

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT relative to assessing the alternatives in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in connection with the I-710 North extension.

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Huizar - Bonin):

1. DIRECT the Los Angeles Department of Transportation and Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) to report in 30 days with an assessment of the alternatives in the EIR to identify those most benefiting the City and the El Sereno area surrounding the project with said report also recommending any additional strategies consistent with City policy which merit analysis using Measure R funding set aside for the 710 North study area, to expand the transportation benefits to Los Angeles in any eventual 710 North project.
2. DIRECT the CLA, with assistance of the LADOT, to report with an analysis of Assembly Bill 287 (AB 287) to assess its potential impacts on the City and to recommend the City's legislative position and any possible amendments for ensuring its benefit to the City.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On March 29, 2017, your Committee considered a Motion (Huizar - Bonin) relative to assessing the alternatives in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in connection with the I-710 North extension and further analyzing the impacts of AB 287. According to the Motion, the I-710 North Study is being conducted to explore transportation improvements that will increase mobility and improve traffic efficiency in east/northeast Los Angeles and the western San Gabriel Valley. The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority (Metro), in conjunction with the California Department of transportation (Caltrans) released a Draft EIR in March 2015 which analyzed the environmental impacts of five project alternatives:

- a. A no-build alternative
- b. Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management Alternative
- c. Bus Rapid Transit Alternative
- d. Light Rail Transit Alternative
- e. Freeway Tunnel Alternative.

None of the build options sufficiently balance the transportation and mobility needs of the local community and the regional area. Specifically, the tunnel design is in direct conflict with the City's position against any freeway that would cut through the City of Los Angeles (Council File Nos. 12-0002-S82 and 09-0002-S189). Furthermore, the tunnel directly exposes residents of all communities along its route to unnecessary health, safety and monetary cost risks due to

significant design flaws.

AB 287 has been introduced in the State Legislature to create a 17-member 1-710 Gap Advisory Committee to review a range of traffic calming, green space, and mass transit options for the 6.2 mile gap of the 1-710 North study area in order to make recommendations to the state legislature. AB 287 would prohibit Caltrans from considering a tunnel as an option due to the negative impacts from cost, additional car trips, and greenhouse gas emissions. Broad based community opposition to a 1-710 North freeway has been consistent since the project was first conceived. It is vital that any identified alternative incorporate community based solutions, and it is in the City's interest to pursue, including through the aforementioned processes at Metro and the state Legislature, potential transportation investments that would benefit its residents.

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE



MEMBER VOTE

BONIN: YES
KORETZ: YES
HUIZAR: YES
MARTINEZ: YES
RYU: YES

ARL
3/29/17

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