



# CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA

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## AGENDA

### **Freeway and Transportation Commission**

Tuesday, July 16, 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 June 18, 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: July 11, 2019

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Margaret Lin

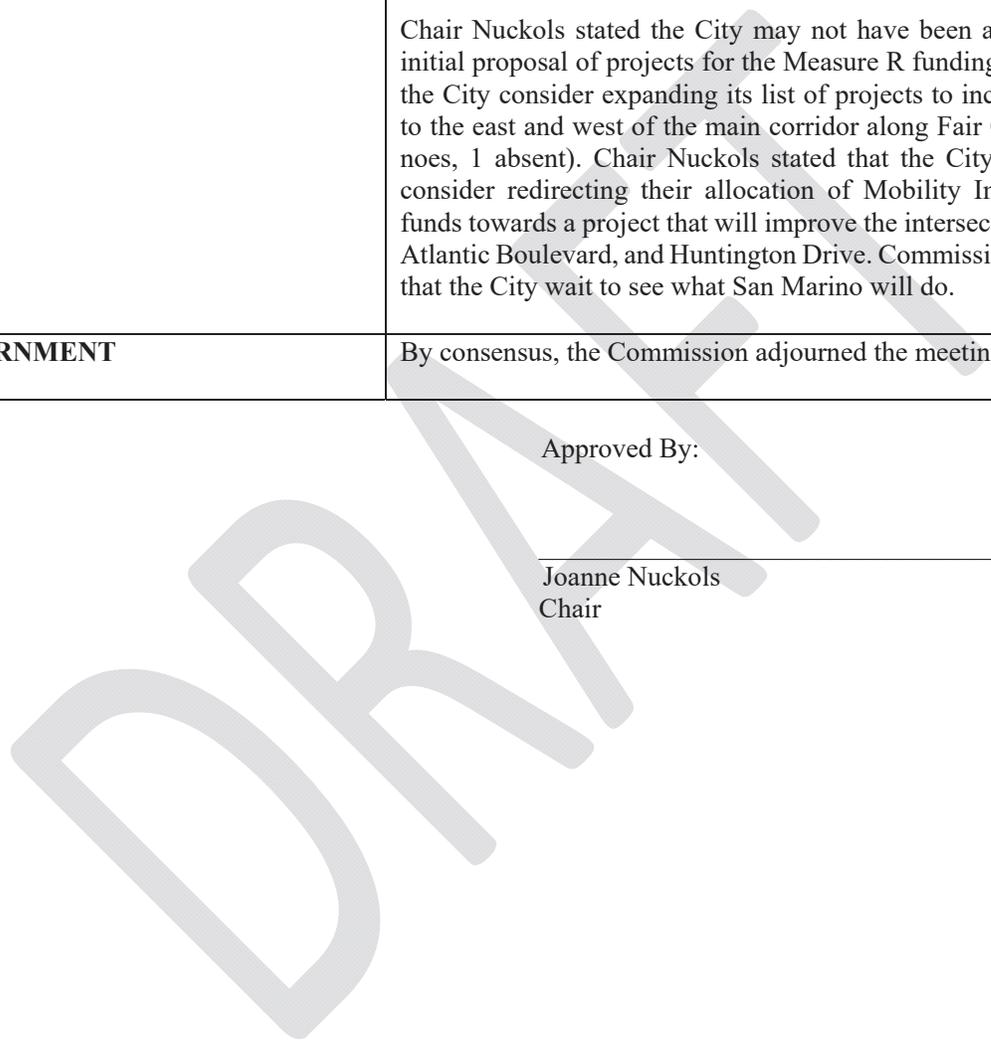
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
 FREEWAY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
 OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA  
 CONVENED THIS 18<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2019 6:39 P.M.  
 CITY MANAGERS CONFERENCE ROOM  
 1414 MISSION STREET**

<b>1. ROLL CALL</b>	The regular meeting of the Freeway and Transportation Commission (FTC) was convened at 6:39 P.M. Commissioners present: Arce, Helgeson, Nuckols, and Sherman; Commissioner absent: Kuhn; Council Liaison: Councilmember Schneider; and Staff present: Manager of Long Range Planning and Economic Development (Manager) Lin.
<b>2. PUBLIC COMMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)</b>	Residents from Meridian Avenue raised concerns regarding the traffic and speeding issues on Meridian Avenue and a neighbor that was hit two weeks prior; and stated that Meridian Avenue was originally the route for the SR-710 and lacks stop signs between Monterey Road and the City limit which has created a speeding hazard. The residents requested that the City investigate whether or not speed humps or stop signs could be installed at Maple Street or Oak Street to help slow traffic.
<b>3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES</b>	The April 16, 2018, regular meeting minutes were approved as amended (5 ayes, 0 noes, 0 absent).
<b>4. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS</b>	Commissioner Sherman questioned why a Council Ad Hoc Committee was being proposed to work with the Freeway and Transportation Commission and Public Works Commission. Manager Lin reported that the proposed committee would work with the Chairs of each commission to develop a strategy to sunset both commissions and create a new commission to focus on the implementation of Capital Improvement Projects and mobility initiatives.
<b>5. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS</b>	None.
<b>6. STAFF COMMENTS</b>	None.
<b>7. DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>	
<b>A. SR-710</b> <b>1. Legislation</b>  <b>2. Notice of Determination/Record of Decision</b>	<p>Manager Lin reported that the City of Alhambra is requesting relinquishment language for the SR-710 Freeway stubs be included in the legislation. Chair Nuckols stated that the Senator is waiting until September to include language regarding the stub relinquishment.</p> <p>Manager Lin reported that the ROD had not been released yet. Chair Nuckols recommended that the City write a letter to Caltrans requesting an update to the tri-city letter that was written to Caltrans regarding the stub removals and Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management Alternative projects (4 ayes, 0 noes, 1 absent). Commissioner Helgeson made a motion for the City to retain the services of Doug Carstens to investigate whether all National Environmental Policy Act actions were completed prior to the issuance of the Record of Decision including publication in the Federal Register and any required hearings (4 ayes, 0 noes, 1 absent).</p>
<b>B. Measure R</b>	

<p><b>1. Mobility Improvement Investment Projects</b></p>	<p>Manager Lin reported that Caltrans, Metro, Pasadena, and South Pasadena conducted a meeting last Friday to discuss the SR-110 hookramp project. Pasadena stated that they would not relinquish the total amount of land requested for the hookramp project. Metro will now consider possible alternative designs for the project. Commissioner Sherman requested that Steve Wright, Public Works consultant, attend future meetings to provide updates on the project implantation status. Chair Nuckols stated that there may be additional funding available from the connector road project and recommended a meeting with Caltrans, Metro, Supervisor Barger’s office, Metro Director Najarian, Public Works Commissioner Fisher, and Steve Wright to discuss the possibility of splitting the project into two phases.</p> <p>Chair Nuckols stated the City may not have been aggressive enough in its initial proposal of projects for the Measure R funding and recommended that the City consider expanding its list of projects to include additional projects to the east and west of the main corridor along Fair Oaks Avenue (4 ayes, 0 noes, 1 absent). Chair Nuckols stated that the City of San Marino should consider redirecting their allocation of Mobility Improvement Investment funds towards a project that will improve the intersection at Garfield Avenue, Atlantic Boulevard, and Huntington Drive. Commissioner Sherman suggested that the City wait to see what San Marino will do.</p>
<p><b>8. ADJOURNMENT</b></p>	<p>By consensus, the Commission adjourned the meeting at 8:35 P.M.</p>

Approved By:

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 Joanne Nuckols  
 Chair





# Freeway and Transportation Commission Agenda Report

ITEM NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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

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## **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:** July 11, 2019

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

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

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## 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:** July 11, 2019  
**FROM:** Margaret Lin, Principal Management Analyst  
**SUBJECT:** Measure R Early Action Projects

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## **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.