



## East Los Angeles Local Advisory Committee Meeting

June 17, 2008

6:00PM

*Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church*

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## MEETING SUMMARY

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### INTRODUCTION

On Tuesday, June 17, 2008, the East Los Angeles Local advisory Committee held their third I-710 EIR/EIS Corridor Project meeting. The meeting was held at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in East Los Angeles. In attendance at the meeting were ELA LAC members Clara Solis, Diana Tarango, Martha Hernandez and Thomas Delgado. Also present were Roy Choi (Metro), Devon Cichoski (Metro), Jason Roach (Caltrans), Garrett Damrath (Caltrans), Ron Kosinski (Caltrans), Maged El Rabaa (LA County), Rob McCann (LSA), Jack Waldron (URS), Jerry Wood (Gateway Cities COG), Esmeralda Garcia (MIG) and Tony Torres (DSO).

Diana Tarango chaired the meeting and gave the floor to Esmeralda Garcia to review the agenda items and to provide a meeting overview. Ms. Garcia reviewed the purpose of this LAC meeting, which was to provide an update regarding the CEQA/NEPA process, the I-5 Project, on the I-5/I-710 project coordination plan and to gather feedback from the LAC and address questions and concerns regarding the I-5/I-710 Projects.

Rob McCann distributed the CEQA and NEPA process fact sheets that were developed to provide background for the I-710 EIR/EIS corridor Project. Mr. McCann explained the similarities and slight differences for each of these environmental processes. The document contained a step-by-step graphic illustration of the environmental process. Mr. McCann elaborated on the process and informed the LAC that the environmental process examines the scope of the project alternatives and aims to mitigate any impacts to the surrounding community. He explained that this process will apply to both the I-710 and I-5 projects. He also described that Caltrans will be the lead agency for both the CEQA and NEPA studies.



Ron Kosinski provided the LAC with an update of the I-5 project. He informed the group that having the same consultants on both the I-5 and I-710 provides a benefit to the process. He stated that the next phase of the I-5 project will include a review of the ELA mini study and other information to assess engineering possibilities for the alignment. One of the guiding factors for the I-5 project is to minimize impacts to the local community. A discussion ensued by the LAC and consultants. A summary of the key points are described below.

### **CEQA/NEPA Process**

- The team should be aware that mitigation efforts are different than improving existing conditions.
- The process should address air quality issues and health impacts prior to any construction taking place and the committee would like to see reference to this and other concepts from the Tier 2 Report reflected in the I-5/I-710 Coordination Plan.
- The Ports Clean Air Action Plan will allow for a significant reduction in truck emissions that should lead to better air quality.
- Medical facilities and medical services should be available to the local community as mitigation for health impacts.
- The medical facilities should be constructed in high impact communities, along the 710 Freeway, for easy access by area residents.

### **I-5 Project**

- A 12 lane freeway is not acceptable by the community.
- Describe the project Caltrans has already approved for the I-5 south of the I-605.
- Local businesses on Telegraph Road should not be displaced by the project.
- A business analysis/study should be conducted to determine the potential impacts on local businesses
- A public transit system along the I-5 should be studied in an effort to reduce traffic congestion.
- Outreach for the I-5 project scoping meeting is a concern. Given that members of the ELA LAC were not aware of the meeting it could be that outreach was not sufficient.
- The ELA LAC and community would like to provide a database of names for inclusion in future outreach efforts related to the I-5 project.

- Residents who are not displaced by new freeway construction often suffer the consequences of living next to the freeway. Mitigation should be available to these residents
- Local schools require mandatory physical education hours. These new regulations force children to play outdoors where they are susceptible to air pollution and health impacts. Many schools are adjacent to the 5 freeway. There should be mitigation offered to local schools as part of this process
- If additional health impact studies will be conducted for the I-5/I-710 process, samples should be taken directly from the areas surrounding the freeways.
- New medical facilities and health care programs should be considered for mitigation measures on the I-5 and I-710 projects.
- When will construction start on the I-710 Freeway? *There currently is no funding but it is usually a ten year horizon.*

Esmeralda Garcia then reviewed the project coordination for the I5/I710. She discussed the proposed outreach strategy, which includes a coordinated effort between members of the consultant team and staff to ensure that resources are allocated to facilitate the ELA LAC community involvement process. Ms. Garcia updated the group on the progress with the collateral materials developed so far for the project including, fact sheets, newsletter, corridor video documentary and website. She also described the formation of the Local Advisory Committees as well as the status and timeframe for coordination with the Community Advisory Committee, Subject Matter Working Groups, Technical Advisory Committee, Project Committee, and Executive Committee. Ms. Garcia also informed the LAC that three scoping meetings would be conducted in September. One scoping meeting would be conducted in East Los Angeles, one scoping meeting in Long Beach and one scoping meeting somewhere in the middle of the study area, probably at Progress Park in the City of Paramount.

### **I-5/I-710 Project Coordination**

- The ELA LAC would like to participate in the community outreach for the I-710 scoping meeting in ELA.
- All information for the ELA LAC should be emailed to each LAC member in addition to Gustavo Camacho.
- Why was the portion of the I-710 between Washington Blvd. and SR-60 included in the I-5 project?

## **CONCLUSION**

Metro asked members of the CAC if they would like to have their meetings open to the public. The LAC will discuss this matter further with Gustavo Camacho and provide an answer at the next LAC meeting. The meeting closed at 8:00 PM.

I-710 EIR/EIS  
ELA LAC  
MEETING  
J.U.N.E 17, 2008

IMPACTS/CONCERNS



- PROPERTY VALUES
- BUSINESS-RELOCATION OR LOSS



- SCHOOLS NEAR FWY
- IMPROVEMENT PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION
- NEED TO PROVIDE MEDICAL FACILITIES
- CONTRIBUTES TO MEDICAL CONDITIONS  
ASTHMA
- MEDICAL CANCER TREATMENT

QUESTIONS

- 1 WHAT ARE REQS FOR COMPENSATION FOR RESIDENTS NEAR FWY?
- 2 WHAT IS FOCUS OF STUDY AREA FOR HEALTH RISK ASSESSMEN?
- 3 HOW/WHY WAS I-5 IMPROVEMENTS PULLED FROM I-710
- 4 WHEN WILL CONSTRUCTION BEGIN?
- 5 HOW WILL I-5 INTERCH BE INCORPORATED INTO STUDIES?

