

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

**A Meeting Held at the Gateway Cities Council of Governments
16401 Paramount Blvd.
Paramount, CA**

November 13, 2008

I. Call to Order

Co-Chair Hurtado called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by Self-Introductions.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Co-Chair Gil Hurtado, South Gate; George Mirabal, Bell; Jim Dear, Carson; Frank Gurule, Cudahy; Anne Bayer, Downey; Elba Guerrero, Huntington Park; Val Lerch, Long Beach; Gene Daniels, Paramount; Larry Forester, Signal Hill; Patrick DeChellis, County of Los Angeles; Dr. Mike Walter, Port of Long Beach; Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza, Port of Los Angeles; Joe Aguilar, I-5 Joint Powers Authority; Ron Kosinski, Caltrans; Karen Heit, MTA; Rich Macias, SCAG; Barbara Messina, San Gabriel Valley COG; Susan Seamans, South Bay COG.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Mario Beltran, Bell Gardens; Rosalina Lopez, Commerce; Lillie Dobson, Compton; Maria T. Santillan, Lynwood; Felipe Aguirre, Maywood; William Davis, Vernon.

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Pagett, Chair, I-710 Technical Advisory Committee; Alex Hamilton, City of Commerce; Ernest Morales, MTA Deputy Executive Officer; Maged El-Rabaa, County of Los Angeles; Kerry Cartwright, Port of Los Angeles; Richard Powers, GCCOG Executive Director; Jack Joseph, GCCOG Deputy Executive Director; Ivy Tsai, GCCOG Deputy General Counsel.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Member Daniels led the Pledge of allegiance.

IV. Amendments to the Agenda

It was moved by Member Lopez-Mendoza, seconded by Co-Chair Hurtado, to add an item to the agenda to consider increasing the size of the Corridor

Advisory Committee from 44 to 46 members. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. Public Comments

Mario Solis, City of Commerce Local Advisory Committee, asked for an update on what is happening with the Air Quality Action Plan. Richard Powers, Gateway Cities COG Executive Director, responded that efforts were currently being made to seek funding for the elements of in the Plan, including investigating the possibility of utilizing an existing COG federal earmark.

VI. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Member Forester, seconded by Member Daniels, to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2008, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

VII. Reports

A. I-710 Alternatives

Jack Waldron, URS, the project consultants, presented a report summarizing the six alternatives currently under review. He detailed the six alternatives as:

1. No Build
2. Transportation Systems Management/Transportation Demand Management (TSM/TDM)
3. Goods Movement Enhancement by Rail and/or Advanced Technology
4. Arterial Highways and I-710 Congestion Relief Improvements
5. Ten General Purpose Lane Facility (with two options: with or without two car-pool lanes)
6. Alternative 5 with Addition of Four Separated Truck Lanes

Member Lopez-Mendoza asked about the status of the report on alternative technologies. Mr. Waldron responded that the report was completed at the end of October and would be presented at upcoming meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee and Project Committee. Member Lopez-Mendoza asked whether rail and alternative technologies were being considered exclusive of each other. Mr. Waldron responded that they are not. Member Lopez-Mendoza said that she was concerned that Alternative 3 does not explicitly include alternative technologies. Mr. Waldron said that part of the adopted Purpose and Need for the project is improved air quality, and that alternative technologies will be relied upon heavily to meet the purpose and need.

B. I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS – Key Assumptions – Review and Recommendations

Bill Pagett, Chairman of the I-710 Technical Advisory Committee, reviewed the key assumptions that had been reviewed and approved by the TAC and forwarded to the Project Committee with a recommendation for approval. Member Forester asked if Mr. Pagett was confirming that the TAC had reviewed the key assumptions on a technical basis and agreed with them. Mr. Pagett responded that they had.

Member Lopez-Mendoza asked how the numbers of projected cargo growth ranging from 28.5 million to 42.7 million TEUs per year was arrived at. Jack Waldron, URS, responded that 28.5 million is the low port growth projection based on the existing footprint, and that the high growth number comes from projects that are currently being planned and programmed through 2035. Member Lopez-Mendoza asked why they had to accept the ports' projected cargo numbers. Kerry Cartwright, Port of Los Angeles, explained that those are the numbers contained in the SCAG Regional Transportation Plan. Member Lopez-Mendoza asked when these numbers were arrived at. Mr. Cartwright said the 42.7 number was developed quite a long time ago, but that the 28.5 figure was arrived at within the last few months. Member Forester said that he would like to see the high end number used for planning purposes.

Co-Chair Hurtado asked what the timing is for the study. Mr. Waldron responded that they are now in the screening phase of the alternatives. He described the remaining phases, which should take about two and a half years to complete.

It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Co-Chair Hurtado, to approve the key assumptions as recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee. The motion was approved unanimously, with Member Lopez-Mendoza abstaining.

C. Appointment of Members to the I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS Subject Working Groups

Richard Powers, GCCOG Executive Director, presented a report discussing the options available to the Project Committee regarding membership on the subject working groups. He said his recommendation was that the Project Committee appoint a maximum of ten members to each of the subject working groups representing knowledgeable stakeholders with community representatives to review and comment in depth about specific areas across community boundaries. He said that so far a total of eight stakeholders had expressed interest in being appointed to a subject working group: Long Beach

Unified School District (Environmental Subject Working Group); Montebello Unified School District (Environmental Subject Working Group); Future Ports (Environmental Subject Working Group); Long Beach Chamber of Commerce; BNSF Railroad; Union Pacific Railroad; Southern California Edison Company; and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Member Dear asked if criteria for membership had been defined. Pat McLaughlin, MIG, community participation consultants, responded that no particular criteria had been adopted; that the Project Committee would just appoint people it believed could add to the subject matter. She said that, in addition, the community advisory committees and the Technical Advisory Committee can appoint representatives. She said that six of the sixteen local advisory committees had made appointments. Mr. Powers added that there is a maximum total membership of 29 persons per subject working group.

Member Mirabal said his main concern is that each subject working group be balanced.

It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member Forester, to appoint the eight stakeholders who have requested membership on the subject working groups. The motion was approved unanimously.

D. Development of a Regular Meeting Schedule

GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers presented a sample calendar showing days in a month that did not involve conflicting meetings so that members of the Project Committee would be available to attend Committee meetings. Member Dear suggested that the Committee meet on the fifth Thursday of the month during those months that have one since there would be no conflict with existing meeting schedules. Since a fifth Thursday occurs four times a year, it would allow that regular meetings would be held quarterly. After discussion, it was moved by Member Dear, seconded by Member Daniels, to set a meeting schedule of the fifth Thursday of the month, beginning with January 29, 2009. The motion was approved with Member DeChellis voting no.

E. Request by South Bay Cities Council of Governments for Appointment to the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee as Ex Officio Member

GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding provision that allows the Project Committee to add to the Committee, as ex officio members, "additional governmental agencies, upon a two-thirds vote of the members of the Committee that the resources and/or expertise of such an agency constitutes an important resource for resolving

matters currently under consideration by the Committee”. He said that a request for ex officio membership had been received from the South Bay Council of Governments. He said that portions of the South Bay COG subregion, including the City of Carson, which is already a member of the Project Committee, are located in the study area.

It was moved by Member Dear, seconded by Member Daniels, to approve the request of the South Bay Council of Governments for ex officio membership on the Project Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. Notebook Distribution

GCCOG Executive Director distributed notebooks containing background information on the I-710 project to date. Member Lopez-Mendoza said that she would also like to receive a copy of the alternatives study and the 2005 MTA Board action.

It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member Dear, to accept the notebook. The motion was approved unanimously.

G. Consideration of Additional Membership on the Community Advisory Committee (Item Added to the Agenda by Vote of the Committee)

Member Lopez-Mendoza said that she had been approached by two groups that are not represented on the Community Advisory Committee. She said that she would like the membership expanded to include an additional member of the previous Tier 2 Community Advisory Committee and a representative from the Wilmington/San Pedro communities. It was moved by Member Lopez-Mendoza, seconded by Co-Chair Hurtado, to increase the membership of the Community Advisory Committee to include an additional member from the I-710 Tier 2 Community Advisory Committee and a community member from the Wilmington/San Pedro communities. The motion was approved unanimously, with Member Mirabal abstaining.

VIII. Adjournment

It was moved by Member Forester, seconded by Member Mirabal, to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.