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April 6, 2024

The Coalition for Environmental Health and Justice (CEHAJ)
and Long Beach Residents Empowered (LiBRE)

RE: CEHAJ/LiBRE Comment Letter for the Draft LB-ELA Corridor Mobility Investment Plan

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you all for the comprehensive, thoughtful, and helpful letter sent to us on behalf of the members of CEHAJ and LiBRE on March 28, 2024, as official comment on the Draft Long Beach-East Los Angeles (LB-ELA) Corridor Mobility Investment Plan (CMIP). Thank you also for meeting with our project team on Wednesday, April 4, 2024, to discuss your letter, proposed changes, and outstanding issues to consider as we prepare to bring the revised CMIP back to the Task Force on Monday, April 8, 2024, for discussion and an opportunity to receive a consensus vote of support to bring the CMIP to the Metro Board for consideration this month.

While the process of creating the CMIP started 30 months ago, we recognize that you, your colleagues, and the community have been engaged in the process of determining how to invest in the I-710 Corridor for many years, from the early 2000s when planning and proposals for a project emerged, through the development of the prior I-710 South Corridor Project, to the tremendous cancellation and shift away from that proposal in 2021, to the creation of the LB-ELA CMIP today. You have consistently called for the public to have more than just input, but meaningful participation to help make the CMIP community-centered and beneficial for local residents, not just the region. As members of the Task Force, you have helped shape and guide every step of the process, from creating the Vision, Goals, and Guiding Principles to evaluating the revised Draft CMIP before us today. The equity-focused process of engaging the public, especially through the Community Leadership Committee, has proven essential for not just the process of creating the CMIP, but also the quality of its outcomes. Thank you for your consistent participation in all aspects of the CMIP process, your representation of community, your articulation of key process, policy, and project issues, and your constant effort to improve our planning process and outcomes. We look forward to continuing to work with you through the Working Groups to ensure that the promises and community benefits promised in the CMIP's recommendations that you will consider on Monday come to fruition.

Attached please find two documents: (1) a response to the key comments you raised in your letter, in the form of a comment log, and (2) a copy of the final redlined version of the CMIP that includes all edits made incorporating many items resulting from the letter and our meeting this past week.

On behalf of the Metro team, I hope you find our responses to your letter helpful to clarify and understanding how the CMIP addresses the many issues you raised, including changes made in response to your feedback.

I recall in our first meeting about five years ago when you made it clear that investment in the I-710 Corridor should include no displacement, zero-emission technology, and local/targeted hiring. We are pleased that the CMIP reflects those important goals, and so much more, as we set forth to invest \$743 million in transportation dollars for the Corridor to generate approximately \$4 billion of multimodal investment that is a down payment on addressing many of the needs for better transportation, investment in community programs and benefits, reparative technical assistance, better public health and cleaner air, safer routes for all modes of transportation, zero-emission technology, urban greening and an improved environment, and access to opportunity and shared prosperity.

The CMIP is a strategic, multimodal, transportation vision for the LB-ELA Corridor. Task Force support for the CMIP sets us on a path forward to begin much of the work to develop, define, and deliver the projects and programs recommended for funding through the Working Groups we will initiate following the adoption of the CMIP by the Metro Board. We invite members of the community, the CLC, and your organizations to participate in that process, continue to be our partner in this endeavor, and continue the work of improving the LB-ELA Corridor communities and transportation system in a way that follows the Vision, Goals, and Guiding Principles of the CMIP and provides meaningful benefits to the collective quality of life for residents.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at canom@metro.net.

Sincerely,

Michael Cano

Michael Cano
Executive Officer, Multimodal Integrated Planning
Countywide Planning and Development