angeles and Pasadena (Phase 1).

The class structure incorporates lecture, seminar, and group discussion. Distinguished guests will be invited throughout the course to share their past or current involvements during the planning, construction, or operations of the light rail service.

The course is to review develop recommendations on transportation related policies, guidelines, and implementation strategies around Phase 2A stations by incorporating best-practices and lessons learned during Phase 1. It is not about land use planning or architecture design, rather, the course intends to understand and assess Transit Oriented Development (TOD) requirements at each Phase 1 station and their effects on transportation.

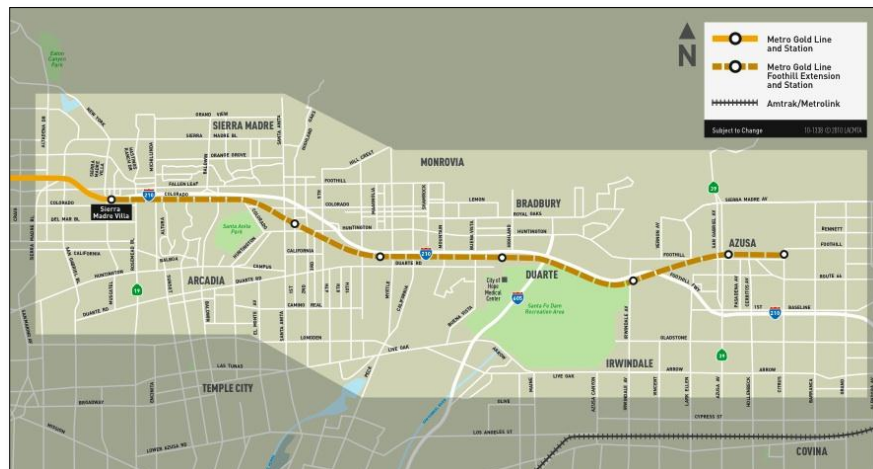
The course is divided into three distinct yet interrelated segments. Segment 1 offers a historical context of the Gold Line Phase 1, which spans three cities with 13 stations. In the early 1980s, then Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) had proposed a light rail service through Pasadena. Due to a lack of funding, the project was shelved for a few years before the "Los Angeles Pasadena Blue Line Construction Authority" was established by State legislation (SB 1847, Schiff, 1998) to reactivate and complete the project. Mr. Paul Little, a former City of Pasadena councilmember and the chairperson of the Blue Line Construction Authority, will provide an insight to many challenges and decisions made during the 4-plus years of design/construction period that led to the opening to service in July 2003.

Segments 2 and 3 of the course are structured to reflect a "real-world", task-oriented, and turnkey consulting project. Students work in groups to review and analyze multi-dimensional transportation strategies, policies, and services in concert with land use and zoning requirements. During Segment 2 of the course, each group will examine on- and off-street parking strategies; transit feeder services; pedestrian amenities; bike parking and linkages; and vehicular circulations at/near each of the existing 13 Gold Line stations. A series of progress reports on each topic will be submitted for review. Additional guest lecturers will be invited to share their experience on this project.



**Figure 1: Current Gold Line Light Rail Service (Phase1)**

During Segment 3 of the course, students will research, review and analyze proposed and approved developments at/near six Phase 2A stations between Arcadia and Azusa. Each group will focus on one station only and will develop recommendations on policies, guidelines/standards, and/or implementation strategies.



**Figure 2: Gold Line Light Rail Service (Phase 2A) Under Construction**

### Working Group Assignment

#	Members	Focused Study Stations GL Phase 1	Focused Study Stations GL Phase 2
1	Jenny Chan Jennifer Harris Yijuan Peng	1. Union Station 2. Chinatown	14. Arcadia
2	Joanna Chan Jacqueline Illum Janna Smith	3. Lincoln/Cypress 4. Heritage Sq 5. SW Museum	15. Monrovia
3	Alberto Esqueda-Duarte Corrine Montana	6. Highland Park 7. Mission	16. Duarte
4	Yiming Chen Ying Mao Liping Zhang	8. Fillmore 9. Del Mar	17. Irwindale
5	Caitlan Cullen Carley Markovitz Yi Zhang	10. Memorial Park 11. Lake Ave	18. Azusa/Alameda
6	Tiffany Chen Jared Johnson	12. Allen 13. Sierra Madre Villa	19. Azusa/Citrus

### Expected Deliverables (mostly to be submitted electronically in MS Word format)

- Individual reports
  - Bio
  - Station Field Notes/Photo Documentary
  - Assigned section write-up
- Group reports
  - Existing Gold Line Stations (LA-Pasadena)
    - Relevant documents, studies, or policies to be researched or referenced
    - Daily boarding information and relevant zoning requirements
    - On- and Off-Street Parking management
    - Connecting transit service
    - Pedestrian amenities, bike parking, and bike linkages
    - Vehicular circulations and trip generation
  - Review and comment on the combined write-up
  - Planned Gold Line Stations (Arcadia-Azusa)
    - Relevant documents, studies, or policies to be researched and referenced
    - Status of policies, approved developments, and conditions of approvals for studied GL#2 stations
    - On- and Off-Street Parking management
    - Connecting transit service
    - Pedestrian amenities, bike parking, and bike linkages
    - Vehicular circulations and trip generation
  - Comprehensive report on lesson(s) learned in Phase 1 and review Phase 2.

**Final Course Product:** One comprehensive, professional-grade report that each student could bring it to job interviews as a sample of work product.

## Course Schedule

Lec#	Date	Course Presentations/Contents	Individual Report	Group Report
<b>Part 1: History of Phase 1</b>				
1	1/17/2013	Course Overview Self-Intro Gold Line Stations - Field Observation & Discussion	<b>Bio due</b> Station field notes (verbal)	
2	1/24/2013	<b>Guest Speaker: Paul Little, Former Pasadena Councilmember</b>  - Effects on Enabling Legislations - Blue Line Construction Authority (Phase 1) - Lessons Learned - Procurements - Ridership - projection vs actual		
<b>Part 2: (Phase 1) Three Cities, 13 Stations - Review of Planning &amp; Effectiveness</b>				
3	1/31/2013	<b>Guest Speaker: Lynda Bybee, Metro</b> General Topics: Metro's role and responsibilities in GL#1 and 10 years of service records  <b>Setting the Stage for the Semester:</b> - Station design (functional vs. architectural) - Existing land use and vision for each station - Transportation related conditions of approvals placed on development projects - "User Friendliness"	<b>Due by the beginning of class:</b> <b>Station Field Notes/Photo Documentary</b>	Progress Report in memo format: <b>Relevant documents, studies, or policies to be researched referenced (GL#1 cities).</b>
4	2/7/2013	<b>Guest Speaker: Monica Born, Vice President, Transit Project Manager (tentative)</b> General Topics: Lessons learned during the construction phase of Gold Line Phase 1  <b>Discussion:</b>  On- and off-street parking at each station		Due by the beginning of class: <b>Summary on daily boarding information and relevant zoning requirements at GL#1 studied stations</b>
5	2/14/2013	<b>Discussion:</b>  Bus stops and transit feeders at each station		Due by the beginning of class: <b>Summary on parking restrictions at studied GL#1 stations</b>
6	2/21/2013	<b>Discussion:</b>  Pedestrian treatments, walkability, and bike feeders at each station		Due by the beginning of class: <b>Summary on connecting transit service(s) at studied GL#1 stations</b>

Lec#	Date	Course Presentations/Contents	Individual Report	Group Report
7	2/28/2013	<b>Discussion:</b> Vehicular circulation, ingress and egress at each station		Due by the beginning of class: <b>Summary on pedestrian amenities, bike parking, and bike linkage to studied GL#1 stations</b>
8	3/7/2013	<b>Extending Gold Line to Arcadia and beyond</b>  <b>Guest Speakers:</b> Jason Kruckeberg, Assistant City Manager City of Arcadia		Due by the beginning of class: <b>Summary on vehicular circulations and trip generation to studied GL#1 stations</b>
<b>Part 3: Are Phase 2 Cities Ready?</b>				
9	3/14/2013	<b>Outline for future discussions:</b> - Station design (functional vs. architectural) - Existing land use and vision for each station - Transportation related conditions of approvals placed on development projects	Write-up for individual section (to be explained in class) for GL#1	Progress Report in memo format: <b>Relevant documents, studies, or policies to be researched referenced (GL#2 cities).</b>
Spring Break	3/21/2013	No lecture		Review and comment on GL#1 Stations summaries
10	3/28/2013	<b>Discussion:</b> Vehicular circulation, ingress and egress at each station  Validation of assumptions on Trip Generation rates		Complete editing GL#1 Stations Summary  Progress Report #3 in memo format: <b>Status of policies, approved developments, and conditions of approvals for studied GL#2 stations</b>
11	4/4/2013	<b>Discussion:</b> On- and off-street parking at each station  Bus stops and transit feeders at each station		Due by the beginning of class: <b>Summary on vehicular circulations and trip generation to studied GL#2 stations</b>
12	4/11/2013	<b>Discussion:</b> Pedestrian treatments, walkability, and bike feeders at each station	Write-up for individual section (to be explained in class) for GL#2	Due by the beginning of class: <b>Summary on parking restrictions and connecting transit service(s) at studied GL#2 stations</b>

Lec#	Date	Course Presentations/Contents	Individual Report	Group Report
13	4/18/2013	<b>Discussion:</b>  Comprehensive review of transportation strategies and expected outcome at each station area		Due by the beginning of class: <b>Summary on pedestrian amenities, bike parking, and bike linkage to studied GL#2 stations</b>
14	4/25/2013	<b>Group presentations</b>  Phase II Stations Only		Presentation files

### Grading Breakdown

<b>Individual Reports &amp; Write-up</b>	20%
<b>Group Reports</b>	50%
<b>Final Presentation</b>	20%
<b>Peer Review</b>	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Relevant Documents & Resources

**Note to students: Please do not solely rely on Wikipedia for reference. You may have to contact each city's planning or transportation departments to retrieve information. That is the part of your "real-world" training.**

- [Guidelines for Transportation Review of Projects, Pasadena, CA](#)
- [Trans Impact Review - Current Practice and Guidelines](#)
- [Pasadena General Plan Mobility Element 2004](#)
- [Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Community Handbook, Pasadena, California](#)
- [Pasadena Pedestrian Plan](#)
- Los Angeles County Long Range Transportation Plan
- Metro Gold Line Stations: <http://www.foothillextension.org/cities-stations/>
- Cities' "TOD Planning, Visions, and Readiness" for Gold Line Stations
- Arcadia: <http://www.ci.arcadia.ca.us/home/index.asp?page=1586>
- Monrovia: To be researched
- Duarte: To be researched
- Irwindale: To be researched
- Azusa: : To be researched
- Photos by lecturer may be used or incorporated throughout the course:  
[www.shenphotography.org/transportation](http://www.shenphotography.org/transportation)

### Lecturer's Expectations

Please participate in course discussion enthusiastically; communicate with me (in person, via email or phone call) openly; respond to my assignments/inquires promptly; and collaborate/coordinate/cooperate with your team members. These are fundamental skills in work place.