

Overview of Resources and Transportation Systems Evaluated

The following resources and transportation systems have been evaluated in the FEIS for the No-Action and Preferred Alternative.

Title	Description
Social impacts and community facilities	Social conditions include housing, population and households, public services and community organizations, emergency services, neighborhood character and cohesion, current health conditions, and environmental justice.
Land use, zoning, and economic development	Land use and zoning includes existing and future land uses in the project area and their relationship to the Preferred Alternative. Economic development includes business access, income, employment, property values, tax base, and the economic base of jurisdictions in the project area and the region.
Land acquisition, displacements, and relocation of existing uses	Land acquisition or right of way (ROW), necessary to construct the project, including associated relocations.
Historic, archaeological, and cultural resources	Potential historic resources must be more than 50 years old and may include buildings, dams, canals, bridges, railroads, or other structures. Archaeological resources are locations where there is evidence of past patterns of human activity.
Visual and aesthetic qualities	Visual resources are features that define the visual character of an area. These can be natural features, vistas, or viewsheds and can include urban skylines.
Parklands and recreation areas	Parklands and recreation areas include regional bicycle/pedestrian trails, open space corridors, neighborhood/community parks, and recreational centers.
Air quality and energy	The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 sets standards known as national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for pollutants that are considered harmful to people and the environment. Energy is consumed through the use and construction of transportation systems. Automobiles, trucks, and buses directly consume fuel, while light rail, EMU vehicles, and related infrastructure (such as signals and lighting) draw from existing electrical networks.
Noise and vibration	Transit noise exposure, vibration exposure, and level of impact are determined based on the transit system operations and its proximity to sensitive sites (e.g. residences, schools, hospitals, etc).
Biological resources	Biological resources include wildlife, vegetation, noxious weeds, and special status species.
Natural resources	Natural resources include floodplains and drainage/hydrology, water quality, geology and soils, and wetlands and waters of the U.S.
Hazardous materials	Hazardous materials sites are defined as sites that could release, or are known to have released, hazardous materials into soil or groundwater.
Safety and security	Public safety, security, and emergency services.
Utilities	Major utilities include electric, gas, water, sanitary/storm sewer, and communications.
Transportation Systems	Transportation systems include roadway facilities and traffic, pedestrian facilities, bicycle facilities, freight facilities, and airport facilities.