





Metro

June 15, 2010

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THROUGH: ARTHUR T. LEAHY 
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FROM: DOUGLAS R. FAILING 
HIGHWAY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: STAFF RESPONSE TO BOARD MOTIONS INTRODUCED
ON MAY 27, 2010 FOR THE STATE ROUTE 710 NORTH
EXTENSION PROJECT

ISSUE

Stakeholders that have participated in the decades-old debate about how to improve mobility and reduce the congestion that occurs at the northerly terminus of *State* Route 710 expect forward thinking, multi-modal and community -and environmentally- sensitive transportation solutions. At its May 27, 2010 meeting, Board of Directors Katz, Huizar, Antonovich & Fasana introduced motions to respond to stakeholder concerns. Staff was asked to analyze the motions. The matrix in Attachment A contains staff's input.

DISCUSSION

Staff can accomplish almost all of the issues in the motions included in Attachment A, with the exception of Director Huizar's motion in line No. 4. This motion directs the CEO to eliminate the surface route from the environmental review process that the Board is now committing to undertake. Alternatives will be considered and screened throughout the environmental review process.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will proceed with the action taken by Board of Directors at the May 27, 2010 to accept staff's recommendations.

Enclosure

BOARD MOTIONS INTRODUCED FOR STATE ROUTE 710 NORTH EXTENSION PROJECT

NO.	AUTHOR	MOTIONS	STAFF INPUT
1	KATZ	Direct the CEO to conduct parallel analysis concurrent with EIR scoping as follows: A. Analysis shall be neutral and objective, and fully analyze all alternatives that address the purpose and objectives of the SR-710 north gap closure.	This can be accomplished.
2		B. Community input shall be sought throughout the entire process.	This can be accomplished.
3		C. A cost-benefit analysis shall be performed and findings shall be presented at the same time the MTA Board considers the draft EIR.	This can be accomplished.
4	HUIZAR	Direct the CEO to eliminate the surface route from the environmental review process that the Board is now committed to undertake.	Difficult to accomplish in advance of the screening process.
5		If the environmental process moves forward, that Metro consider the negative impacts a portal constructed north of Valley Boulevard will have on the residential neighborhoods in the community of El Sereno.	This can be accomplished.
6	ANTONOVICH & FASANA	(1) Approve the three staff recommendations for Item #17.	Staff concurs.
7		(2) Ensure that all five zones studied in the geotechnical tunnel study are included at the start of the scoping process.	This can be accomplished.
8		(3) Ensure that this environmental process follows NEPA/CEQA guidelines.	This can be accomplished.
9		(4) Institute a State Route 710 North Advisory Committee ("Committee") with the following stipulations: a) The Committee shall be composed of the member jurisdictions and agencies that participated in the State Route 710 Tunnel Steering Committee, plus the Crescenta Valley and Altadena Town Councils b) The Committee will meet no less than once every three months, and as often as deemed necessary by the CEO c) The purpose of these Advisory Committee meetings will be for stakeholders to receive timely updates and presentations from- and provide input to- Metro staff. d) The CEO shall retain authority over all other elements of this Advisory Committee not stipulated in subsections (a) through (c).	This can be accomplished.
10		(5) Direct the CEO to present a project update presentation before the Measure R Project Delivery Committee no less than once every three months, or as often as deemed necessary by the CEO	This can be accomplished.
11		(6) Direct the CEO to develop a comprehensive outreach program to federal, state and local officials regarding the progress of this project study and report back to the board within 60 days with a presentation of this program and its implementation.	This can be accomplished.