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Sent: Friday, December 17, 2021 2:05 PM
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Cc: Angela McNair Turner [REDACTED]
Subject: LAFLA feedback on CLC documents

Dear colleagues,

As requested, we are writing to provide our feedback on the current CLC proposal. This feedback is based on the "[Draft 710 Task Force Community Leadership Committee \(CLC\) Proposal](#)" together with slides 18-19 of the December 13 [PowerPoint Presentation](#), and in consideration of the comments and discussion at that meeting.

1. The Task Force's recommendations should be driven by the communities most impacted by the 710 freeway: those living along the corridor.

As Metro has been repeated several times, there is no current project or proposal to consider; the Task Force is starting with a blank slate and charged with developing recommendations surrounding improvements to the corridor. We believe that the communities most impacted by the corridor should determine the future of the corridor.

A community-based committee that advises the Task Force is one approach that could theoretically help guide the Task Force towards making community-centered recommendations. The efficacy of this strategy, however, will depend on several factors, including the process, design, and composition of the CLC.

2. Impacted communities should be involved in designing the CLC.

For the CLC to truly reflect the experiences and needs of impacted communities, those communities must have an active role in designing the CLC, including all the details proposed by Metro (i.e., its responsibilities, composition, qualifications, selection process, and meeting schedule). Despite our best intentions, anything designed without active community participation runs a serious risk of not being workable for the communities whose direction we want. It has been abundantly clear that, to date, community members do not feel the current outreach process is adequately accessible to them or responsive to their needs. Instead of a prescriptive top-down approach as is currently being advanced – where Metro designed a CLC for the community to endorse – we recommend a community-centered process. This might involve community-specific townhalls, focus groups, door knocking, and joining existing community-groups (as was recently suggested by a speaker at the last meeting).

- a. Composition

The current proposal of 10-15 members was intended to reflect the number of "clusters of concern" along the corridor. At the November 22 working group meeting, we discussed how there are approximately 16 cities and at least two unincorporated areas along the corridor. We also discussed concerns over having too large a CLC that might not be workable.

Community members should identify the appropriate “clusters” that should be represented on the CLC and thereby inform the number of CLC members. In addition, individuals who work in an impacted area but do not live there do not experience the corridor in the same way as residents and cannot speak for them. For that reason, the CLC should be composed of residents of the community. Business, industry, and commerce have long wielded their power to dictate the development of the corridor at the expense of its residents. The CLC presents an opportunity to begin to right this wrong. [Please note that the CLC “proposal” document references an attachment for the “710 Study Corridor” that is not attached to the proposal.]

Subject to the agreement of the communities along the corridor, we believe that the demographic composition of the CLC should reflect the demographic diversity of the corridor.

b. Application v. Nomination process

Communities should dictate how CLC members are chosen and help design any application or nomination process and documents.

We understand that these recommendations might result in a longer process, but the benefits of an CLC that actually works for – and reflects communities – far outweighs the costs of any delay. Ultimately, we believe that a fast process and a process that works for communities are mutually exclusive.

Thank you,

Ghirlandi C. Guidetti | Staff Attorney, Housing and Communities Workgroup

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