

Acceleration of Measure R Highway Projects

Exploring Public-Private Partnership to Accelerate Project Delivery

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors recently initiated a program to explore the use of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to accelerate delivery of highway projects included in Measure R and which are not fully financed through traditional funding sources. The overall purpose of the PPP highway program initiative is to establish a permanent, programmatic approach to identifying, assessing and implementing projects utilizing private sector participation, with the overall goal of accelerating Metro's delivery of highway projects in Los Angeles County.

The 30/10 Initiative was recently introduced to accelerate Measure R transit projects in Los Angeles County. At the same time, the Board adopted a policy to combine long-term countywide sales tax revenue from Measure R, approved by voters in 2008, with alternative project delivery and financing methods for highway projects. Such methods include Design-Build-Finance (DBF) or Design-Build-Operate-Maintain (DBOM) and potential user fees, including tolls or other user fees, to accelerate the delivery of selected projects through PPPs.

Highway projects selected for initial strategic assessment

I-710 South Corridor—This project involves improvement of 18 miles of the Long Beach Freeway from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to the north, and includes potential provision for exclusive freight and goods movement facilities.

SR-710 Gap Closure Project—The SR-710 currently experiences a gap between the Cities of Alhambra and Pasadena. The most recent study conducted focused on the geotechnical feasibility of constructing a tunnel to address the problem. An area of five zones from SR-2 in the west to I-605 in the east was defined as the study area.

High Desert Corridor—This project involves construction of a new 50-mile highway through both Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. The project extends eastward from SR 14 to I-15.

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Benefits of Accelerating Highway Projects In Measure R

Accelerating construction of highway projects will result in substantial cost savings by limiting the effect of inflation, while taking full advantage of design-build and/or competitive construction bids.

Accelerating highway projects will improve the local economy by creating tens of thousands of jobs, beginning with the design and construction phases and continuing through future operation and maintenance activities.

Accelerating highway projects reduces traffic congestion, saves thousands of hours of travel time and improves air quality for Los Angeles County for decades to come.

Many of the highway projects to be undertaken have the capability to generate a substantial new revenue source in Los Angeles County through the prospect of general and targeted tolls and/or user fees. Such user fees can be part of PPPs for development of new highways, extensions to existing facilities, freight and goods movement services and high occupancy toll (“HOT”) lanes.

A	I-5 HOV from SR-134 to SR-170
B	I-5 Widening and HOV
C	I-5/Carmenita Road Interchange
D	I-5/SR-14 HOV Direct Connector
E	I-405, I-110, I-105 and SR-91 Ramp and Interchange Operational Improvements
F	I-5 HOV Lanes from SR-14 to Parker Road and Truck Lanes from SR-14 to Kern County Line
G	I-710 Corridor Project EIS/EIR
H	SR-138 Capacity Enhancements
I	High Desert Corridor Project
J	I-605 Corridor “Hot Spot” Interchanges (Study Area)
K	Arroyo Verdugo Operational Improvements
L	Las Virgenes–Malibu Operational Improvements
M	SR-710 Gap Closure Project (Initial Study Area)
N	BNSF Grade Separations
O	Alameda Corridor East Grade Separations Phase II