

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
I-710 CORRIDOR PROJECT EIR/EIS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA
July 21, 2010**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Pagett at 1:38 p.m.

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Bill Pagett, City of Paramount; Jim Harris, City of Bell Gardens; Victor Rollinger, City of Carson; Mark Christoffels, City of Long Beach; Daniel Ojeda, City of Lynwood; Charlie Honeycutt, City of Signal Hill; Mohammad Mostahkami, City of South Gate; Kevin Wilson, City of Vernon; Phil Doudar, County of Los Angeles; Garrett Damrath, Caltrans; Adrian Alvarez, MTA; Eric Shen, POLB; Kerry Cartwright, POLA; Garry Garrigue, SCE.

ABSENT: Carlos Alvarado, City of Bell, City of Cudahy and City of Maywood; Bob Zarrilli, City of Commerce; Dave Hewitt, City of Compton; Ed Norris, City of Downey; Patrick Fu, City of Huntington Park; Michelle Noch, FHWA & FTA; Tommi Tyler, CHP; Philip Law, SCAG; Peter Greenwald, SCAQMD; John Doherty, ACTA; Mark Sedlacek, LADWP.

Other attendees included: Abdi Saghafi, Caltrans; Mario Gutierrez, Caltrans; Alan Hicks, USDOT; Jocelyn Vivar, East Yards Communities for Environmental Justice; Jack Waldron, URS; Dave Levinsohn, URS; Rob McCann LSA; Esmeralda Garcia, MIG; Scott Broen, ICF; Craig Bijon, Gruen and Associates; Gill Hicks, Gill V. Hicks and Associates; Lan Saadertnejadi, HDR; Jerry Wood, GCCOG; Jack Joseph, GCCOG;

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was led by Chairman Pagett.

IV. Amendments to the Agenda

It was moved by Mohammad Mostahkami, seconded by Jim Harris, to add to the agenda a presentation by Gill V. Hicks on the SCAG Goods Movement Study. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VI. Consent Calendar

The consent calendar was deferred by consensus to the next TAC meeting.

VII. Reports

It was the consensus of the TAC to move Item I to the front of the agenda items under reports.

I. Report on Project Changes

Adrian Alvarez of MTA reviewed the current status and issues that are affecting the I-710 project. He said these include geometric changes at the north end in Commerce and at Patata Street in South Gate; freight corridor utility interface issues with DWP and SCE; revising the traffic model with higher truck throughputs in the freight corridor; possible tolling alternative development; and the delay caused by not receiving the information from Caltrans on the I-5/I-710 interchange. The potential impacts of possible gate changes at the Hobart Yard were also discussed as impacting the project.

Mark Christoffels inquired as to the magnitude of the changes. Mr. Alvarez responded that the potential order of magnitude of the cost increase for all of these changes is estimated to be in the range of three to four million dollars. Mr. Alvarez said that there would be about an additional eleven months added to the time schedule of the project to make these changes.

Mark Christoffels asked where the additional funding would come from. Mr. Alvarez said that the Project Committee would have to first make its own recommendation to the Executive Committee, which, in turn, would transmit its recommendation to the MTA Board, which would make the final determination, including the funding. Jerry Wood said a major problem is the higher truck volumes that came out of the traffic modeling results and the reliance on the SCAG model at the start of the project. He said that they would need to go back and negotiate with the consultant team.

Kevin Wilson asked when it will be known whether the utility rights-of-way will be able to be used. Jerry Wood responded that discussions with the utilities had not yet been entered into. Chairman Pagett said that the cities would like to know from where MTA will take the dollars to fund the additional work.

It was moved by Mark Christoffels, seconded by Victor Rollinger, to acknowledge the need for the additional studies if funding can be achieved, to continue with determining the costs and impacts to the schedule and funding implications, and that the tolling study be limited to the freight corridor. The motion was approved unanimously.

A. Engineering Report for the I-710 Corridor EIR/EIS

Jack Waldron of URS provided a power point presentation on the status of the project and for the engineering assignments. He reviewed the schedule, recently completed tasks, and current tasks, and provided a 3-month look ahead. He indicated that there were changes in the project that would extend the project's schedule.

It was moved by Daniel Ojeda, seconded by Mark Christoffels, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. Report on I-5/I-710 Project and Coordination

Rob McCann of LSA briefed the TAC on the status of coordination of the I-5/I-710 intersection project with the I-710 corridor project. He reported that Caltrans is behind schedule on providing information for the I-710 project, but that coordination is continuing and they are still waiting on information from Caltrans.

It was moved by Phil Doudar, seconded by Kerry Cartwright, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

C. Report on I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Environmental Studies

Rob McCann of LSA gave a power point presentation that reviewed the status of the environmental work, draft studies completed to date, draft studies still to be completed, and a three-month look ahead. It was the consensus to present the executive summaries and more detailed studies (AQ/HRA) at the subsequent TAC meeting.

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

D. Report on I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Traffic Modal Results

Dave Levinsohn of URS reported that the status of the updated traffic studies were completed and provided an overview. He also reported that the meetings had been completed with city staffs to review the intersection studies and results. Mr. Levinsohn said the conclusion is that there are

decisions that can accommodate the higher levels of traffic than what the models show.

Phil Doudar asked that information and rationale be provided at the subsequent TAC meeting on how the 300 vehicles per lane (1500 trucks per lane) will work. Mr. Levinsohn responded that URS will provide that information.

It was moved by Jim Harris, seconded by Victor Rollinger, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously

E. Report on I-710 Early Action Projects

Jerry Wood discussed the status of the preparation of the forms by the TAC members for submittal for Early Action Projects. It was the consensus to extend the time frame for the TAC members to complete the forms and submit them to the September TAC meeting. Mark Christoffels asked if the delay would threaten Measure R funding. Adrian Alvarez responded that he does not believe it is an issue. MTA staff was requested to report at the next TAC meeting if there was any urgency for completing this task.

It was moved by Mark Christoffels, seconded by Daniel Ojeda, to extend the due date for early action project forms to September and to ask MTA to give a report next month on the status of Measure R funding. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. Report on I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Community Participation

Esmeralda Garcia of MIG gave a power point presentation that reviewed the status of the community participation process and a discussion of the proposed community open houses. She said the focus of the community meetings is on geometrics, community enhancements, and community information and education. Her report included a summary of the various community meetings, topics discussed, topics for upcoming meetings, and a three-month look ahead.

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

G. Report on Air Quality Action Plan

Scott Broen of ICF gave a power point presentation and overview of the Air Quality Action Plan project that was just being initiated. Adrian Alvarez gave some background on the funding for the project and recognized Jerry Wood and Karen Heit of the Gateway Cities COG for their help in securing funding.

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

H. Urban Design Concepts Presentation

Craig Bijon of Gruen and Associates gave a power point presentation and overview of the aesthetic treatment concepts and ideas that are evolving for the I-710 project.

Jim Harris asked if they had considered the problem of graffiti. Mr. Bijon responded that the incorporation of greening and screens are intended to mitigate this issue. Adrian Alvarez said they also have to consider that some of these designs may not meet what Caltrans allows.

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

Report on SCAG Goods Movement Study

Gill V. Hicks of Gill V. Hicks and Associates gave a brief presentation to the TAC on the goods movement study that his firm is engaged in on behalf of SCAG. He said that there will be coordination with the I-710 project as the study proceeds.

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

VIII. Comments from Committee Members

There were no comments from Committee members.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 3:45 p.m.