

4.0 Presentation on El Monte Transit Center

R. Bobadilla (El Monte) presented on this item. He provided an update on the progress of the project since the city took it over last fall. He indicated that the City released a request for qualifications to select a developer and, to date, has received 13 responses. Additionally, he reviewed the importance of this project as it is first TOD project of its size to be built around a bus station as opposed to rail. He indicated that Metro is investing \$40 million in the project, including \$13 million for a grade separation, and that there would be 650 housing units. Additionally, in 2008 the City was awarded a \$26 million State grant from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). Currently, the City is seeking an extension of the State requirement that these funds be drawn by February 2011

Committee members asked if the COG has taken a position on this project. The Chair indicated that the COG has a general position of support for this project.

Committee members discussed the importance of this project as it relates to north-south connections for the proposed SR-60 alignment for the Gold Line East Side Extension.

The Committee reviewed the motion by Molina, Fasana and Antonovich that is set to go before the Metro Board of Directors in May. This motion would: 1) direct the CEO to have MTA staff participate with the City of El Monte in meetings with State representatives to extend the timeline for spending the HCD grant funds allocated to this project and 2) Direct the CEO to send a letter of support for the City of El Monte's request for a extension to the HCD.

5.0 Partnering Agency Reports

5.1 Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro)

5.1.1 710 Tunnel Project Next Steps

The Chair reviewed the Metro staff recommendation which will go before the Board of Directors at their May meeting. Additionally, the Committee reviewed a the letter from mayors of the cities of Glendale, La Canada Flintridge, Pasadena, South Pasadena which urged an alternative process for address the 710 project. There was discussion regarding the ramifications of each alternative recommendation as it relates to the FHWA vs. FTA processes, the requirement for "route neutrality", and the impact on the viability of a public-private partnership.

T. King expressed concern that the recommendation from the four mayors was indicative of a delay tactic. He also encouraged cities to attend the Metro Board of Directors meeting to voice their agency's support for the completion of the project.

D. Spence disagreed with T. King's assertion and stressed the need, given the size and expense of the project, to study it further.

5.1.2 Update on 30/10 Proposal

The Chair indicated that all of the SGVCOG's requested amendments had been incorporated into the version of the plan adopted by Metro. The Committee requested that the SGVCOG re-send a letter indicating its unqualified position of support to Metro and the League of California Cities – LA Chapter.

5.2 Alameda Corridor-East Construction Authority

T. Spohn, Chair of the ACE Construction Authority, reported on this item and discussed ACE's staff's input on the federal re-authorization guidelines related to specific project categories.

5.3 Gold Line Foothill Extension Status Report

S. Pedroza, SGVCOG Representative on the Gold Foothill Extension Board, reported on this item. He encouraged Committee members to attend the groundbreaking ceremony on June 26th.

6.0 New Business

Items for the next meeting include an update on the California High Speed Rail project.

7.0 Next Meeting

8.0 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.