

**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, Transsystems; 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.