



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Major I-710 Planning Effort is Under Way

Paramount, Calif. – March 2, 2001 – A two-year study to improve traffic conditions on Interstate 710 and nearby surface streets was formally kicked off by a consortium of public agencies this week.

“We have selected our lead consultant and everybody is eager to begin the work that must be done to ensure the continued economic vitality of our region while balancing quality of life issues in local communities,” South Gate City Council member Hector De La Torre, chair of the I-710 Major Corridor Study Oversight Policy Committee, said after the panel’s inaugural meeting on Wednesday.

“By linking the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles and the major manufacturing industries of Southeast Los Angeles County to the rest of the transportation network, the I-170 Corridor is a critical component of commerce in the region, state and nation,” De La Torre said.

The co-chairs of the committee are Long Beach City Council member Frank Colonna, Lynwood Mayor Pro-Tem Ricardo Sanchez and Maywood City Council member Margarita Ruvalcaba. The committee includes one representative each from the cities of Bell; Bell Gardens; Commerce; Compton; Cudahy; Downey; Huntington Park; Long Beach; Lynwood; Maywood; Paramount; South Gate and Vernon; and one representative each from the Port of Long Beach; Los Angeles County Metropolitan

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I-710 Major Corridor Study

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Transportation Authority (MTA), the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

The I-710 Major Corridor Study is being undertaken jointly by MTA, Caltrans, SCAG and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments.

The primary purpose of the two-year study is to investigate the feasibility of various facility improvements to accommodate future traffic levels on the I-710 Corridor. Such improvements may include but are not limited to dedicated truck lanes, high-occupancy vehicle lanes and improved or new interchanges. Officials will gather extensive data and solicit public input.

For the purposes of the study, the I-710 Corridor refers to that section of Interstate 710 (Long Beach Freeway) between State Route 60 (Pomona Freeway) on the north and the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles on the south, plus major arterial streets.

The lead consultant selected to carry out the study is the planning and engineering firm of Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas, Inc.

The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Spring 2001.

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