



# Corridor Connections

I-710 corridor project EIR/EIS news

SUMMER 2011

## Community Participation in Brief

The community participation framework for the I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS encourages corridor communities to stay informed about the project and to provide input throughout the process. Your participation is encouraged! For more information, please visit [metro.net/710eir](http://metro.net/710eir) or contact Danielle Valentino, Constituent Program Manager, at 213.922.7448 or send us an email at [710eir@metro.net](mailto:710eir@metro.net)

### Local Advisory Committees (LACs)

These groups have reviewed and discussed the following topics:

- Technical Studies
- Geometric Concepts
- Early Action Projects

### Subject Working Groups (SWGs)

These open participation groups delve more deeply into transportation, community design, and environmental issues, and are made up of representatives from the LACs as well as other appointees with subject matter interest and expertise. There are three SWGs: Environmental, Transportation, and Community Design & Local Economy.

These groups have reviewed and provided feedback on the following topics:

- Air Quality (ESWG)
- Air Quality/Health Risk Assessment (ESWG)
- Early Action Projects (TSWG)
- Traffic Modeling and Forecasts (TSWG)
- Zero-emissions goods movement technology (TSWG)
- Urban Design and Aesthetics (CSWG)
- Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) Key View Locations (CSWG)

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## Draft EIR/EIS Update

Since 2008, the Project Team ("Team") has been developing the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). Over the past three years, the Team has provided presentations summarizing the various technical studies performed to all the I-710 committees. Additionally, the Team has presented the geometric plans for the build Alternatives to the LACs. In order to address stakeholder and technical concerns identified in the review process, revisions to these designs and the assumptions used in the technical evaluation were required. In the Summer of 2010, the Team found that community and stakeholder feedback, and information from the traffic modeling resulted in the need for additional studies and analyses. These refinements were presented to the TAC, CAC, and PC and subsequently presented to the Metro Board for approval and funding. At the December 2010 Metro Board meeting, the refinements were approved, and as a result, the Draft EIR/EIS, which was scheduled for public review in the Fall of 2010 will now be ready in Winter 2012.

### Areas where the Alternatives are being refined:

1. Freight Corridor Carrying Capacity – In order to more accurately represent and analyze future traffic conditions, the traffic forecast was revised with higher carrying capacity assumptions.
2. Evaluating Geometric Refinements:
  - Commerce/East Los Angeles: Based on refinements to the SCAG traffic model which reflected higher truck volumes, revisions to the on/off ramps for the freight corridor in the North End were recommended. Additionally, several variations of the geometrics, where the Washington Boulevard exit is kept open, are being evaluated.
  - Patata Street Freight Corridor on/off ramp – The City of South Gate and the South Gate LAC expressed their preference for an alternative truck-only connection at Patata Street instead of Miller Way.
3. Utility Relocation Strategies – The Team has been working with Southern California Edison (SCE) and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) to develop relocation strategies for the existing utility infrastructure that parallels the freeway. The Team is evaluating these options.
4. Tolling Study – Metro is studying the feasibility of developing public-private partnerships to fund various transportation projects in Los Angeles County, including the I-710 Corridor Project. The results of this study will help Metro determine if an additional "build" alternative that includes the use of tolling will need to be analyzed in the I-710 EIR/EIS.

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# Corridor Connections

I-710 corridor project EIR/EIS news (continued)

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## Community Participation in Brief (cont.)

The SWGs will be reviewing information on the following topics in the months ahead:

- Early Action Projects Design (TSWG)
- Arterial Highway Analysis (TSWG)
- Right of Way Impacts and Relocation (CSWG)
- Water Quality (ESWG)

### Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC)

CAC is comprised of the Chairs of each LAC and the TAC, and other appointees representing corridor-wide interests. The CAC meets monthly to review topics discussed at LAC, SWG, and TAC meetings. The CAC has reviewed and discussed topics such as:

- Significance thresholds, construction impacts, near-source modeling, and health impact assessment.

In their upcoming meetings, the CAC will receive updates on:

- Key Views Locations
- Gateway Cities Air Quality Action Plan
- Geometrics Status

Future topics of discussion for the CAC will include updates on changes to Geometrics and draft schedule for previews for results of Technical Studies.

## Upcoming Meetings

- ▶ **CAC**  
July 20, Progress Park, 6:00 pm
- ▶ **Transportation SWG**  
September 2011
- ▶ **Community Design & Local Economy SWG**  
October 2011
- ▶ **Environmental SWG**  
October 2011
- ▶ **LAC's**  
Fall 2011

## Draft EIR/EIS Update (cont.)

These areas of additional analysis are near completion and the technical team will be updating the technical studies associated with the EIR/EIS over the next several months. The Team will continue to engage in communication with the corridor communities through the various advisory committees and community groups to ensure that there is ample opportunity for participation from the corridor communities.

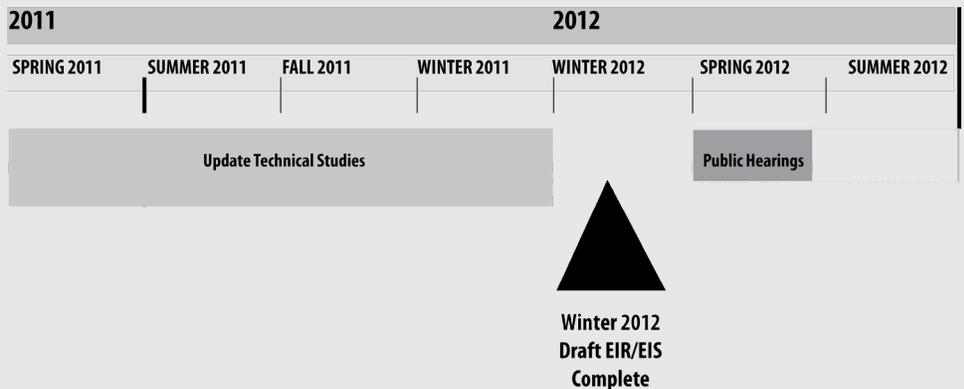
Please visit the project website at [metro.net/710](http://metro.net/710) or send us an email at [710eir@metro.net](mailto:710eir@metro.net) for updates, questions, or project information.

## Process and Next Steps

The project team is committed to the overall goals of the I-710 Corridor Project, which are:

- Improve Air Quality and public health
- Improve traffic safety
- Address design deficiencies
- Address projected traffic volumes
- Address projected growth in population, employment, and economic activities related to goods movement

Community participation and input has been a central focus of the project since its inception. The project team is committed to continuing this tradition of public involvement through upcoming community meetings and availability of information on the website and through informational materials. As the long-anticipated milestone of the Draft EIR/EIS approaches, there will be many opportunities for community members to get involved and learn more about the project. The following is a depiction of the revised project schedule:



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