

12/09/2022

To: Mr. Cory Zelmer, Deputy Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop 99-22-6
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit Project

We would like to express our enthusiastic support for the proposed LA ART gondola system connecting Los Angeles Union Station and Dodger Stadium.

Leitner Poma has extensive experience as a manufacturer, as an operator, and investor in the cable-hauled mass transit sector (both for mountainous and urban environments). We feel confident that the Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit (LA ART) project would substantially enhance the safety and the reliability of public transit throughout the area, while enhancing the sustainability of public mass transit and featuring among the lowest cost per mile metrics.

To achieve the benefits of the technology, a capable and dedicated team is required. Our group has been able to work alongside the LA ART team during their planning process and can confirm that LA ART has assembled a highly competent team that has put forward a thoughtful plan that is feasible and buildable.

Furthermore, a gondola system is the **safest** and **most reliable** public transportation system for the route.

Safety is the most prominent feature of an aerial gondola. Indeed, a 2022 report of PWC (<https://www.pwc.de/de/branchen-und-markte/oeffentlicher-sektor/pwc-studie-urbane-seilbahnen-im-oepnv.pdf>) highlights the following:

- Aerial ropeways feature 1 accident occurring every 10,563,000 miles travelled
- In comparison, street cars display 1 accident every 139,808 miles, and buses have 1 accident every 382,764 miles.

Amongst our approx. 80 urban ropeways built worldwide, we have never experienced any major accidents nor vertical evacuations.

Gondola systems are extremely reliable, as the closed-loop system guarantees delay-free transportation on a uniform schedule with minimal wait times. Moreover, 3S (tricable) ropeways are designed for high passenger capacities allowing for hassle-free peak day / hour transportation, even during busy game days or events at the Stadium. Additionally, aerial gondolas have the capability to operate during windy days and at wind speeds of up to 62 MPH (dynamic wind pressure of 400 Pa), dramatically increasing the reliability of public transportation between Union Station and Dodgers Stadium. Leitner Poma has more than a century of experience in the cable transportation field, with more than 11,000 ropeways manufactured and installed



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We Move
People

worldwide, in ski resorts, entertainment, and urban settings. We have pioneered gondolas to be used for public transportation, with approximately 80 systems built across the world, including:

- Roosevelt Island Tramway in NYC
- Cablebús 2 in Mexico City
- Teleo 3S in Toulouse
- Metrocable lines in Medellin

All of our ropeways have an availability rate of 99.9%. Some relevant examples include, but are not limited to:

- Zermatt 3S gondola on 12,700ft alt. in Switzerland, featuring a rope span of 1.7 miles between two towers, enduring wind speeds of up to 62 MPH on a daily basis
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wPkAcAMgYoc>.
- Cablebus 2 gondola in Mexico City, which is the longest urban ropeway project on the planet, built on an earthquake-prone area without experiencing any disruption to the transit service (recently, an earthquake of the magnitude of 6.8 struck the area, without any disruption to the system besides a brief safety stop).
- Toulouse 3S gondola which resembles the environment and use of the LA ART project, where our Group installed a tricable gondola to transport passengers from the Sabatier University (intermodal transit hub, connected to the local subway line) to the hospital (middle terminal) and the cancer research center Oncopole (end terminal) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaDMDXp6df0>.

In closing, we think the justifications for the gondola are many, and would expand as this new mode of transit gains traction and acceptance in the community. This is a positive change to typical American transit modes, and Los Angeles is poised to lead this shift toward a more efficient and sustainable zero emissions future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daren Cole".

Daren Cole
President
Leitner-Poma of America, Inc.