

**Subject:** High Desert Community Advisory Group (EV CAG) Meeting #6  
 I-10 and I-15 Corridor Projects, San Bernardino County

**Date:** March 19, 2014

**Location:** Victorville City Hall, Room D, Victorville, CA

**Participants:** A total of 6 CAG Members and 1 non- members participated in the meeting.

<b>HD CAG Members in Attendance</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Rick Danzey	Self-Employed
Holly Noel	Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District
Michele Spears	Victor Valley Chamber of Commerce
Sophie Steeno	Steen Design Studio
Bob R. Tinsley	BR Tinsley Inc., R.E. & Construction
Ann Vanino	Moving Forward Coaching and Consulting
<b>Other non- CAG Members in Attendance</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Michelle Profant	CALTRANS
<b>HD CAG Members not in Attendance</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Muhammad A. Bari	US Moving Forward Coaching and Consulting Army, Fort Irwin
Debbie A. Cannon	Academy for Grassroots Organizations/HD Resource Center
Oliver Chi	City of Barstow
Kevin Kane	Victor Valley Transit Authority
Thomas J. Kerman	Hesperia Unified School District
Raghada Khoury	Commercial Building Owner
Jim Oravets	County of San Bernardino, Special Districts Department
Niru Vangala	Foremost Senior Campus
Carol Whitton	Hesperia Unified School District
<b>San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) and Consultants</b>	
Garry Cohoe	Director of Freeway Programs - SANBAG
Dennis Saylor	Project Manager for I-15 Corridor - SANBAG
Dave Speirs	Project Manager - Parsons
John Meier	Project Director - I-10 & I-15 Corridors - SANBAG
Jason Lombard	Public Outreach - Lee Andrews Group
Annette Cortez	Public Outreach - Lee Andrews Group
Tito Corona	Public Outreach - Lee Andrews Group

**MEETING NOTES*****I. Welcome***

CAG Members were greeted by Jason Lombard, Lee Andrews Group. Mr. Lombard began by thanking the CAG members for their support and participation on the I-10 and I-15 Corridor Projects. Mr. Lombard continued by announcing the changes to the project team as follows:

- David Speirs, Project Manager - Parsons
- Surafael Teshale, Deputy Project Manager - Parsons
- John Meier, Project Director – I-10 & I-15 Corridors - SANBAG
- Dennis Saylor, Project Manager for I-15 Corridor– SANBAG
- Chad Costello, Project Manager for I-10 Corridor– SANBAG

Mr. Lombard asked the CAG members for reports and any feedback received from their efforts in disseminating project information. Below is a brief overview of the information reported by the members:

- Sophie Steeno: Most people that I have spoken to that travel down the I-15 said they would be more than happy to pay to use the express lanes.

Garry Cohoe asked the CAG if they had received input after the Dec. 4th board meeting.

- Michele Spears: We (Victorville Chamber of Commerce) included the SANBAG press release regarding the Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> decision in our e-blast to our members. You may want to meet with Steven Hunt of the Daily Press. He lives here in the high desert.

*PowerPoint Presentation* – Following the CAG Member reports, the remaining agenda items were discussed with the use of a PowerPoint presentation (a hard copy of the presentation was given to all meeting attendees), which included the following discussion topics outlined in the sections below.

***II. December 4 – Board Meeting – Presented by Mr. Garry Cohoe***

Mr. Garry Cohoe began by reporting on the December 4 Board Meeting where the board voted to continue the technical studies on the I-10 HOV and Express Lanes alternatives. He also informed the CAG that the board has formed an I-10 Ad Hoc committee to review the project information and report to the entire board.

Mr. Cohoe briefly discussed the project phasing and project funding options.

The following questions were asked at the end of Mr. Cohoe's presentation:

- Holly Noel: Which board members voted No at the December board meeting?  
Response: That information is public record. The members that opposed the project were from Loma Linda, Chino, and Fontana.
- Sophie Steeno: Are the cities of Chino, Loma Linda and Fontana still being involved despite their vote against the project.  
Response: Yes they are.

Sophie Steeno: How much frontage do they have in the project?

Garry Cohoe Responded: Fontana has a significant amount of frontage.

***III. Express Lanes Review and Upcoming SANBAG Board Action – Presented by Mr. John Meier***

Mr. Meier began his presentation by explaining the heavy demand on the I-10 and I-15 corridors and why SANBAG is considering managed lanes on the two corridors. SANBAG is considering an HOV and Express Lane Alternative on I-10, and only an Express Lanes Build Alternative for I-15.

HOV Lanes will typically provide a free-flowing lane for qualifying vehicles (HOV, green vehicles, motorcycles), but often become congested over time.

Express Lanes Main Purpose:

- Manage Traffic

- Generate Revenue

#### HOV Lane Congestion:

- Video showing HOV and general purpose lanes congested, i.e. the HOV lane demand has exceeded capacity.
- Video showing Eastbound SR-91 traffic (recorded on Friday, May 3, 2013 at 5:15pm) that shows Express Lanes carry double the number of cars compared to the General Purpose lanes during peak periods:
  - Each Express Lane carrying 1,692 vehicles per hour
  - Each Congested General Purpose lane carrying 842 vehicles per hour

Mr. Meier discussed upcoming SANBAG Board Actions

#### Policy Decisions

- Public Finance vs Public Private Partnership (P3)
- Construction Phasing
- Excess Revenue Allocation

#### Request for proposal

- Environmental Document for I-15 Corridor Project (SR-60 to SR-210)
- Public Outreach for the I-10 and I-15 Corridor Projects

The following questions were asked at the end of Mr. Meier's presentation:

- Holly Noel: Has SANBAG addressed the gap from Measure I and the deficit to pay the bonds?  
Garry Cohoe responded: The financial plan factors in the projected levels of Measure I funding available.
- Ann Vanino: How will public outreach continue to work with the CAGs not meeting as often?  
John Meier responded: While the pace of outreach will slow down in 2014, we will continue to outreach through e-blast project updates, social media, website and hotline.

#### ***IV. I-10 Project Update – Mr. David Speirs***

Mr. Speirs began his presentation by showing the proposed project timeline which identified where the project is in the process, current and upcoming activities. He pointed out that the public outreach efforts would ramp up as we approached the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2015 for the public review of the Draft Environmental Document for the I-10 Project.

The timeline included the following list of key milestones:

- Project Scoping Meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2012
- Public Review of DED – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2015
- Respond to Public Comments – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2016
- Select Preferred Alternative – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2016
- Environmental Approval – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2017

The CAG members did not have questions at the end of Mr. Speirs' presentation:

#### ***V. I-15 Project Update – Presented by Mr. Dennis Saylor***

Mr. Saylor began his presentation by explaining his new role as the Project Manager for I-15 Corridor. His presentation including the following project activities and timelines:

- Project Study Report – Target completion - Summer 2014
- Project Phasing – Segment 1 & 2 initially
- Project Approval/Environmental Document (PA/ED)
  - Start Fall 2014
  - Target Completion 2017
  - Scope: Study 2 express lanes in each direction: SR 60 to SR 210
- No Right of Way Impacts
- Project Funding: PA/ED funded by Measure I

The presentation also included a project map which identified the four segments of the project, a schedule and cost breakdown per segment and total project amount. The project segments were illustrated as the following:

- Project segments
  - Segment 1 and 2: SR-60 to SR-210
  - Segment 3: SR-210 to I-215
  - Segment 4: I-215 to US-395

The following questions were asked at the end of Mr. Saylor's presentation:

- Michele Spears: What is the guarantee that they would see an environmental impact report for the I-15? And when will a draft for review be available?  
Dennis Saylor responded: The Cajon Pass segment of I-15 will be documented with a feasibility study. The PSR/PDS and PA/ED phases will be initiated consistent with the current target of Environmental Approval by 2023.
- Sophie Steeno: Noted there's quite a bit of work being done on the I-215 and I-15 and asked if they could use some of the information from those projects to save some time and money.  
Dennis Saylor responded: Most of these studies have a shelf life which doesn't take into account current species identified that were not listed when the original study was done in 2007.
- Holly Noel: There is a big jump in cost from segment 3 to segment 4. Why is that?  
John Meier responded: A significant amount of widened pavement has been laid under a previous Caltrans project.
- Michele Spears: What happens if the express lanes end at the 215 instead of continuing up the I-15 in the event the vote was for segments?  
David Speirs responded: While the current program envisions Express Lanes on I-15 through the Cajon Pass to US-395, the final determination will be subject SANBAG Board vote.

#### ***VI. CAG Activities 2014 and beyond - Presented by Jason Lombard***

Mr. Lombard of the Lee Andrews Group, SANBAG's Outreach Consultants, began his presentation by thanking the CAG members for their commitment and participation in 2013. The presentation included a list of ongoing communication methods (E-blasts, website, Facebook and hotline) that are being used to update the CAGs and Stakeholders. He also announced that the team continues to participate in briefings when requested but is not actively seek them at this time. Mr. Lombard encouraged the CAG members to stay connected with the team by visiting the project website, connecting to Facebook, email, hotline or calling the Lee Andrews Group Team directly at the number listed on the slide.

He concluded by announcing that the next CAG meetings will be held in October 2014.

#### ***VII. Q & A- Facilitated by Jason Lombard***

The meeting attendees did not have additional questions.

#### ***VII SANBAG Program – 10 Year Delivery Plan – Presented by Garry Cohoe***

Mr. Cohoe began his presentation by defining the Major Project Delivery Program and its responsibilities. The Program is responsible for the development and construction of major freeway, interchange, and railroad grade separation projects and it is funded by an array of sources including Measure I, Federal, State, and local funds. His presentation included maps illustrating current and upcoming construction projects (interchanges, grade separation, and freeway mainline improvements) located throughout the San Bernardino area.

The following questions were asked at the end of Mr. Cohoe's presentation:

- Ann Vanino: Is there any widening of the 395 at Aborum?  
Garry Cohoe responded: Not in that area.
- Michele Spears: Who is paying for the Rancho Widening at the railroad crossing?  
Garry Cohoe responded: That decision is for the Mountain Desert committee board.

- Sophie Steeno: What does the funding look like for the projects and is it looking better?  
Garry Cohoe responded: It is not better because the money is not there right now. Less money is coming in from gas taxes.
- Sophie Steeno: Proposed toll prices on the I-15 given that income levels in the high desert are lower than other parts of the county. Will reduced express lane pricing be considered for the I-15?  
Garry Cohoe responded: The pricing is driven by the actual demand in the lanes. As the demand rises, and therefore the number of vehicles in the lanes rises, the price will rise accordingly to keep the overall flow at or near optimal levels.
- Sophie Steeno: Can lanes be constructed narrower for better traffic management?  
Garry Cohoe responded: If you make the lanes too narrow then cars slow down.
- Michele Spears: Is there an on and off direct connector in express lanes from the 210 to the 15?  
John Meier responded: That is not part of the project.  
Michele Spears: The drivers on the 210 would be the ones that will need the direct connector because they drive up the hill.

***Additional information:***

**Project Material Distributed**

The following Project materials were provided to each CAG Member in attendance:

- Meeting Agenda
- CAG Meeting #6 PowerPoint presentation copy
- SANBAG Program – 10-Year Delivery Plan PowerPoint presentation copy
- I-15 Corridor Project Fact Sheet (English and Spanish)
- I-10 Corridor Project Fact Sheet (English and Spanish)
- Business cards for the I-10 and I-15 Corridor Projects

**Next CAG Meeting**

- ***HD CAG Meeting #7*** will be held in October 2014. CAG Members will receive Project Updates and additional meeting details via email.