

SR 710 EIR/EIS TAC Meeting No. 13 – Staff Notes

On Wednesday November 13, 2013, Metro held its 13th SR 710 North Technical Advisory Committee meeting at Metro headquarters. Metro's staff and the consultant Technical Team (TT) presented information on the following items:

1. Public Outreach Update
2. Discussion on Value Analysis Study
3. Update on Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Technical Studies
4. Next Steps

1. Public Outreach Update: Metro's staff provided a summary of their outreach activities during October and November 2013. These included briefings for elected officials, attendance at South Pasadena Council meeting with Supervisor Antonovich, and participating in Community Information Sessions at City of Alhambra 5th Council District and East Los Angeles Community Specific Information Session.

2. Discussion on Value Analysis Study: The Technical Team provided the results of two Value Analysis (VA) workshops held in March 2013 with an independent team of Metro, Caltrans and consultant staff. The goal of the VA effort was to consider all Study Alternatives (No Build, Transportation System/Demand Management, Bus Rapid Transit, Light Rail Transit, Freeway Tunnel) and find ways to:

- Increase the value of the Project
- Identify opportunities for cost savings
- Consider new alternatives or combination of alternatives
- Identify new technologies

Some of the major issues identified by the VA study for the Study Alternatives are listed below. Advantages and disadvantages of each issue identified were documented as part of the Technical Team's presentation. The strategies identified by the VA study were either accepted for further review or analysis, or rejected if they would have major disadvantages.

Transportation System Management (TSM): The concept included the provision for peak direction High Occupancy Lane of travel on city arterials (slide 24).

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT): The concepts included Guided BRT with Enhanced Technology (slide 25), construction of Multimodal Transportation Centers (slide 26), and consideration of Streetcar on a BRT alignment (slide 28).

Light Rail Transit (LRT): The concepts included consideration of LRT in median of I-710 (slide 29), terminating the LRT tunnel at Mission Street near Gold Line rather than at Fillmore Station (slide 31).

Freeway Tunnel: The concepts included a single bore tunnel (slide 33), a car-only tunnel (slide 34), providing additional freeway access to/from St. John Avenue to improve connectivity for local access (slide 36), and raising the profile of the north portal to save costs (slide 37).

3. Update on Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Technical Studies: This update included:

Preliminary Engineering Update: Continuing refinements to the build alternatives, developing construction schedule and equipment needs, developing landscape concepts, refining designs to incorporate Value Analysis recommendations, and developing cost estimates.

Environmental Studies Update: Completing field work, drafting technical studies, follow up meetings with Southern California Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and initiating preparation of sections of the Draft EIR/EIS.

Traffic Analysis Status: Completing the future 2035 Travel Demand Model runs for environmental analysis, assessing future operations models for Level of Service, and initiating the Parking, Bicycle and Pedestrian Assessments.

4. Next Steps

- Continue to Evaluate Performance of Build alternatives
- Continue with Technical Studies
- Continue with Preliminary Engineering
- Continue preparation of the Draft Environmental Document

➤ **Study Schedule:** The current study schedule provided by Metro shows:

- Draft Environmental Document to be released by April 2014
- Public Comment period to be held during April and May 2014
- Final Environmental Document to be completed by June 2015

➤ **Next Meeting:** The next Metro TAC meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2014.

These staff notes and a copy of the Metro's PowerPoint Presentation for this TAC meeting are being posted on the City's SR-710 Website at <http://cityofpasadena.net/SR710/>.

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