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TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ARTHUR T. LEAHY *by [signature]*
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: *[signature]* DOUGLAS R. FAILING, P.E.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HIGHWAY PROGRAM

SUBJECT: I-710 Zero-Emission Freight Corridor Vehicle System: Technologies, Challenges, and Opportunities

ISSUE

The concept of zero-emission trucks has been introduced in the I-710 Corridor Project Draft EIR/EIS; two of the Project's Alternatives include a freight corridor that can only be used by trucks with zero tailpipe emissions (zero-emissions). Additionally, at its August 2011 meeting, the Metro Board authorized staff to form a Countywide Zero-Emission Trucks Collaborative to promote consistency among public agencies in working to develop and deploy zero-emission truck demonstration projects in Los Angeles County.

CALSTART has been retained by the Highway Program to investigate the technical feasibility of zero-emission trucks and to determine when they can be commercially available. The analysis has been completed and presented in the report, Technologies, Challenges, and Opportunities – I-710 Zero-Emission Freight Corridor Vehicle System, and will be made available to the public.

BACKGROUND

For the past three years, staff has engaged the public regarding the improvements being considered in the I-710 Corridor Project. Two of the Alternatives evaluated in the I-710 Draft EIR/EIS (environmental document) include a Freight Corridor that is to be used by trucks with zero tailpipe emissions (zero-emission trucks).

In order to help the public have a better understanding of the different types of green trucks currently available and the state of truck technologies, Highway Program staff has worked with CALSTART in a process, separate from the environmental document, to help develop the concept and understanding of zero-emission trucks.

CALSTART is a member-supported organization promoting clean transportation technologies, and works very closely with truck manufacturers. They were tasked to evaluate the technological constraints and the commercial viability of zero-emission trucks. The findings in the report indicate that truck manufacturers are already developing greener trucks, and there are many zero-emission and near zero-emission trucks currently in a demonstration phase. Based on feedback from truck manufacturers, CALSTART concluded that zero-emission trucks can be commercially available in time for implementation as part of the I-710 Project. As a result of these findings, CALSTART has been tasked with forming and facilitating user groups that will provide input, opinions, and concerns on the zero-emission truck concept-discussions.

With the formation of the Countywide Zero-Emission Trucks Collaborative Metro will play a significant role in establishing policy and framework within public agencies to stimulate the commercialization of zero-emission trucks. In the first half of 2012, Metro has facilitated dialogue with other members of the collaborative to identify potential areas where zero-emission truck demonstration projects can occur and has supported collaborative members that have applied for zero-emission truck demonstration project-funding. The work completed by CALSTART will be used by the collaborative in advising what technologies should be pursued for demonstration projects

DISCUSSION

Highway Program staff is involved in two groups where zero-emission trucks are being discussed: the I-710 Corridor Project and the Countywide Zero-Emission Trucks Collaborative. CALSTART has presented the key findings of their analysis at various I-710 Committee meetings, and the public has responded favorably. The report will now be shared with the Countywide Zero-Emission Trucks Collaborative. The Collaborative will work with CALSTART on any follow-up activities.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will make the report available to the public via the Countywide Zero-Emission Truck Collaborative web page via: Projects and Programs (tab) → All Projects and Reports (tab) → Funding and Other Programs (heading):
<http://www.metro.net/projects/countywide-zero-emission-trucks-collaborative/>

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