



METROLINK®

# CENTRAL MAINTENANCE FACILITY ACTION PLAN *July 2019 Update*

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Being a Good Neighbor to the Communities We Serve



## **Section 1. Introduction**

Metrolink's mission is "To provide safe, efficient, dependable, and on-time transportation service that offers outstanding customer experience and enhances quality of life." That mission applies throughout the region, including to the communities where our trains operate or near our stations and maintenance facilities.

Despite the benefits that Metrolink provides to the region such as reduced traffic congestion and emissions, we realize there may be more localized impacts to the homes, businesses and communities located adjacent to our stations and maintenance facilities. The people who make up the Metrolink Board of Directors and Staff pledge to be a good neighbor in each community where our facilities are located.

### **Background**

In order to serve the Southern California Region, Metrolink operates 365 days a year. The Central Maintenance Facility (CMF) serves a critical role enabling Metrolink to provide this regional service. CMF is one of two service, inspection and repair facilities in the Metrolink system and the only facility equipped to handle heavy maintenance and repair. Following early morning peak runs, nearly all Metrolink trains arrive at CMF to be inspected, tested, fueled, cleaned and serviced for afternoon departures. Testing usually takes between 45-60 minutes per train set but may take longer depending on the status of the equipment arriving for service, as any defects need to be addressed prior to departure. During the inspection and testing process, the locomotives are required to be running to perform various functional tests mandated by the Code of Federal Regulations 49 Parts 200-299.

Metrolink has a long history with the CMF community -- including residents, businesses, elected officials and other stakeholders in Cypress Park, Glassell Park and Elysian Valley. In the past nine years, Metrolink has made various operational enhancements and modifications to reduce negative impacts to the community including, but not limited to:

- Purchasing 40 new clean Tier 4 locomotives that reduce emissions between 65% and 85% compared to legacy Tier 2 and Tier 0 locomotives, respectively. (A \$279.8 Million investment.)
  - Initial purchase of 20 locomotives authorized by the Metrolink Board in December 2012
  - Board exercised a contract option for another 20 units in July 2015
- Using ground power stations at the Service and Inspection station of the CMF to provide power when locomotives are being serviced which has reduced idling noise and emissions as outlined below. In March of 2015, this program was

expanded by adding five ground power stations. Overall, this program has reduced emissions, as follows: <sup>1</sup>

- **Use of ground power reduced idling time by 14%** at CMF from 2010 to 2017
  - **70% reduction of average Head End Power (HEP)** engine run time at CMF from 2010 to 2017 achieved by the implementation of Automatic Engine Stop-Start (AESS), reduction of trains at CMF, use of ground power, and optimized operational practices
  - **47% reduction** of average **locomotive engine** run time from 2010 to 2017 achieved by the implementation of AESS, reduction of trains at CMF, and optimized operations practices;
  - Reduced **HEP and Locomotive** engine runtime at CMF by **58%** since 2010 by the implementation of AESS, reduction of trains, use of ground power, and optimized operational practices.
- In August 2016, established a 24-hour hotline for the community to contact Metrolink community relations staff in order to report anomalies taking place at the CMF.
  - Limited the hours for load testing and sand deliveries to reduce early morning or late-night disturbance to the community.
    - Load testing commitment made in April 2016
    - Sand delivery process changes made in December 2018

Despite the modifications and commitments made in the past, members of the CMF community expressed concerns to Metrolink's new CEO, Stephanie Wiggins, at a community meeting on April 11, 2019. She committed to review the concerns raised at the meeting with her team and to come back to the community with an Action Plan. On May 9, Ms. Wiggins introduced this Action Plan to the community and committed to provide monthly written updates and quarterly in-person meetings to discuss progress.

## **Section 2. Action Plan Outline**

Our approach to the action plan is to focus on three key areas:

- **Audit Current Operations**: We will audit our operations to ensure we are adhering to commitments made to the community by Metrolink in the past. We will re-evaluate our current operations to determine what other modifications we can make to be a better neighbor.
- **New Noise Study**: We will engage a third party to conduct an independent noise study in coordination with the community.

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<sup>1</sup> Emissions reductions come from the Health Risk Assessment Metrolink completed in 2014 by Castle Environmental Consulting.



- **CMF Modernization:** We will develop a CMF Facility Modernization Plan to identify major improvements that can modernize the Facility Operations to enhance the quality of life experience of the communities living near the CMF.


The Action Plan is divided into three timeframes: Short-term (0-6 months), Mid-term (6-18 months), and Long-term (18+months) (Table 1).

<b>Short-term (0-6 months)</b>	<b>Mid-term (6-18 months)</b>	<b>Long-term (18+ months)</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Optimize use of ground power stations</li> <li>2. Installation of Sound Monitors</li> <li>3. Internal Audit</li> <li>4. Independent New Noise Study</li> <li>5. Expedite 8 Tier 4 Locomotives into service</li> <li>6. Change the Accountability Metrics of the Equipment Maintenance Contractor</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Fleet Modernization Study</li> <li>8. CMF Modernization Study</li> <li>9. Complete deployment of 40 Tier 4 Locomotives</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Work towards a Zero-Emissions Future</li> <li>11. New contracting approach system-wide goes in effect with new accountability metrics.</li> </ol>

**Table 1.** Shows the action items divided across the different timeframes.

**Section 3. Community Action Plan-July 2019**
**SHORT-TERM (0-6 months)**

Action Plan	Description	Completion Time Frame	Status update
<b>1.</b> Optimize use of ground power	Metrolink will establish ways to optimize the use of existing ground power stations at the CMF to reduce idling. Ground power stations provide power to the locomotives to run lights, and sometimes the air conditioner as the locomotives are being serviced. There are currently 19 ground power stations at the CMF. These ground power stations help reduce noise emissions as locomotives are being serviced.	By August 1, 2019  	July 30, 2019: Evaluation and analysis were completed on July 25 ahead of schedule. Working with contractor to implement plan by Fall of 2019. (100% complete)
<b>2.</b> Installation of sound monitors	Metrolink will install sound monitors throughout the yard to better track the origin of sound emissions to improve operations. By internally keeping track of sound we will have a better understanding of where sound is emitted from on our yard. This information will help us identify ways to improve operations to reduce sound emissions.	By July 1, 2019  	July 1, 2019: On June 12, staff installed 2 monitors and rotated them throughout the yard at 8 strategic locations. Completed on July 1, on schedule. (100% complete)
<b>3.</b> Performance Audit Report	Metrolink's Internal Audit department, which reports directly to the Metrolink Board of Directors, will audit the agency's CMF operations to ensure we are adhering to the previous commitments we have made to the community. The results will be presented to the Metrolink Board and shared with the community.	By November 9, 2019	July 30, 2019: Currently in planning stage developing audit procedures to verify compliance. Team has gathered internal documents and held internal kickoff for this effort. (17% complete)
<b>4.</b> LA Metro New Noise Study	An independent new noise study will be conducted and paid for by The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA METRO).	By November 9, 2019	July 30, 2019: Funding is being sought for the study. (5% complete)
<b>5.</b> Expedite placing Tier 4 Locomotives into Service	Metrolink has ordered 40 Tier 4 locomotives. As of initiation of this action plan on May 30, 2019, 23 locomotives had been delivered, with 15 of those units being deployed. Metrolink will expedite the deployment of the remaining eight Tier 4 units that have been delivered.	By November 9, 2019	July 30, 2019: An additional locomotive was deployed in July. Total locomotives deployed since initiation of the action plan totals 6. (75% complete)

<b>6.</b> Add Accountability Metrics for the Equipment Maintenance Contractor	Metrolink is in the process of changing our approach on how we hire equipment maintenance contractors. Metrolink is enhancing our maintenance contract and adding accountability metrics as part of the new bundled contract. This new structure will bundle rail operations, maintenance, and support services to improve the customer experience and service reliability, while maintaining the agency's strong commitment to safety.	By July 1, 2019  	July 1, 2019: Advertised in RFP with more specific requirements and higher assessments for contractors who do not comply with requirements at CMF. Completed on June 17, ahead of schedule. (100% complete)
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**MID-TERM (6-18 months)**

Action Plan	Description	Completion Time Frame	Status update
<b>7.</b> Fleet Modernization Study	Metrolink will conduct a Fleet Modernization Study to identify other emission control methods and review vehicle technologies such as battery-operated locomotives and zero-emission multiple units	Targeting Winter 2020 to commence study	July 30, 2019: Staff are adding the scope of the fleet modernization study to the engineering study to determine methods to convert the MP36 locomotives to Tier 4. Funds allocated for the conversion effort were approved by the Board on June 28, 2019 as part of the FY20 Budget. Staff has requested pre-award authority for the funding so that the project can be initiated in fall 2019 instead of spring 2020. (7% complete)
<b>8.</b> CMF Modernization Study	Metrolink will conduct a CMF Modernization and EMF Phase 3 build out Study which will include the review of the 30+ year old facility, identify state-of-the-art facility operations, and integrate community input into service expansion design.	Nov 1, 2020	July 30, 2019: Funding for the study was approved by the Board on June 28, 2019. Staff has requested pre-award authority for the funding so that the project can be initiated in fall 2019 instead of spring 2020. (7% complete)
<b>9.</b> Complete Deployment	Deploy all 40 Tier 4 locomotives.	Summer 2020	July 30, 2019: 21 of 40 locomotives deployed.

of 40 Tier 4 Locomotives			(53% complete)
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**LONG-TERM (18+ months)**

<b>Action Plan</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Completion Time Frame</b>	<b>Status update</b>
<b>10.</b> Work towards a Zero-Emissions Future	Metrolink will pilot a program to explore battery operated locomotives or other technology to reduce emissions, which will initially be used in combination with diesel electric.	Will commence following completion of the Fleet Modernization Plan in late fall 2020.	July 30, 2019: Metrolink staff attended a Hydrogen Fuel Cell workshop on July 10, 2019 and held follow up meeting to learn more about alternative fuels research in the region. (6% complete)
<b>11.</b> Implement new system-wide accountability measures	The implementation of the bundled contracting approach will include more specific and higher assessments for contractors who do not comply with commitments made to CMF neighbors.	By Spring 2021	July 30, 2019: Contracts issued Request for Proposal (RFP) and is now in the bidding process. From July 19 to July 21, Metrolink hosted a three-day tour of facilities and review of functions for proposers. (6% complete)

**Section 4. Accountability & Transparency**

Accountability is important as we complete our action plan. Another aspect of accountability is providing more transparency. We will report on our progress and increase engagement with the community by:

1. Continuing the CMF monthly e-newsletter
2. Updating the Community Action Plan on a monthly basis and posting on the Metrolink website at: [metrolinktrains.com/cmfc](http://metrolinktrains.com/cmfc)
3. Holding Quarterly community meetings

**Contact information**

If you have any questions, please contact Laurene Lopez, Metrolink Community Relations Manager, at (213) 452-0433 or [LopezL@scrra.net](mailto:LopezL@scrra.net). We also have a 24/7 hotline (213) 452-0400.

Or you can visit our website: [metrolinktrains.com/community](http://metrolinktrains.com/community)

If you would like to attend a Board of Directors meeting information can be found at

[www.metrolinktrains.com/about/board-meetings/](http://www.metrolinktrains.com/about/board-meetings/)