

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
I-710 CORRIDOR PROJECT EIR/EIS  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA  
September 20, 2017**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Bill Pagett at 1:39 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

PRESENT: Bill Pagett, Chair, City of Bell and City of Paramount; Chau Vu, City of Bell Gardens; Maryam Babaki, City of Commerce; Glen Kau, City of Compton; Mohammad Mostahkami, City of Downey; Ray Abassi, City of Lynwood; Dan Garcia, City of Maywood; Clint Herrera, City of South Gate; Dan Wall, City of Vernon; Paul Barbe, County of Los Angeles; John Vassiliades, Caltrans; Ernesto Chaves, MTA; Theresa Dau Ngo, POLB; Donald Johnson, SCE (ex officio).

ABSENT: Richard Garland, City of Carson; Aaron Hernandez, City of Cudahy; Sergio Infanzon, City of Huntington Park; Sean Crumby, City of Long Beach; Kelli Tunnicliff, City of Signal Hill; Jacob Waclaw, FHWA & FTA; Kerry Cartwright, POLA; Annie Nam, SCAG; Representative from the California Highway Patrol; Mike Krause, SCAQMD; John Doherty, ACTA (ex officio); Steve Broyles, LADWP (ex officio).

Other attendees included: Lance Grindle, County of Los Angeles; Julia Brown, Metro; Elioth Obando, Caltrans; Yvette Kirrin, GCCOG; Kekoa Anderson, GCCOG; Jack Joseph, GCCOG; Dave Levinsohn, AECOM; Shannon Willits, AECOM; Julie Rush, AECOM; Traci Gleason, Koa Consulting; Joe Sawtelle, Transystems; Romeo Firme, David Evans & Associates; Sam Ekrami, Parsons; Bahram Fazeli, CEHAJ.

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dan Garcia.

**IV. Amendments to the Agenda**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**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 Dan Garcia, to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 16, 2017. The motion was approved unanimously, with Mohammad Mostahkami, Chau Vu, Maryam Babaki, and Paul Barbe abstaining.

## **VIII. Reports**

### **A. I-710 EIR/EIR Project Updates**

- **Project Status Reports**
- **Summary of Technical Findings**
- **Community Outreach Update**

Shannon Willits, AECOM, introduced a PowerPoint presentation updating the TAC on the RDEIR/RDEIS, which was released for public review on July 21<sup>st</sup>. He said three public hearings had been conducted: August 23<sup>rd</sup> in Commerce; August 26<sup>th</sup> in Paramount; and August 31<sup>st</sup> in Long Beach. He said the 90-day public comment period is scheduled to close on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, although it is subject to possible extension.

Mr. Willits said the decisions in front of the TAC moving forward include the process of completing the public comment period; selecting a preferred alternative, which will include a phasing plan; and what parts will be included in the final environmental document that are fundable.

Julie Rush, AECOM, discussed the traffic summary regarding the safety evaluation and the level of service for each alternative. She said Alternative 7 does the best job of separating cars from trucks since most, but not all, of the trucks would use the freight corridor. With regard to travel times, the benefits are similar for both build alternatives.

Mr. Willits provided a summary of constructability, including a concept staging scenario, or sequencing, and the considerations and goals to minimize impacts. He said the goal of this exercise was to make sure that the project is feasible to construct within a general timeline for construction activities.

Julia Brown, Metro, provided a brief summary of the public comments made at the public hearings.

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

### **B. Current I-710 Early Action Project Update Including Cash Flow/Invoicing Status**

Ernesto Chaves passed out a monthly status report on the Early Action cash flow showing allocations and expenditures. He noted that Metro is working on several agreements.

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

### **C. I-710 Early Action Projects Status Update**

- **Bell Gardens Florence Ave/Eastern Ave Intersection Widening**
- **Commerce Washington Blvd. Widening/Reconstruction**

Yvette Kirrin introduced this item saying that the TAC had previously taken action to have the jurisdictions give a periodic five-minute status report on their projects.

Chau Vu provided an update regarding the Florence Avenue/Eastern Avenue intersection in Bell Gardens, noting that they are at about 50% completion of the environmental analysis. She said the project will add a left turn lane on westbound Florence Avenue and a right turn lane on eastbound Florence. She said the City hasn't yet invoiced Metro, and that the budget is about 2% spent. She said the project is still in the early stages and noted that the lesson learned is that if you are lined up for early action you need to stay on top of the funding agreement.

Maryam Babaki gave a report on the Washington Blvd. project in Commerce, saying that the project started in 2015 and is about 95% complete. She said the project extends 2.7 miles from I-5 on the east to Indiana Street on the west, and includes widening, raised medians, street lighting, sidewalks, and ADA compliance. The finished street will have three lanes in each direction. She said the City is dealing with a number of agencies to complete the project, including Southern California Edison and Caltrans. She said the total project cost of \$38 million has several funding sources. She said the City has invoiced and received \$28 million so far.

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

### **D. COG Engineer's Report**

Yvette Kirrin reported that the Strategic Transportation Plan prioritization

process remains ongoing and is about 50% complete. She said this process will help provide a baseline of how we potentially fund the second decade Early Action funds as well as the initial local funding under Measure M.

She said a result of the public participation element of the I-710 EIR/EIS is that the COG is committed to leading a Livability Initiative, which is related to items such as complete streets, river revitalization improvements, are in public places, and other items that were not able to be included in the larger I-710 highway project. She said Metro has procured a consultant (Fehr & Peers) for the Livability Initiative for the active transportation and complete streets elements, funded by a \$500,000 grant from Caltrans. She said there is a one-year completion deadline. She said a fact sheet on the project has been sent out to all TAC members and is posted on the COG website.

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

**IX. Matters from the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee**

Glen Kau announced that he will be leaving the City of Compton to take the position of Public Works Director for the City of Hermosa Beach.

**X. Matters from the Chair**

There were no matters from the chair.

**XI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 2:56 p.m.