

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
I-710 CORRIDOR PROJECT EIR/EIS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA
December 17, 2014**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Pagett at 1:48 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; Maryam Babaki, City of Commerce; Glen Kau, City of Compton; Mohammad Mostahkami, City of Downey; Ron Bates, City of Huntington Park; Derek Wieske, City of Long Beach; Charlie Honeycutt, City of Signal Hill; Art Cervantes, City of South Gate; James Yang, County of Los Angeles; John Vassiliades, Caltrans; Ernesto Chaves, MTA; Eric Shen, POLB; Connie Rivera, ACTA (ex officio).

ABSENT: Richard Garland, City of Carson; Michael Allen, City of Cudahy; Bill Stracker, City of Lynwood; Kevin Wilson, City of Vernon; Jacob Waclaw, FHWA & FTA; Kerry Cartwright, POLA; Annie Nam, SCAG; Peter Greenwald, SCAQMD; Representative from the California Highway Patrol; Donald Johnson, SCE (ex officio); Mark Sedlacek, LADWP (ex officio).

Other attendees included: Candice Espinosa, City of South Gate; Nate Baird, City of Long Beach; April See, ACTA; Kekoa Anderson, GCCOG; Yvette Kirrin, GCCOG; Jack Joseph, GCCOG; Pat Somerville, HNTB; Ken Steele, AECOM; Mario Montes, HDR; Gene Bougdanos, RBF Baker.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Pagett.

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 Mohammad Mostahkami, seconded by Ray Abassi, to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 19, 2014. The motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. Reports

A. I-710 Update

Ernesto Chaves reported that the engineering team is working with Caltrans on a weekly basis on alternatives 5C and 7. He said work is continuing on the refinement of the geometrics at the north and south ends of the project. He said he anticipates meetings with the cities and the County in early spring to go over the geometrics. He said some of the environmental studies will need to wait for the geometrics. Mr. Chaves said a Project Committee meeting would be needed in January to ratify the project funding plan. He reported that meetings with CEHAJ have been convened to go over the elements of Community Alternative 7 that can be included in the EIR and that two meetings have been held so far. He said a third meeting would be held in late January.

It was moved by Charlie Honeycutt, seconded by Art Cervantes, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. I-710 Measure R Early Action Projects and Funding Match to the Metro 2015 Call for Projects

Ernesto Chaves introduced the discussion noting that there is a list of projects to be submitted along with the 2015 Call for Projects, using Measure R Early Action Projects money for the 20% match requirement, provided there is a nexus with the I-710 Early Action Projects criteria. Bill Pagett noted that the adopted criteria must be followed, with all the questions answered and provided to the TAC.

Al Cablay gave a PowerPoint presentation of the City of Bell's project to improve the intersections of Eastern Avenue/Bandini Blvd. and Eastern Avenue/Rickenbacker Road. He said the project would involve signalization, striping, and curb and median work. He said no right-of-way acquisition would be involved. He said the match request from Measure R is \$155,150.

Art Cervantes gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding a request from the City of South Gate for a Regional Bikeway Connectivity Program. He said the

request is for a Measure R match of \$600,000. He said the project would provide regional connectivity for various active transportation projects.

Ernesto Chaves noted that defining bikeways as being regional projects is up to interpretation and other subregions have considered additional criteria. Bill Pagett said the TAC criteria could be amended to include up to a 20% match for bicycle projects that demonstrate a nexus to I-710 with regional significance. He said the Project Committee would need to approve the criteria. There was significant discussion regarding the policy's merits.

Derek Wieske and Nate Baird presented three projects from the City of Long Beach: 7th Street, Artesia Blvd., and Los Angeles River gap closures to improve access at five locations. The funding request was for design and construction. After discussion by the TAC, it was determined that \$900,000 in match for Artesia Blvd. should be moved to the 91/605/405 TAC funding group. This lowered to total match request to \$1.36 million.

Maryam Babaki asked if there is a transit component of Early Action projects, as she would have brought a project to the TAC if she understood the "enhanced nexus" that seemed to be the theme of today's meeting.

Ray Abassi presented a request from the City of Bell Gardens for a match of \$258,000 for a Call for Projects application to improve two intersections on Florence Avenue at Ira Avenue and Jaboneria Road. He said the project would remove an acute angle and add a right turn lane.

James Yang presented a request from the County of Los Angeles to improve Whittier Blvd. between Indiana Street and Paramount Blvd. He said the request is for a total of \$1.4 million in match, which could be split with the 91/605/405 funding allocation, leaving a \$700,000 request with the I-710 TAC. He said South Whittier Bikeway Access improvements would fall within the 91/605/405 jurisdiction.

Connie Rivera and April See presented a request from the Alameda Corridor Authority of \$1.2 million for the SR-47 project. This amount would bring the request to the limit of the 2015 Call.

It was moved by Art Cervantes, seconded by Glen Kau, to approve \$4,273,150 in Early Action Projects funding, contingent on approving modified Early Action Goals and Criteria, for the following requests: Bell (\$155,150); South Gate (\$600,000); Long Beach (\$1.36 million); Bell Gardens (\$258,000); County of Los Angeles (\$700,000); Alameda Corridor Authority (\$1.2 million). The motion was approved unanimously with Ernesto Chaves and John Vassiliades abstaining.

C. COG Engineer's Report

Yvette Kirrin reported that she had met with transit providers regarding the transit chapter of the Strategic Transportation Plan. She said the STP TAC meeting scheduled for January will introduce the Master Plan for Arterial Highways. She reported that the COG Board had created an STP Oversight Committee consisting of the two STP TAC co-chairs, two city managers, and two elected officials.

IX. Matters from the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee

Ernesto Chaves provided a status report on the Measure R funding arrangements for local review of the I-710 EIR. He said they are currently under internal review and may go to the MTA Board.

X. Matters from the Chair

There were no matters from the Chair.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 4:28 pm