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Subject:	ALAMEDA CORRIDOR-EAST CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING OF JULY 28, 2014
Date:	Thursday, August 07, 2014 6:54:37 PM

SENT ON BEHALF OF GAIL FARBER, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS

On July 28, 2014, my staff attended a regular Board meeting of the Alameda CorridorEast (ACE) Construction Authority. Provided below is the link to the meeting agenda and the prior meeting minutes.

July 28, 2014, regular Board meeting agenda including the June 22, 2014, adopted minutes:

http://www.theaceproject.org/agendas/2014/agenda_7_2014.pdf

The following are items of interest to the County of Los Angeles:

Agenda Item VI – Norma Macias, Chair, remarked that a bill creating funding for a National Freight Network that includes the ACE project was introduced by Congresswoman Janice Hahn.

Agenda Item VII – Jack Hadjinian, Vice Chair, indicated that the Montebello Chamber of Commerce recommended a Montebello Boulevard underpass be pursued as part of the ACE project. He indicated that City Council will approve a grade separation project soon. He also indicated that communication and outreach should continue to be made to the Montebello City Councilmembers and members of the community to get their support for a grade separation over a railroad trench. ACE Board decided to schedule a presentation with the City of Montebello's independent consultant regarding options available for grade separations in Montebello. However, the final decision of which project to advance would still rest with the City Council.

Agenda Item VIII – The Chief Executive Officer reported that the California Transportation Commission voted to allocate approximately $71,000,000 in Proposition 1B Trade Corridor Improvement Funds to construct the Fairway Drive Grade Separation project. Also, ACE submitted a letter to request an extension of the Trade Corridor Improvement Funds program that is currently being considered by the California State Legislature.

Agenda Item XI – The Board approved staff's recommendation to authorize the award of a contract to Obrascón Huarte Lain USA, Inc., for construction of the Puente Avenue Grade Separation project in an amount not to exceed $38,453,945 following binding arbitration of a bid protest in favor of Obrascón Huarte Lain USA, Inc.

Agenda Item XII – The Board approved staff's recommendation to approve the plans, specifications, and cost estimates for the Fairway Drive Grade Separation project and

authorized staff to solicit bids for the project that is expected in August 2014. Construction is projected to begin in April 2015 and be completed by late 2018.

Agenda Item XIII – The Board approved staff's recommendation to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute an agreement with the County, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and the Union Pacific Railroad regarding the construction; operation; and maintenance of a storm drain box culvert structure on Rubio Wash that is necessary for the San Gabriel Trench.

Agenda Item XV – The Board received the quarterly ACE program progress report. The construction of the Baldwin Avenue Grade Separation project is 62 percent complete, Nogales Street Grade Separation project is 30 percent complete, and the San Gabriel Trench is 33 percent complete.

The Chief Executive Officer discussed that the City of Pomona is determining what alternative to pursue for a grade separation within their City after the Union Pacific Railroad stated that the proposed Hamilton Boulevard underpass grade separation is not feasible. The City will make a determination in August of 2014 and let ACE know how to proceed.

Agenda Item XVII – The Board received a Federal legislation update. The prospect of a long-term extension of the Federal transportation bill is not likely to occur and a temporary extension to May 31, 2015, will be pursued.

Agenda Item XVIII – The Board discussed an advisory motion regarding the separation of ACE from the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) and ACE outlined three options: (1) not to provide any position; (2) to allow ACE and SGVCOG project transfer agreement to expire; and (3) not to pursue separation or continue with transferring ACE away from the SGVCOG.

After extensive discussion of the relationship between ACE and SGVCOG, reasons for and against separation, and input from the ACE Chief Executive Officer and SGVCOG Executive Director, ACE Board voted 3-2 to take a position that the SGVCOG continue with the transfer of ACE from the SGVCOG subject to accepting the railroad liabilities and continuation of employment for ACE employees.

The next Board meeting will be held on August 18, 2014, at 2 p.m., at the City of El Monte City Hall Council Chambers.