



Transportation and Transit Subject Working Group Meeting #2

January 12, 2009

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Gateway Council of Governments: 16401 Paramount Blvd, Paramount

MEETING SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

On Monday, January 12, 2009, the I-710 project team met with the Transportation and Transit Subject Working Group (SWG). The purpose of the meeting was to follow up on the December kick-off meeting, to provide an update of the technical analysis, to discuss the project alternative screening methodology, and continue discussion of alternative technology. Meeting attendees included representatives from agencies and local corridor communities. Specific persons in attendance were: Bob Eula, Commerce LAC; Mario Sotelo, Commerce LAC; Connie Turner, Southern California Edison; Carol Berkeley, South Gate LAC; Mimi Gutierrez, the Port of Los Angeles; Gladis Deras, City of South Gate.

Also present at the meeting were members of the I-710 project team, Desiree Portillo-Rabinov, Metro; Jack Waldron, URS; Chris Robert and Arcelia Arce, The Robert Group; and Esmeralda Garcia and Andi Nelson, MIG. One member of the public attended the meeting (Lou Baglietto, Butterfield Communications)

After a round of introductions, Esmeralda Garcia reviewed the meeting agenda and objectives. Ms. Garcia gave attendees an overview of the first Transportation and Transit Subject Working Group (SWG) meeting on December 18, 2008, which reviewed the charge and role of the group. The SWGs will act as a liaison between the corridor communities and the larger Technical Advisory and Corridor Advisory Committees.

Meeting participants were invited to share their ideas to encourage participation on the Subject working Groups. One meeting participant suggested that the recruitment could occur during the next Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC). There are members who may have interest in participating in the SWGs and others who have not attended meetings but are not aware of the importance of the groups in the process.

Ms. Garcia followed with a review of project updates and meeting information. SWG meeting summaries will be available online.



Jack Waldron provided a brief update of the I-710 corridor project's technical analysis. Traffic, alternative technology, among other studies underwent an evaluation process over the last couple of months. Technical study drafts were sent to funding partners for review and are currently being finalized. URS is in the process of screening the six project alternatives. The purpose of the technical studies and the screening process is to evaluate and narrow down the project alternatives. The technical studies are available for public review.

Screening Methodology Discussion

Mr. Waldron delivered a presentation that reviewed the six project alternatives and introduced the topic of screening methodology. Project alternatives are evaluated against specific screening measures. These screening measures were developed and informed by community input during the Tier 2 Community Advisory Committee process. The presentation concluded with the opportunity to discuss the screening methodology and ask questions.

Points and questions raised include:

- The design of all six proposed project alternatives will help traffic in problem areas.
- Early Action Projects will take place in three identified project areas: 1) South End (around PCH); 2) Firestone; and, 3) Bandini Boulevard.
 - There is some funding for these Early Action Projects identified in Measure R.
 - Funding sources are currently being identified; it is anticipated that 50% of the allocated funds will be matched with federal resources.
- The timeframe of the I-710 corridor project is estimated to be 10-15 years, which includes:
 - 30 months dedicated to the environmental review process
 - 1 year dedicated to design review
 - 3 years of initial project construction
- How is environmental justice being screened for in each community?
 - Current environmental justice impacts are screened with an initial assessment for each community that evaluates whether or not there will be environmental justice considerations as a result of the project alternative.
 - A more detailed environmental justice study of project impacts will be produced later in the process.
- These screening measures are unique to the I-710 Corridor Project and reflect community input in the Tier 2 Community Advisory Committee Major Opportunity/Strategy Recommendations and Conditions report. Specifically, input from the Tier 2 Committee elevated air quality, traffic safety and congestion to be screening measures.
- The screening methodology is consistent with Tier 2 Committee findings, strategies, policies, and conditions.

Transportation and Transit SWG members requested to have copies of Mr. Waldron's presentation and images of the project alternative designs.

Alternative Technology

Mr. Waldron provided a summary of alternative technology being evaluated in the project alternative analysis. Alternative technology opportunities include electric trucks, magnetic machinery, among others. The summary of alternative technology concluded with the opportunity to discuss the concepts and preferences of those present.

Points raised included the following:

- The electrified truck presents a range of opportunities for the I-710 corridor.
 - The truck would travel at freeway speed and would operate continuously.
 - Implementing an electrified truck system would include identifying the necessary technology and contracting a vendor/contractor for construction and management.
 - Solar panels could be a power source. Local power sources, such as the LG Plant in construction, could provide power.
 - This technology could be implemented in lieu of or in combination with truck lanes.

CONCLUSION

Ms. Garcia asked the SWG members to relay screening methodologies and alternative technologies to their LACs or representatives. URS will provide SWG members with a copy of the presentation and design concepts that they can use to review with interested parties. Ms. Garcia said that the next meeting of the SWG would be scheduled for a time after which the SWG members had presented project alternatives, screening methodology, alternative technology and gathered feedback from their respective communities. The next meeting would be the opportunity to share thoughts from the communities. Future SWG meetings will be held in the same location at the Gateway COG.

The meeting concluded at 7:35 PM.