Project Overview

The Foothill Gold Line from Glendora to Montclair is a 12.3-mile extension of the Metro Gold Line light rail system. The project will be built in phases, adding new Gold Line stations in the cities of Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne and Pomona, and then Claremont and Montclair.

The Project broke ground in December 2017 and has completed two of four contracts. The main design-build contract is expected to be awarded in August 2019, and major construction is expected to start in 2020 and take five years to complete to Pomona (eight years to Montclair if additional funds are secured within two years of work beginning).

The project is being funded by Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. The portion of the project within Los Angeles County is being funded mostly by LA Metro’s sales tax measures (Measure M and R); San Bernardino County is funding the majority of the portion in their county. The project has also received a nearly $300 million greenhouse gas reduction grant from the State of California.

The Project is overseen by the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority (Construction Authority), an independent transportation planning, design and construction agency.

In late 2018, the Construction Authority received proposals from four highly qualified design-build teams competing to build the project. Through that process, the agency learned that the project would cost hundreds of millions of dollars more than was secured, requiring the project to be built in two phases. To learn more about the Construction Authority and the currently planned construction phasing, visit www.foothillgoldline.org.

Two Construction Phases:
9 miles (Glendora to Pomona)
3 miles (Pomona to Montclair)

Estimated Completion Year to Claremont: 2028

Parking: Parking planned at all six stations (including EV charging stations, bicycle parking and an area for buses and passenger drop off).

Capacity: 200 passengers per light rail car; two- to three-car trains.

Speed: 55 mph (maximum)


Train Power Source: Electricity

At-Grade (street level)

Crossings: 26

New and Renovated Bridges: 24

Travel Time: Once the line is in service, a trip from Claremont to Pasadena will take approximately 36 minutes and further to downtown Los Angeles will take approximately 65 minutes.
Construction – What to Expect

The Foothill Gold Line broke ground in December 2017. The first few years of the project are being spent relocating utilities, conducting pre-construction activities, hiring a design-build contractor and finalizing design. Major construction is expected to start in 2020, and completion to Pomona is expected in 2025. If the funding shortfall is secured within the first two years of awarding the Design-Build contract, the full project to Montclair is estimated to be complete in 2028.

During construction, the community can expect temporary impacts (such as short-term lane closures, extended street closures at street crossings, noise mostly from construction vehicles during limited construction hours, and other construction-related activities). Permanent changes will also occur due to the project, including safety enhancements at all street crossings (raised medians, red curbing and turn restrictions within 100 feet of the rail corridor at all street crossings), relocation of the Metrolink/freight tracks to the southern half of the rail corridor, new fencing and walls along the entire rail corridor, and new overhead lines to power the more than 200 Gold Line trains anticipated to run daily. The Claremont Metrolink Station will be moved from its current location west of College Avenue to several hundred feet east of College Avenue. The Gold Line tracks will be grade-separated on a city-designed bridge over Indian Hill Boulevard, as required by the California Public Utilities Commission for safety; Metrolink and freight tracks will continue to cross Indian Hill Boulevard at street level.

Claremont Station Art Plan

Claremont Station Artist: Joyce Kohl

The city-selected artist for the Claremont Station is Joyce Kohl. Joyce’s art plan is derived from her conversations and experience in the city and her conclusion that Claremont has an astonishing number of people (within the colleges and community at large) who are thinking “outside of the box” - in a vast number of fields, utilizing many languages.

The most prominent element of the station artwork will be an internally illuminated iconic landmark located at the corner of First Avenue and College Avenue, near the entrance to the station parking facility. The sculpture is planned to be 16 feet tall and give the illusion of line drawings of two boxes, back to back at skewed angles. The boxes will have cut letters, symbols and numbers from the different ‘languages’ spoken in Claremont etched into plexiglass. In the second element, Joyce will create handmade tiles installed on the canopy column bases of the station platform. Each image will represent a story from Claremont and will link to videos or websites prepared by Claremont communication students on these prominent subjects. People showcased will include scientists, medical researchers, artists, musicians, social scientists, various educators, experts on religion, historians and creative writers.