



I-710 Technical Advisory Committee

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

1:30 – 3:30 PM

Gateway Cities Council of Governments
16401 Paramount Boulevard, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Paramount, California

AMENDED AGENDA

STAFF REPORTS AND OTHER WRITTEN DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OFFICES, 16401 PARAMOUNT BOULEVARD, PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA. ANY PERSON HAVING QUESTIONS CONCERNING ANY AGENDA ITEM MAY CALL THE COG STAFF AT (562) 663-6850.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The I-710 Technical Advisory Committee will hear from the public on any item on the agenda or an item of interest that is not on the agenda. The I-710 Technical Advisory Committee cannot take action on any item not scheduled on the agenda. These items may be referred for administrative action or scheduled on a future agenda. Comments are to be limited to three minutes for each speaker, unless extended by the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee, and each speaker will only have one opportunity to speak on any one topic. You have the opportunity to address the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee at the following times:

- A. **AGENDA ITEM:** at this time the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee considers the agenda item OR during Public Comments, and
- B. **NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** during Public Comments, comments will be received for a maximum 20-minute period; any additional requests will be heard following the completion of the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee agenda; and
- C. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** at the time for public hearings.

Please keep your comments brief and complete a speaker card for the Chair.

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL – BY SELF INTRODUCTIONS**
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA - This is the time and place to change the order of the agenda, delete or add any agenda item(s).

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Three minutes for each speaker.

VI. MATTERS FROM STAFF

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR: All items under the Consent Calendar may be enacted by one motion. Any item may be removed from the Consent Calendar and acted upon separately by the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee.

A. Approve Minutes for the Meeting of August 19, 2015, of the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee

CONSENT CALENDAR ACTION:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM A.

VIII. REPORTS

5 Min A. I-710 Update – Oral Report by Metro

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION; RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

5 Min B. 710 Livability Initiative Update – Oral Report by Yvette Kirrin

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION; RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

15 Min C. Washershed Conservation Authority Presentation on Gateway Cities and Rivers Urban Greening Master Plan – Presentation by WCA

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION; RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

5 Min D. I-710 Measure R Funding Criteria Update – Oral Report by Metro

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION; RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT, AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

- E. Current I-710 Early Action Project Update including:
1. Cash Flow/Invoicing Status– Oral Report by COG Staff and Metro
2. Early Action Presentations/Updates

15 Min

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT,
POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

- F. Staff Request to Update Measure R approval process – Presentation by
Yvette Kirrin

5 Min

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO APPROVE, POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR
GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

- G. COG Engineer’s Report – Oral Report by Yvette Kirrin and/or Kekoa
Anderson

5 Min

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT,
POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

- H. Caltrans Sustainability Grant - Oral Report by Yvette Kirrin, COG Engineer

SUGGESTED ACTION: A MOTION TO RECOMMEND I-710 PROJECT
COMMITTEE SUBMIT A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR GRANT; RECEIVE AND
FILE REPORT, POSSIBLE ACTION AND/OR GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF

IX. MATTERS FROM THE I-710 TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

X. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR

XI. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE: New items will not be considered after 4:00 p.m. unless the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee votes to extend the time limit. Any items on the agenda that are not completed will be forwarded to the next regular I-710 Technical Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 1:30 PM.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT, IF YOU NEED SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT THE COG OFFICE AT (562) 663-6850. NOTIFICATION 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING WILL ENABLE THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE REASONABLE ARRANGEMENT TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY TO THIS MEETING.

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR
Item A
Approval of Minutes
August 19, 2015

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
I-710 CORRIDOR PROJECT EIR/EIS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA
August 19, 2015**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Pagett at 1:42 p.m.

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Bill Pagett, Chair, City of Maywood, and City of Paramount; Al Cablay, City of Bell; Ray Abassi, City of Bell Gardens; Mohammad Mostahkami, City of Downey; Derek Wieske, City of Long Beach; Bill Stracker, City of Lynwood; Art Cervantes, City of South Gate; Kevin Wilson, City of Vernon; James Yang, County of Los Angeles; John Vassiliades, Caltrans; Ernesto Chaves, MTA; Theresa Dau Ngo, POLB; Shoro Yoshikawa, POLA.

ABSENT: Richard Garland, City of Carson; Maryam Babaki, City of Commerce; Glen Kau, City of Compton; Michael Allen, City of Cudahy; Michael Ackerman, City of Huntington Park; Charlie Honeycutt, City of Signal Hill; Jacob Waclaw, FHWA & FTA; Annie Nam, SCAG; Ian McMillan, SCAQMD; Representative from the California Highway Patrol; John Doherty, ACTA (ex officio); Donald Johnson, SCE (ex officio); Mark Sedlacek, LADWP (ex officio).

Other attendees included: KeAndra Dodds, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis; Mario Gutierrez, Caltrans; Lucy Olmos, Metro; Kekoa Anderson, GCCOG; Yvette Kirrin, GCCOG; Bryan Moller, L.A. County Bike Coalition; Ernestine Llama, Southstar Engineering; Shannon Willits, AECOM; Camilo Rocha, HDR; Sam Ekrami, Parsons Brinckerhoff; Shawn Clark, Cardno, Inc.; Rob Bathke, David Evans & Associates; Wayne Richardson, MARRS; Ayman Salama, Transystems; Tom Ionta, CH2M Hill; Heather Anderson, CH2M Hill.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Pagett.

IV. Amendments to the Agenda

Derek Wieske asked that the agenda be amended to show that the project presentation from the City of Long Beach would be for the Atlantic

Avenue/Willow Street intersection, not the Shoemaker Bridge. It was the consensus of the TAC to amend the agenda accordingly.

V. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VI. Matters from Staff

There were no matters from staff.

VII. Consent Calendar

It was moved by Ray Abassi, seconded by Al Cablay, to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 15, 2015. The motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. Reports

A. I-710 Update

Shannon Willits, AECOM, gave a PowerPoint presentation on current activities. He said the team was drawing to a close on the preliminary engineering for the highway portion. He said there is an active effort on the Air Quality Technical Report, which is on a critical path for the 2016 recirculation of the EIR. He said there would be a meeting with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District tomorrow. Mr. Willits offered one on one briefings to public works staff to get more acquainted with the alternatives and features in the plan. He said he would use the TAC membership list as the first point of contact.

It was the consensus of the TAC to receive and file the report.

B. Project Presentation by the City of Long Beach (Atlantic Avenue/Willow Street Intersection)

Derek Wieske presented a report on the project regarding the Atlantic Avenue/Willow Street intersection being worked on by the City of Long Beach. He said the City had asked for design, right-of-way, and construction funding three years ago and that the TAC had approved \$300,000 for design only. It was reported that design was now 90% complete, but is on hold until right-of-way and construction funds can be obtained. It was reported that a total of \$2.7 million is needed.

Bill Pagett recommended that the TAC keep a set of “pending” projects that go through the same eligibility presentation process and would be eligible for second decade funding, be advanced funding, or presented for other funding opportunities.

Art Cervantes recommended that the TAC first refocus on the criteria to arrive at the most effective or best projects as a two step process.

Mohammad Mostahkami said he would like to see the list of intersection projects that came out of the EIR. Ernesto Chaves responded that there would be an updated report on level of service E or F intersections in the no-build alternative to see which intersections require the most attention. He said staff would email the old list. He also cautioned that the sound walls do not have funding for construction. It was recommended that the TAC subcommittee on early action projects reconvene and report back to the TAC next month.

It was moved by Mohammad Mostahkami, seconded by Kevin Wilson, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

C. I-710 Measure R Funding Criteria Update

Ernesto Chaves said there was no news to report, but the Highway Committee would meet again in September and would make a recommendation to the MTA Board by year end.

It was moved by Mohammad Mostahkami, seconded by Al Cablay, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

D. Current I-710 Early Action Project Update

Ernesto Chaves provided handouts showing progress on work completed, invoicing, and expenditures on early action projects. Ray Abassi and Bill Pagett made recommendations on changes in programming years. It was thought cash flow changes are more important because they can free up funds for use on other projects. Ernesto Chaves said he did not anticipate any change in the October semi-annual update by the MTA Board. He said the funding agreements for city support/staff time have been sent out.

It was moved by Mohammad Mostahkami, seconded by Ray Abassi, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

E. I-710 Early Action Sound Wall Presentation

The team from CH2M Hill provided a presentation to show which sound walls fit in with the early action project criteria, including no conflicts with the alternatives in the EIR. This project does not include taking right-of-way, so existing walls in areas that require right-of-way would need to be aesthetically treated to make the corridor more consistent. The trade-off is that the new walls are likely to be higher due to noise levels. It was said that the EIR for the walls gets complicated if right-of-way is required, as it was a mandate of the early action scope to not require right-of-way acquisition.

It was reported that the walls needing aesthetic treatment cover 7.1 miles and the new walls would cover 4.6 miles. The request was to provide concurrence on the three PS&E packages, as they are under contract and they just need to finalize the EIR. The total project cost of \$47 million is unfunded for construction at this time.

Derek Wieske said the City of Long Beach would be interested in being the lead agency for the sound wall construction for the non-freeway areas.

Bill Stracker recommended showing the boundaries of the sound wall projects on the maps in the presentation.

It was moved by Mohammad Mostahkami, seconded by Kevin Wilson, to provide concurrence from the TAC on Metro moving forward with the early action design and high risk PS&E packages. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. COG Engineer's Report

Yvette Kirrin said that, since there was no quorum at last month's meeting for the presentation on the change in scope for the Shoemaker Bridge, the TAC should reaffirm its support for the change.

It was moved by Al Cablay, seconded by Ray Abassi, to approve the change in scope for the Shoemaker Bridge project. The motion was approved unanimously.

Yvette Kirrin provided an update regarding last month's Corridor Advisory Committee and Project Committee meetings, specifically regarding the Livability Initiative. Art Cervantes said he sensed a "disconnect" from the Livability Initiative among the elected officials, particularly with regard to those concerns that get voiced at the Project Committee and not worked out beforehand. He said they could potentially support and defend the

program if properly educated. He said the TAC should work on a subcommittee to roll out the program. He said we need to build some of the preliminary projects.

Ernesto Chaves brought up the “city leadership” meetings where COG and Metro staff support a meeting with each city’s public works director, city manager, and elected official so we can all be on the same page.

It was the consensus of the TAC that an item be placed on next month’s agenda for the formulation of a subcommittee.

It was the consensus of the TAC to continue supporting the Livability Initiative and to have a monthly status report as an agenda item.

Yvette Kirrin said she had been making many presentations on the Strategic Transportation Plan (STP) over the past month and wanted to be sure to remind everyone to submit their active transportation comments, as well as to request an STP presentation.

It was moved by Mohammad Mostahkami, seconded by Al Cablay, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

IX. Matters from the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee

Derek Wieske thanked Ernesto Chaves regarding the southern portion design options and protecting access to the arterials where Long Beach is providing direction.

Ernesto Chaves noted that the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy has committed to providing an update on its activities to the TAC in September.

Derek Wieske mentioned that the Long Beach I-710 Oversight Committee is scheduled to meet Friday at 3:00. He said he also encouraged phone calls to the TAC members to assure better attendance at the TAC meetings.

X. Matters from the Chair

There were no matters from the Chair.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 3:25 p.m.

TO: I-710 TAC

FROM: Yvette Kirrin, P.E. – GCCOG Consultant Engineer

SUBJECT: I-710 Measure R Funding Criteria Update

Issue

The 710 Early Action Program has followed the subregion's approved criteria for evaluating, approving and recommending projects presented at the I-710 TAC, which are then forwarded as recommendations to the I-710 PC and ultimately approved for Funding at the Metro Board. Over the past year, there has been growing concern that the I-710 TAC does not have adequate time, based on the status quo process of providing presentation/justification at a single meeting, and then making a motion to approve at that same meeting, to properly evaluate the merit of any presented/proposed project, and that there is too much pressure to make a decision that same day.

In order for the I-710 TAC to properly evaluate and ask follow up questions that potentially could help value engineer, bring down costs, or identify critical lessons learned issues that may have not been identified by the jurisdiction presenting, the GCCOG and Metro Staff recommend that the process be amended so that a presentation, including the evaluation criteria, be made at the scheduled TAC meeting (status quo), however, the TAC then be provided with 1 month, or until the following TAC meeting, to revisit the project, ask questions, and then to potentially provide a motion to approve the project.

While this isn't a critical issue at this time, GCCOG and Metro staff are working on cash flow analysis in collaboration with the existing funded projects to see if any funds can be pushed to the second decade beginning July 1, 2019, and if possible to also explore mechanisms to advance funds from the 2nd decade to the current funding cycle. Additionally, the 710 TAC is contemplating creating a queue of projects "ready" for the 2nd decade funding cycle, and this recommendation would affect the process of selecting/evaluating those proposed projects.

Recommended Action

Update/amend the 710 Early Action Criteria/Process to include 1 additional month, post the initial project request presentation, prior to recommending a motion to approve (or deny) project funding, to allow for the members to properly evaluate the project and bring back questions/concerns.

TO: I-710 TAC

FROM: Yvette Kirrin, P.E. – GCCOG Consultant Engineer

SUBJECT: Caltrans Sustainability Grant – for the “I-710 Livability Initiative”
Transportation Elements including Complete Streets and Active
Transportation

Issue

The I-710 is a major North/South regional corridor that traverses the Gateway Cities and crosses many East/West arterials that would be well served with a complete street network. Additionally, the LA River runs parallel to the I-710 and provides an excellent opportunity to link “Active Transportation” with “Complete Streets”, to provide a safe and viable alternative to the I-710 which doesn’t allow non-motorized vehicles. As the I-710 considers improvement alternatives as part of the current EIR/EIS process, the GCCOG is leading the “710 Livability Initiative” which considers local transportation issues adjacent to the I-710 and peripheral to the EIR/EIS.

Metro is pursuing as the lead Sponsor, with the GCCOG as the secondary Sponsor, a Caltrans Sustainability Grant for \$500,000, which includes Metro commitment match. This grant will build on the baseline planning, which identified deficiencies at the corridor level and within the active transportation network, as part of the completed GCCOG Strategic Transportation Plan (or STP), and substantively develop it into a design ready network of sustainable transportation improvements that become highly competitive for California’s Cap & Trade program.

A Letter of Support is highly recommended as part of the Caltrans Sustainability Guidelines. The Grant application is due on October 30, 2015, and is an online submittal. The Letter of Support is part of the submittal package.

Recommended Action

Approve the attached Letter of Support and include it as part of the Grant Application.