



## Bell Gardens LAC Meeting #1

July 8, 2008

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Bell Gardens Department of Public Works  
8327 S. Garfield Avenue, Bell Gardens

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## MEETING SUMMARY

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### INTRODUCTION

On Tuesday, July 8, 2008, members of the I-710 project team met with the City of Bell Gardens Local Advisory Committee (LAC). The three members of the committee were all present at the meeting. They include: Clifford Dunbar, Chair, Julia Asmus and Ron Hoyt. Also present was John Oropeza, City of Bell Gardens Director of Public Works. The purpose of the meeting was to provide a Project overview and update to the LAC regarding the EIR/EIS Corridor Project, to discuss desired outcomes and expectations of the LAC and to introduce the community participation framework.

Also present at the meeting were members of the I-710 project team, Devon Cichoski, Metro Constituent Program Manager and Jerry Wood representing the Gateway Cities Council of Governments. Becky Draper of MIG represented the outreach team at the meeting.

Ms. Draper reviewed meeting objectives and began the discussion with a round of self-introductions.

The I-710 project team provided background on I-710 Major Corridor Study, progress since the completion of the Tier 2 report and discussed the path moving forward for the I-710 EIR/EIS process. The discussion focused on describing the MCS and the role that the LACs serve in the EIR/EIS phase of the project, the responsibilities of LAC members and additional opportunities for community participation. The custom-tailored approach of the community participation process was emphasized during the meeting.



Following the discussion of the project and opportunities for community participation Jerry Wood reviewed the Locally Preferred Strategy pointing out areas likely to be of particular interest to the City of Bell Gardens.

Mr. Woods also passed copies and gave a brief overview of the Gateway Cities COG Air Quality Action Plan Report. The plan summarizes improvements to air quality that are being planned and identifies actions that local communities can take to improve AQ.

Additional handouts provided to the LAC included:

- Project Overview Fact Sheet
  - Community Participation Framework
  - Outreach Activities 6-Month Schedule
  - LAC Approach Graphic
  - EIR/EIS Fact Sheets (Process, Glossary, FAQ and Traditional EIR/EIS vs. I-710)
  - Overview PowerPoint Presentation
  - I-710 hybrid corridor map
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- The meeting was conducted as an open discussion and questions were encouraged throughout the meeting. Specific topics discussed included:
  - Impacts to the LA River from the hybrid design near Bell Gardens: It was discussed that changes to the river could be classified as “adjustments” to the levy rather than “movement” of the river.
  - Changes to Firestone and Florence will matter to the community of Bell Gardens. It was discussed that the I-710 EIR/EIS study will include analysis of side streets and arterials within a certain range of the freeway.
  - The installation of rubberized asphalt and concrete median barriers was discussed by the group. These treatments have been applied from Long Beach up to the 405 freeway and will be extended up to the Washington Avenue exit of the I-710 in the future. The improvements have been implemented by Caltrans and were supported by the GCCOG.
  - The opportunity to incorporate solar power technology as part of the I-710 improvements was discussed. It was suggested that electric lines may become obsolete in the future and that an opportunity exists to approach the utilities companies on behalf of this project about the exploration of solar power possibilities.

- The Port of LA's Truck Replacement Program and CNG fueled vehicles were discussed as avenues for continued improvements in air quality.

## **CONCLUSION**

Ms. Draper encouraged the committee to contact the project team at any with questions that may occur. A second meeting date was not set, but it was discussed that the next in-person meeting would be scheduled when

The meeting concluded at 7:00 PM.