

**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.