



CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA

1414 Mission Street • South Pasadena, California 91030
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SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Freeway and Transportation Commission

Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 6:30 pm
City Manager's Conference Room
1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030

Chairman: Joanne Nuckols

Vice Chairman: Scott Kuhn

Commissioners: Arcelia Arce, Richard Helgeson, William Sherman, M.D.

City Council Liaison: Councilmember Richard D. Schneider

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comments (Items not on the Agenda)
3. Approval of the Minutes of the April 16, 2019 Regular Meeting
4. Commissioner Comments
5. Council Liaison Comments
6. Staff Comments
7. Discussion Items:
 - A. SR-710
 1. Legislation
 2. Notice of Determination/Record of Decision
 - B. Measure R
 1. Mobility Improvement Investment Projects
8. Adjournment

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I declare under penalty of perjury that I posted this agenda on the bulletin board in the courtyard of City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena as required by State Law.

Date: June 13, 2019

Signature

Margaret Lin

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
 FREEWAY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
 OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
 CONVENED THIS 16th DAY OF APRIL 2019 7:36 P.M.
 CITY MANAGERS CONFERENCE ROOM
 1414 MISSION STREET**

1. ROLL CALL	The special meeting of the Freeway and Transportation Commission (FTC) was convened at 6:37 P.M. Commissioners present: Arce, Helgeson, Kuhn, Nuckols, and Sherman; Commissioner absent: none; Council Liaison: Councilmember Schneider; and Staff present: Manager of Long Range Planning and Economic Development (Manager) Lin.
2. PUBLIC COMMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)	None.
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES	The February 19, 2018, regular meeting minutes were approved as amended (5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent).
4. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS	None.
5. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS	Councilmember Schneider reported that Senate Bill (SB) 7 would enable the City to purchase the community garden based on its current use rather than the highest and best use.
6. STAFF COMMENTS	None.
7. DISCUSSION ITEMS	
A. SR-710 1. Legislation 2. Notice of Determination/Record of Decision	<p>Manager Lin reported that both SB 7 and AB 29 had made it out of committee. The Commission discussed the possibility of the bills being merged.</p> <p>Manager Lin reported that the ROD had not been released yet. Commissioner Sherman questioned whether the Environmental Protection Agency comments would need to be addressed in the ROD. Commissioner Helgeson stated that he believed the comments would need to be addressed. Commissioner Sherman asked whether or not the NOD satisfies the City's interests since the Tunnel Alternative was not selected. Commissioner Kuhn stated that the letter from Director Bulinski states a new environmental process would need to be initiated if the tunnel ever came back. Chair Nuckols made a motion to recommend to the City Council to amend the contract with Doug Carstens to include a scope of work to review the NOD/ROD, and provide recommendations regarding potential actions, litigation, or options (5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent).</p>
B. Measure R 1. Mobility Improvement Investment Projects	Chair Nuckols stated that Pasadena requested projects that would enhance capacity and potentially result in negative impacts on South Pasadena. Councilmember Schneider shared about his meeting with Supervisor Barger regarding the Mobility Improvement Investment Projects. Chair Nuckols shared some of the history regarding the stub in Pasadena and recommended that the City hire Nelson Nygaard to evaluate the Pasadena projects and to write a letter to Pasadena to inform them of the potential impacts on South Pasadena that would result from implementation of their projects.

	Commissioner Sherman made a motion to recommend that the city managers from Pasadena and South Pasadena meet to discuss potential impacts and concerns regarding implementation of the mobility projects (5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent).
8. ADJOURNMENT	By consensus, the Commission adjourned the meeting at 8:33 P.M.

Approved By:

Joanne Nuckols
Chair

DRAFT



Freeway and Transportation Commission Agenda Report

ITEM NO. _____

DATE: June 11, 2019
FROM: Margaret Lin, Principal Management Analyst
SUBJECT: State Route 710 Legislation – Letters of Support

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission receive and file the Letters of Support that were authorized by the City Council.

Discussion/Analysis

AB 29 would remove the portion of the SR-710 located north of SR-10 from the California freeway and expressway system (Section 253.1 of the Streets and Highways Code). The proposed legislation would create an additional hurdle to reviving a SR-710 North Project in the future by requiring new legislation to include the extension back into the Streets and Highway Code.

SB 7 would require surplus non-residential properties to be made available to nonprofit organizations or cities at fair market value as determined by the current use of the property; and prohibit the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) from using funds in the SR-710 Rehabilitation Account to implement a surface or freeway tunnel for the SR-710 between SR-10 and State Route 210. The proposed legislation could potentially lower the cost of the surplus freeway lands located in the cities of Alhambra and Pasadena and make it easier for the cities to obtain the properties for their respective development projects. The provision regarding the SR-710 Rehabilitation Account would provide additional safeguards to prevent the funds from being used to further a SR-710 North Project if it is ever revived in the future.

Background

On November 26, 2018, the Caltrans released the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) available for the SR-710 North Project. The Final EIR/EIS identified the Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management (TSM/TDM) Alternative as the Preferred Alternative. On July 10, 2017, the City Council submitted a Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 533 in support of the revision to Section 253.1 of the Streets and Highways Code, relating to highways. On May 25, 2017, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board made a unanimous and historic vote to adopt the TSM/TDM as the Preferred Alternative for the SR-710 North Project. The Metro Board decision also reallocated the remaining Measure R funds to the TSM/TDM Alternative and other mobility improvement projects.



Freeway and Transportation Commission Agenda Report

ITEM NO. _____

DATE: June 11, 2019

FROM: Margaret Lin, Manager of Long Range Planning and Economic Development

SUBJECT: State Route 710 Notice of Determination/Record of Decision

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission receive and file the State Route 710 (SR-710) Notice of Determination (NOD).

Discussion/Analysis

On April 3, 2019, it was brought to Staff's attention that the NOD for the SR-710 North Project had been filed with the Office of Planning and Research on February 5, 2019. The NOD made the following determinations:

- The project will have a significant impact on the environment.
- The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project was completed pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project.
- A Statement of Overriding Considerations was adopted for the project.
- Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

The Statement of Overriding Considerations (SOC) included a list of impacts that were identified as significant and not fully mitigatable in the Final EIR. The SOC stated that the Freeway Tunnel Alternative with the Single Bore Tunnel was found to provide operational benefits but could not be successfully implemented within a reasonable period time due to the lack of consensus and adequate funding. However, the SOC also stated that the Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management (TSM/TDM) Alternative would attain the purpose and need of the project.

The Findings identified significant effects resulting from the TSM/TDM Alternative in the Final EIR/EIS. These included impacts to paleontological resources, hazardous waste, and land use.

Background

On November 26, 2018, the Caltrans released the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) available for the SR-710 North Project. The Final EIR/EIS identified the Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management (TSM/TDM) Alternative as the Preferred Alternative.



Freeway and Transportation Commission Agenda Report

ITEM NO. _____

DATE: June 11, 2019
FROM: Margaret Lin, Principal Management Analyst
SUBJECT: Measure R Early Action Projects

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission receive and file the tri-city letter regarding the State Route 710 (SR-710) Mobility Improvement Investment Projects (also known as the Early Action Projects) and the City's Phase II project submittal letter.

Discussion/Analysis

On March 26, 2019, the City along with the cities of Alhambra and Pasadena submitted a joint letter to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to request clarification regarding project eligibility for non-capacity enhancing projects, project evaluation process, opportunities for technical support and cross-jurisdictional collaboration, and funding process associated with the SR-710 Mobility Improvement Investment Projects.

On March 28, 2019, the City re-submitted projects that were not awarded during Phase I for consideration during Phase II.

Background

On November 26, 2018, the Caltrans released the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) available for the SR-710 North Project. The Final EIR/EIS identified the Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management (TSM/TDM) Alternative as the Preferred Alternative. On May 25, 2017, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board made a unanimous and historic vote to adopt the TSM/TDM as the Preferred Alternative for the SR-710 North Project. The Metro Board decision also reallocated the remaining Measure R funds to the TSM/TDM Alternative and other mobility improvement projects. On December 4, 2017, the City submitted a list of projects to Metro for funding consideration. On December 6, 2018 the Metro Board awarded the City \$48 million to complete the SR-110/Fair Oaks Avenue Interchange Project and Regional Traffic Corridor Improvement Project.