



I-710 EIR/EIS PROJECT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

6:30 PM

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

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 EIR/EIS Project 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 EIR/EIS Project 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 EIR/EIS Project Committee, and each speaker will only have one opportunity to speak on any one topic. You have the opportunity to address the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee at the following times:

- A. **AGENDA ITEM:** at this time the I-710 EIR/EIS Project 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 EIR/EIS Project 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 EIR/EIS Project Committee.

A. Approve Minutes for the Meeting of January 31, 2011, of the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee

CONSENT CALENDAR ACTION:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM.

VIII. REPORTS

A. Alternatives Review – Presentation by Dave Levinsohn, URS

15 Min

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

B. Private/Public Partnership (P3) Study – Presentation by JD Douglas, InfraConsult

20 Min

SUGGESTED ACTION: Concur with the recommendations from the CAC to add the two versions of the Public/Private Partnership (P3) Tolling Alternative to the I-710 EIR/EIS as Alternatives 6C and 6D. Alternative 6C, which was also recommended by the TAC, will assume tolls are assessed only on the vehicles using the Freight Corridor for Alternatives 6A and 6B, while Alternative 6D will assume tolls are assessed on trucks on the I-710 General Purpose Lanes and on the Freight Corridor for Alternatives 6A and 6B.

C. Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) Status Report – Presentation by Adrian Alvarez, MTA & Scott Broten, ICF

15 Min

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

D. I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Engineering Report – Presentation By Jack Waldron, URS

10 Min

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

10 Min E. I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Environmental Report – Presentation by Rob McCann, LSA

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

10 Min F. I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Community Participation Report – Presentation by Esmeralda Garcia, MIG

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

10 Min G. I-710 EIR/EIS Early Action Projects Report by Jerry Wood, COG Engineer & Doug Failing, MTA – Oral Report

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

5 Min H. Gateway Cities COG Engineer Report by Jerry Wood – Oral Report

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

IX. MATTERS FROM THE I-710 EIR/EIS PROJECT COMMITTEE

X. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR

XI. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE: New items will not be considered after 8:30 p.m. unless the I-710 EIR/EIS Project 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 EIR/EIS Project Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 30, 2011, 6:30 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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
I-710 CORRIDOR EIR/EIS PROJECT COMMITTEE**

**A Meeting Held at Progress Park
15500 Downey Avenue
Paramount, CA**

January 31, 2011

I. Call to Order

Co-Chairman Hurtado called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by Self-Introductions

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate, Co-Chair; Sergio Infanzon, City of Bell Gardens; Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy; Luis Marquez, City of Downey; Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park; James Johnson, City of Long Beach; Gene Daniels, City of Paramount; Larry Forester, City of Signal Hill; Patrick De Chellis, County of Los Angeles; Dr. Mike Walter, Port of Long Beach; Joe Aguilar, I-5 JPA; Garrett Damrath, Caltrans; Diane DuBois, MTA; Connie Turner, Southern California Edison (ex officio); Susan Seamans, SBCCOG (ex officio).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: George Mirabal, City of Bell; Jim Dear, City of Carson; Robert Fierro, City of Commerce; Lillie Dobson, City of Compton; Maria T. Santillan, City of Lynwood; Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood; William Davis, City of Vernon; Douglas Krause, Port of Los Angeles; Mike Jones, SCAG; Barbara Messina, SGVCOG; Mark Sedlacek, LADWP (ex officio).

ALSO PRESENT: South Gate Councilmember Bill DeWitt; Paramount City Engineer Bill Pagett, Chairman, I-710 Technical Advisory Committee; Bell Gardens Public Works Director John Oropeza; Vernon Director of Community Services Kevin Wilson; James Yang, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works; Caltrans Project Manager Abdi Saghafi; Doug Failing, Executive Director for Highway Programs, MTA; Ernesto Chaves, Transportation Planner, MTA; Adrian Alvarez, Project Manager, MTA; Lucy Olmos, MTA; Ray Park, Chairman, Carson Community Advisory Committee; Louie Diaz, Carson Community Advisory Committee; Dion Cornelius, Lynwood Community Advisory Committee; Glenna Amos, Chair, South Gate Community Advisory Committee; Patricia Long, Long Beach Community Advisory Committee; Clara Solis, East Los Angeles Community Advisory Committee; Ivy Tsai, Deputy General Counsel, GCCOG; Richard Powers, Executive Director, GCCOG; Jack Joseph, Deputy Executive Director, GCCOG; Jerry Wood, GCCOG Engineer; Jocelyn Vivar, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice; Bahram Fazeli, Policy Analyst, Communities

for a Better Environment; Angelo Logan, East Yards Communities for Environmental Justice; Monica Parrilla, Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma; Jack Waldron, Project Manager, URS; Dave Levinsohn, Deputy Project Manager, URS; Shannon Willits, Engineering Manager, URS; Rob McCann, President, LSA; Jayna Goodman, Senior Planner, LSA; Esmeralda Garcia, Project Manager, MIG; Scott Broten, ICF; Karl Rodenbaugh, the Planning Center.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Dion Cornelious led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Amendments to the Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

V. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VI. Approval of Minutes

Member Walter asked that the minutes of September 30, 2010, be amended to show that he was in attendance. It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member Aguilar, to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 30, 2010 with the amendment requested by Member Walter. The motion was approved unanimously.

VII. Reports

A. I-710 EIR/EIS Project Status Report

Doug Failing, MTA Executive Director for Highway Programs, reported that, since the last meeting of the Project Committee, the geometric changes were approved by the MTA Board of Directors in December. He said the study is looking at tolling and traffic volumes. He said he anticipates a draft EIR will be completed in late 2011. It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member Aguilar, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Engineering Report

Jack Waldron, URS, reviewed the status and revised schedule for the project and gave a brief PowerPoint presentation. He said work is beginning again to bring the technical reports up to the stage they were before the geometric changes were made. He briefed the Committee on the projected schedule for the next three months. It was moved by Member Forester, seconded by Member Guerrero, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

C. I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Environmental Document Status Report

Rob McCann, LSA, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the environmental studies. He said the environmental work has generally been on hold pending the MTA Board approval of the scope modifications. He said they are currently updating alternatives description that will be used in the technical studies and the EIR/EIS. He reviewed the work plan for the months ahead.

It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Aguilar, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

D. I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Community Participation Status Report

Esmeralda Garcia, MIG, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the community participation activity through December. She outlined the activities of the Corridor Advisory Committee, local advisory committees, and the subject working groups.

Co-Chairman Hurtado asked how people are updated on new developments. He asked if updates waited until the next meeting. Ms. Garcia responded that one of the main forms of communication they use is e-mail blasts to all those who are on the mailing list.

Member Johnson asked what information they have on zero emission vehicles. Ms. Garcia said they have fact sheets with general information posted on the project website.

It was moved by Member Forester, seconded by Member Guerrero, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

E. Air Quality Action Plan Status Report

Scott Broten, ICF, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the status of the Air Quality Action Plan. He said the general purpose of the plan is to improve air quality and public health in the Gateway Cities COG subregion. He identified the goals as to build on other related projects and improvements; evaluate other options and ideas to maximize effectiveness; identify funding, institutional structure, and legislative strategies to improve air quality; and develop specific additional mitigation measures to improve air quality. He outlined the technical components of the project scope and discussed the upcoming schedule of deliverables.

Bahram Fazeli, Communities for a Better Environment, said that Caltrans seems to be equivocating as to whether the draft Health Impact Assessment will be included in the EIR/EIS. Monica Parrilla, Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma, requested that Caltrans approve immediately the inclusion of the Health Impact Assessment in the

EIR and to send notices to the community. Garrett Damrath, Caltrans, responded that Caltrans has taken that recommendation under advisement. He said Caltrans' legal counsel has advised to hold off consideration until the Health Impact Assessment is completed.

After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Project Committee to place an item on the agenda for the next meeting for a discussion of the Health Impact Assessment.

It was moved by Member Guerrero, seconded by Member Forester, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. I-710 Early Action Sound Wall Projects Report

Jerry Wood introduced TAC Chairman Bill Pagett who reported on the TAC recommendations regarding advancing sound walls as an "early action" project. He said walls will need to be built to be consistent with any of the study alternatives and meet the aesthetics adopted. He reported the TAC recommendations as:

1. To request to the MTA Board and staff to hire a consultant to do a feasibility study and constructability study to determine where sound walls could be constructed as "early action projects";
2. To approve the Technical Advisory Committee forming a subcommittee of the TAC to review the scope of work to retain a consultant and subsequent material, work with consultant to review the study, and make recommendations to the TAC, the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee, and the MTA;
3. To make the sound wall just south of Southern Avenue in South Gate the first priority project if it is determined to be feasible; and
4. To Recommend that the consultant hired by MTA to prepare the feasibility and constructability study also be retained to perform any subsequent final design work.

Co-Chairman Hurtado asked if the governor's budget proposals affect the funding for the project. Doug Failing responded that, because the project is funded under Measure R, which is completely local funding, the project would not be affected.

Member DuBois said there is a big push to use something other than concrete for the sound walls. Doug Failing said there are some materials that have been used and worked well. He said they will look at these and others.

It was moved by Member Forester, seconded by Member DuBois, to receive and file the report and approve the recommendation of the Technical Advisory Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

G. Status Report on Other Relevant Projects

Jerry Wood summarized other ongoing transportation projects that have relevance to the I-710 EIR/EIS. He listed these as the ITS Implementation Plan, the I-710 north and south utility relocation plans, CALSTART's Zero Emission Vehicle Project, the I-710 Public-Private Partnership Study, the SCAG Goods Movement Study, and the Pacific Electric Railway/West Santa Ana Branch Transit Study.

Angelo Logan, East Yards Communities for Environmental Justice recommended that public-private partnerships other than tolls be studied. Member DuBois asked what other examples of public-private partnerships there are. Doug Failing, MTA, responded that two examples would be design/build financing and container fees.

Member Infanzon asked how Mr. Wood identifies other relevant projects. Mr. Wood responded that other organizations have made contact over the past year and a half and have been given an opportunity to make presentations. He said CALSTART is an example. Member Infanzon said he thought all of these projects could be consolidated eventually into one master plan recommendation that the Project Committee could get behind.

It was moved by Member Forester, seconded by Member Guerrero, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. Next Steps and Meeting Schedule Discussion

Co-Chairman Hurtado asked for suggested dates for the next meeting of the Project Committee. He said March 31, which is the next fifth Thursday, is a holiday for the City of Paramount and other agencies. After discussion among the Project Committee members, it was the consensus of the Project Committee to hold the next meeting on Wednesday, March 30.

IX. Comments from Co-Chairs and Committee Members

There were no comments from the co-chairs or Committee members.

X. Adjournment

It was moved by Member Forester, seconded by Member Guerrero, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

VIII. REPORTS

ITEM A

**Alternatives Review – Presentation by
Dave Levinsohn, URS**

(presentation attached)

VIII. REPORTS

ITEM B

**Private/Public Partnership (P3) Study -
Presentation by JD Douglas,
InfraConsult**

(presentation attached)

TO: I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee

FROM: Richard Powers, Executive Director

BY: Doug Failing, Executive Director for Highway Programs, MTA

SUBJECT: Private/Public Partnership (P3) Study - Presentation by JD Douglas, InfraConsult

Background

MTA has been conducting numerous studies to evaluate the application of public-private partnerships (P3) for different transportation projects in LA County. P3s are agreements that allow private companies to take on traditionally public roles in infrastructure projects, while keeping the public sector ultimately accountable for a project and the overall service to the public. In P3s, a government agency typically contracts with a private company to renovate, build, operate, maintain, manage or finance a facility. P3s cover as many as a dozen types of innovative contracting, project delivery and financing arrangements between public and private sector partners. One of those projects is the I-710 proposed improvements – with emphasis on the proposed Freight Corridor in EIR/EIS Alternatives 6A and 6B. InfraConsult has been retained by MTA and has been working on this P3 study for over a year, working closely with the MTA staff, the project team and funding partners of the I-710 EIR/EIS Corridor Project. They have completed their preliminary evaluation of the viability of a P3 for the I-710 Corridor and presented the initial results of an assessment of the traffic impacts of differing tolling scenarios.

Issue

A private-public partnership (P3) could be used to develop an approach for obtaining private sector participation in the project, with the potential benefits of (1) obtaining additional funding needed to build the project and (2) speeding up project implementation. For the I-710 Corridor EIR/EIS, the objective of including a tolling option is to environmentally clear an alternative that includes a P3 project financing element already being considered by MTA for this and other Measure R Projects. This inclusion of a P3 tolling alternative in the I-710 EIR/EIS at this time could eliminate the future need to prepare a supplemental environmental document for a P3 financing approach to implement a build alternative in the I-710 Corridor, which could shorten the project implementation timeframe. The tolling (or P3) alternative needs to be analyzed in comparison to the “No-Build” alternative to the same level of detail as the other Build alternatives in the Draft EIR/EIS, as tolls affect traffic volumes in the corridor and could change the benefits and impacts of the proposed alternatives. If additional enabling legislation is needed to implement tolls in the corridor, it will be identified in the EIR/EIS.

InfraConsult has made presentations to the I-710 TAC, to the Funding Partners, the I-710 Transportation Subject Working Groups, and the I-710 CAC of traffic analyses completed to date of two different tolling scenarios. These entities have reviewed this information and the I-710 TAC, the Funding Partners, Transportation Subject Working Groups and the

CAC agreed that a toll alternative be included in the EIR/EIS. The I-710 TAC supports the option to include in the EIR/EIS the tolling of trucks on the Freight Corridor only in Alternatives 6A and 6B as reasonable and believe this alternative should be evaluated at this time in the I-710 Corridor EIR/EIS so that the project can stay on schedule. The I-710 CAC extensively discussed this TAC recommendation and recommended including a second tolling alternative in the EIR/EIS. This second tolling alternative includes tolling trucks on both the Freight Corridor and the General Purpose lanes for Alternatives 6A and 6B and was recommended to provide additional flexibility in the eventual choice of preferred alternative and P3 financing strategy. The CAC also indicated they would like to have further dialogue and discussion about this P3 financing option at a future meeting. The attached Power Point summarizes the results of the tolling traffic study and will be presented at the meeting.

Recommended Action

Concur with the recommendations from the CAC to add the two versions of the Public/Private Partnership (P3) Tolling Alternative to the I-710 EIR/EIS as Alternatives 6C and 6D. Alternative 6C, which was also recommended by the TAC, will assume tolls are assessed only on the vehicles using the Freight Corridor for Alternatives 6A and 6B, while Alternative 6D will assume tolls are assessed on trucks on the I-710 General Purpose Lanes and on the Freight Corridor for Alternatives 6A and 6B.

VIII. REPORTS

ITEM C

**Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) Status
Report – Presentation by Adrian Alvarez,
MTA & Scott Broten, ICF**

(presentation attached)

VIII. REPORTS
ITEM D
I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS
Engineering Report – Presentation by
Jack Waldron, URS

(presentation attached)

VIII. REPORTS
ITEM E
I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS
Environmental Report – Presentation by
Rob McCann, LSA

(presentation attached)

VIII. REPORTS

ITEM F

**I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Community
Participation Report – Presentation by
Esmeralda Garcia, MIG**

(presentation attached)