



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
Capital Projects and Construction Committee

4900 Rivergrade Road, Ste. A120 Irwindale, CA 91706 (626) 962-9292 fax (626) 962-3662 www.theACEproject.org



MEMORANDUM

Date: August 29, 2019

To: The Honorable Hilda Solis, Supervisor, District 1, Los Angeles County
The Honorable Janice Hahn, Supervisor, District 4, Los Angeles County
The Honorable Cory Moss, Mayor, City of Industry

From: Mark Christoffels, Chief Engineer *Mark Christoffels*

Re: Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation Project
Community Open House Meeting Summary

A Community Open House public meeting organized by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments/Alameda Corridor-East Project (ACE) was held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2019. Sixty-five people attended the meeting held at the Hacienda Heights Community Center. The public meeting was well-publicized with more than 3,557 invitation flyers distributed in advance of the event to residents, businesses and stakeholders in Hacienda Heights and City of Industry. The event was also publicized in advance via social media.

The purpose of the public meeting was to present to attendees the construction and design plans, traffic impacts and detour information, and right-of-way/easements information for the Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation Project, as well as to solicit comments from the public and affected parties.

The following is a summary of the event:

Meeting Flyer Distribution

1. Industry City Council, City Manager, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Public Works staff = **8**
2. Los Angeles County Department of Public Works staff = **3**
3. Local, State and Federal Elected Officials and staff (U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, Congressman Gil Cisneros, State Senator Susan Rubio, Assemblyman Ian Calderon, Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn) = **14**
4. Regional and Local Agencies = **28**
 - Rowland Water District
 - La Puente Water District
 - Hacienda La Puente School District
 - Regional Chamber of Commerce-San Gabriel Valley
 - Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

- Palm Elementary School, Palm Canyon School, Los Robles Academy, Orange Grove Middle School, Los Altos High School, Valley Alternative School
5. Emergency Responders (Los Angeles County Fire Department Station 91, Los Angeles County Fire Department Station 43, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department – Industry Station, California Highway Patrol-Baldwin Park, California Highway Patrol-Santa Fe Springs, California Highway Patrol-Traffic Management Center/LA Communications Center, American Medical Response, Schaefer Ambulance Service) = **14**
 6. Parcel Records (mailed to site location and property owner mailing addresses) = **3,120**
 - Parcel records were retrieved for properties within one-mile radius of the project location, with the approximate distribution area bounded by Nelson Avenue (north of Valley Boulevard) on the north, Vallecito Drive on the south, 6th Avenue on the west and Falstone Avenue (west of Stimson Avenue).
 - Notices were mailed to the property sites and mailing addresses of the property owners. A flyer was sent to the property owner's name or "Current Occupant" and if the property address and mailing address were different, notices were sent to both addresses to ensure the property owner and tenant received proper notification of the public meeting.
 7. Flyers hand delivered by Community Outreach staff to property owners, residents and businesses in the area surrounding the project and along the detour route = **337**
 8. Additional flyers mailed to impacted property owners/tenants = **33**

Total meeting flyers distributed = **3,557**

Open House Attendees

Sixty-five people signed in at the event, including residents, business owners and property owners from the immediate area. Officials in attendance included representatives of the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association, Congressman Gil Cisneros' office, State Senator Susan Rubio's office, Assemblyman Ian Calderon's office, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn's office, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department-Industry Station and Southern California Edison.

Summary of the Open House

- Informational materials and handouts regarding the ACE Project and the Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation Project were available in English, Spanish and Chinese for attendees to take. These included the ACE Project Fact Sheet, ACE Project Accomplishments Fact Sheet, ACE Project Frequently Asked Questions Fact Sheet. Staff proficient in Spanish and Chinese languages were available to assist the attendees.
- The following poster-sized display boards were available for viewing:
 - ACE Project program
 - ACE Project regional overview map
 - Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation rendering
 - Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation overpass layout
 - Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation right-of-way map
 - Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation project schedule

- Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation detour routes
- SGVCOG-ACE Project Chief Executive Officer Mark Christoffels provided an overview of the proposed Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation Project, discussed the framework of the open house meeting format and introduced staff at the display board stations. The public was invited to review the material at the stations, ask questions and provide written comments.
- Comment forms were made available at the registration table, informational materials table and through SGVCOG-ACE Project staff, and are summarized below.
- Staff received public comment forms from 12 individuals during or after the community open house. All comments have been responded to in writing and summarized in this report, made available on the project webpage on the ACE Project website.

General Follow-up to Meeting Comments

- Staff will work with traffic engineers for Los Angeles County and City of Industry as design proceeds to ensure safe vehicle movements by restricting parking on the Turnbull Canyon Road cul-de-sacs and evaluate possible traffic controls on nearby residential streets if needed to deter cut-through traffic, particularly by trucks.
- Staff will work with Los Angeles County and City of Industry staff and the Sheriff's Department on possible design and enforcement measures to deter homelessness encampments and illegal dumping under the vehicle and pedestrian overpass structures.

ATTENDEE	COMMENT(S)/ISSUE(S)	ACE RESPONSE
Joanne Garcia [REDACTED]	Request to be on the mailing list and kept informed about the project.	We will include her email address on our list of those who receive our quarterly electronic newsletter which will provide periodic information about the project.
Dave and Cee DeLoye [REDACTED]	Request to be kept informed on any information about the project and given all the answers to questions asked at meeting.	We have summarized all the comments cards and the agency responses in a report to the County of Los Angeles and City of Industry a link to which will be posted on the project webpage: https://www.theaceproject.org/turnbull-canyon-road-industry-los-a
Joel Ring [REDACTED]	Request to be kept informed on any information about the project and given all the answers to questions asked at meeting.	We have summarized all the comments cards and the agency responses in a report to the County of Los Angeles and City of Industry a link to which will be posted on the project webpage: https://www.theaceproject.org/turnbull-canyon-road-industry-los-a
Jim Crabtree [REDACTED]	Concerned that the cul-de-sac on the south side of Turnbull Canyon will increase homelessness and add to illegal drifting and racing activity. To discourage this, recommends we add red striping along the cul-de-sac and speed bumps.	Our project team will work with city staff and local law enforcement to evaluate and determine whether additional signing, parking restrictions and patrolling need to be implemented to ensure public safety, as you suggest. We will be in communication with local law enforcement upon completion of the project to monitor the potential homeless issue and determine whether additional measures need to be taken.
Judith Rader [REDACTED]	Concerned that the project could result in increased truck traffic, Questioned the community benefits and expressed opinion that trains do not excessively delay vehicle traffic at the crossing. Is concerned with the additional truck and usage of left turn on Gayle intersection. Believes it provides unsafe conditions. Does not think residents gain from project.	We will keep traffic concerns and observations in mind as we develop the project's traffic management plan and will consult with Los Angeles County and City of Industry traffic engineers to determine whether traffic signal adjustments to improve traffic flow at Turnbull Canyon Road and Gale Avenue are warranted. Project is ranked no. 6 on the 2019-2020 statewide priority list of 36 grade separation projects nominated for funding from the California Public Utilities Commission. This priority ranking results from high vehicle and train traffic counts as well as an extensive record of collisions at the crossing, which resulted in three fatalities. The roadway overpass will eliminate crossing collisions as well as an estimated 89 minutes of traffic delay each day at the railroad crossing for 13,654 vehicles per day. Will also result in a cessation of routine locomotive horn blasts at the crossing.
Phil & Caroline Trujillo [REDACTED]	Noted concerns regarding the potential for increased truck traffic on Valencia Avenue as a cut-through route as well as for the project to attract the homeless and the impact on property values. Requests all info and answers to questions at meeting.	Trucks exceeding a maximum size are prohibited from using residential streets unless designated by local traffic authorities as a truck route. Our project team will work with city and county staff to evaluate whether additional signing or enforcement measures need to be implemented in surrounding residential streets as we develop and refine the Traffic Management Plan for the project. Will request local law enforcement to monitor and respond to the potential homeless issue. As for property values, a published study concluded that residential property values increase when a rail crossing is grade separated, primarily due to the elimination of train horn noise.
Paul Spitzerri Homestead Museum [REDACTED]	Noted support for the project and suggested parking and truck access restriction on cul-de-sacs and along frontage roads on Turnbull Canyon Road. Expressed concern regarding cut-through traffic on residential streets and possible homeless encampments under the overpass bridge.	Our project team will work with city and county staff as design progresses to determine whether parking and truck traffic restrictions are warranted and feasible in order to maintain safe and orderly traffic flow. In addition, we will inform and coordinate with the Los Angeles County Supervisors and Sheriff's offices to ensure public safety relating to potential homeless encampments and cut-through traffic.

<p>Art Ledezma ██████████ ██████████</p>	<p>Expressed support for the proposed overpass and inquired about possible expanded commuter rail service in the region to help alleviate traffic congestion and improve air quality.</p>	<p>We appreciate your support for the Turnbull Canyon Road Grade Separation Project and share your support for expanded passenger rail service. We are pleased to report that the regional Metrolink passenger rail system in Southern California has been experiencing record ridership and has plans to increase future service. For details, please see https://www.metrolinktrains.com/news/metrolink-news/ and https://www.metrolinktrains.com/about/agency/strategic-plan/. In the San Gabriel Valley, the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments recently concurred in funding that permitted the award of a contract to construct an extension of the Foothill Gold Line from Azusa to Pomona.</p>
<p>Beatriz Ricartti ██████████ ██████████</p>	<p>Believes more community involvement was needed for project. Feels the community needs to be more informed on pros and cons of project.</p>	<p>The purpose of the open house meeting was to provide the community with information about the project and to solicit their input during the final design and engineering phase. We are addressing the concerns and issues brought to our attention at the meeting as well as providing a written report to the County of Los Angeles and the City of Industry. Community outreach remains important as we develop the project and we will notify Community Open House attendees and stakeholders if there are design revisions of significance.</p>
<p>Paul Wong ██████████ ██████████</p>	<p>Questioned whether the accident history and traffic delay benefits justified the cost of the project. Also expressed concern for pedestrian safety at the Turnbull Canyon Road and Gale Avenue intersection due to the potential increase in truck traffic on Turnbull Canyon Road upon completion of the project.</p>	<p>The roadway underpass on Turnbull Canyon Road will eliminate an estimated 89 minutes of traffic delay each day at the railroad crossing resulting from about 25 trains per day. Turnbull Canyon Road carries 13,654 vehicles per day, which is projected to increase to 15,110 vehicles by 2025. In addition to improving traffic congestion, the project will also eliminate crossing collisions and delays for emergency responders. The Federal Railroad Administration has recorded 14 collisions at the crossing, including three fatalities. Without this project, there will be growing train and vehicle traffic that will result in increasing congestion, worsening air quality and noise, and perpetuating unsafe conditions, as trains get longer and their frequency increase. Our project team will work with city staff and local law enforcement to evaluate and determine whether additional measures need to be taken to ensure public safety at the Turnbull Canyon Road and Gale Avenue intersection. Currently, there are pedestrian traffic signals and marked controlled crosswalks at the intersection</p>
<p>Lucy Pedregon ██████████ ██████████</p>	<p>Questioned whether a roadway overpass is justified given the availability of alternate routes when the crossing is blocked by trains and expressed dissatisfaction with community outreach and the format of the meeting.</p>	<p>The project is ranked no. 6 on the 2019-2020 statewide priority list of 36 grade separation projects nominated for funding from the California Public Utilities Commission. This priority ranking results from high vehicle and train traffic counts as well as an extensive record of collisions at the crossing, which resulted in three fatalities. The roadway overpass will eliminate crossing collisions as well as an estimated 89 minutes of traffic delay each day at the railroad crossing for 13,654 vehicles per day on Turnbull Canyon Road. Will also result in a cessation of routine locomotive horn blasts at the crossing.</p> <p>Regarding the meeting format, it was not intended to isolate community concerns but to provide an efficient and individualized forum for simultaneously soliciting and</p>

		responding to multiple and diverse questions and concerns from the community. We believe the meeting was effective in documenting diverse community views and concerns as shown in the meeting summary report which will be posted on the project webpage: https://www.theaceproject.org/turnbull-canyon-road-industry-los-a .
Jeffrey Lin [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Noted his full support for the project and for completing construction of it as expeditiously as possible.	Once a construction contract is awarded at the end of 2020, we will work with the selected construction contractor on a schedule to complete the project as efficiently as possible while delivering value and minimizing construction impacts and inconveniences to the public. We anticipate that construction will take approximately 36 months and we will maintain detour routes and local access to residences and businesses while Turnbull Canyon Road is closed for construction.

Attendees

Name	Company/Affiliation	Address	Phone	Email
Thalia Ramirez				[REDACTED]
Naomi				[REDACTED]
Deputy Blackmer	LA County Sheriff	[REDACTED]		
Deputy Gamboa	LA County Sheriff	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Dave Deloye		[REDACTED]		
Caroline Trujillo		[REDACTED]		
John Juatma	Ace Fence Co	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Amy Tsui	Ace Fence Co	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Art Correa	LA County Dept. of Public Works	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Beverly Babishoff		[REDACTED]		
Lauren Yokomizo	LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn			[REDACTED]
Ana Martinez		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Henry Pedregon	HHIA	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
Lucy Pedregon	HHIA	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
Ruby Duenas	Asm. Ian Calderon Office		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Colin Kim	Pcop Manager AFS	[REDACTED]		
Pek Choo		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Chin Choo		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Jim Crabtree		[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
Jeff Albrecht		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Jim Simon	WSP		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Cecillia Lieu	St. Mark's Church	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Jose Medina		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Joanne Garcia		[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
Charlie Gucss		[REDACTED]		
Lorena Salgado		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Judith Rader		[REDACTED]		
Mike Williams	SCE		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Esperanza Posada		[REDACTED]		
Veronica Vazquez		[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
Maria Fregoso		[REDACTED]		
Joshua Sanchez		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Rodolfo Valadez		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
James Yang	LA County Dept. of Public Works	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Patricia Gomez		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Fernando Gomez		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Olga Baker		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Brandon Quah	Asm. Ian Calderon Office			
Keith Ortiz		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Gayle Ortiz		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Erika Flores	Office of Rep. Cisneros	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Annette Lomeli		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Rick Reeves		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Carla Boggs	Senator Susan Rubio			

Anh Case	EXP			
Salvador Tena		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
María Gonzales		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Ju Kim	EXP		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Jack Figueroa		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Danny TSE		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Paul Spitzzeri	Homestead Museum	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Keith Ortiz		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Adriana Quinones	HHIA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Jeffrey Lin	HHIA			[REDACTED]
Pat Somerville	HNTB		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Lois Panara		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Dan Grijaud		[REDACTED]		
Pat Day		[REDACTED]		
Becky Ricatti		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]