

# 6<sup>th</sup> Street Viaduct Seismic Improvement Project Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting # 10

---

**Meeting:** with CAC Members

**Meeting Date:** 07/29/10 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Location:** Boyle Youth Technology Center  
1600 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90033

**Attendees:**

Geoffrey Smith, Film L.A. Inc.  
Teresa Marquez, Boyle Heights Homeowner and Resident Association  
Shelly Backlar, Friends of the LA River  
Marcella Cortez, Office of Assembly member John Perez  
Bearg Sarkis, LADOT  
Estela Lopez, Central City East Association  
Michelle Mowery, LADOT  
Kevin Break, Break Photography  
Jesse Leon, Office of Councilmember Jose Huizar, CD 14  
Joaquin Castellanos, Boyle Heights Resident  
Rebecca Delgado, Boyle Heights Historical Society  
Jim Bickley, Spilo World Wide  
Celina Mancia, Central City East Association  
Tonya Durrel, PAO, Department of Public Works  
Will Wright, AIA  
Y. Nien Wang, HMTB  
Gloria Castillo, Eastern Group Publications  
Marcello Vavala, Los Angeles Conservancy  
Alicia Maldonado, Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce  
Carol Armstrong,  
Theo Khachaturian  
Peter Khan, Jr.  
Sal Martinez, Boyle Heights Resident/Resurrection Church  
John McShane, Stover Seed  
Julia Stewart, CRA Los Angeles  
Ken Bernstein, Office of Historic Resources, City of Los Angeles  
Diana Ybarra, Boyle Heights resident  
Paul Dana, AIA President  
Uri Jimenez, City of Los Angeles  
George Magallanes, Boyle Heights Resident, Office of Councilmember Ed Reyes

**Project Development Team:**

Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer  
Deborah Weintraub, City Chief Deputy Engineer  
John Koo, LABOE  
Yoga Chandran, CH2M Hill  
Jeff Bingham, Parsons  
Steve Thoman, Dave Evans & Associates  
Tony Torres, DSO  
Steve Thoman,  
Anne Kochaon, Parsons  
Linda Moore, LA BOE

---

**Meeting Summary:**

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting No. 10 was held with approximately 30 attendees. The purpose of CAC # 10 meeting was to provide an update on the progress of the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Viaduct Seismic Improvement project

since the last CAC #9 meeting in April, 2009; to discuss the preferred bridge alternative; discuss schedule milestones; and Design Expression for the new bridge.

The meeting opened with a welcome and brief overview of the project by City Engineer, Gary Lee Moore. Mr. Moore thanked the CAC for their involvement and input in the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Viaduct project. Mr. Moore asked for self-introductions of those present at the meeting. After the round of introductions, Mr. Moore introduced Jesse Leon, Deputy for Councilmember Jose Huizar, who proceeded to provide a statement from the council office regarding the project.

Mr. Leon informed the CAC that Council Member Jose Huizar values the input of the CAC at this meeting and at previous CAC meetings. He also expressed the Councilmember's desire to have CAC members provide input at upcoming City of Los Angeles public hearings for the project. Mr. Leon reiterated the need to replace the 6th street Bridge due the ASR damage, which may create a public safety issue if not addressed. Mr. Leon stated that mitigation efforts for businesses and residents will be part of the process to replace the bridge to ensure that an equitable process takes place. Mr. Leon also explained that the preferred alternative 4A is financial viable and has been properly vetted through the DEIR/EIS process and through the CAC process. Mr. Leon also informed the CAC that several agencies still need to review the EIR prior to a record of decision.

Jeff Bingham was introduced and conducted a review of the agenda. Jeff Bingham and John Koo provided a detailed presentation utilizing a power-point that reviewed the following:

- Project Alternatives in DEIR/EIS
- Five Bridge Concepts in DEIR/EIS
- Public Comments to draft DEIR/EIS
- Alternative Cost Along Preferred Alignment
- Preferred Alternative Analysis – Ranking alignments and Bridge Types
- State Historic Preservation
- Environmental Approval Milestones
- Design & Construction Milestones

Deborah Weintraub discussed with the CAC the concept of design expression, in which elements of the bridge can be designed within the parameters set forth by the 4A concept. She encouraged the CAC to participate in the Design Advisory Committee for the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge once the Record of Decision is granted. The design phase of the bridge may take 2 years to complete and this process would provide an opportunity to gain valuable community/stakeholder input for designing the bridge.

### **Questions and Comments:**

Questions, comments, and input raised by the CAC members and the business community during the meeting are summarized below:

- An international design competition should take place for the design of the bridge (Shelley Backlar FOLAR)
- Will funding be lost for the Bridge project if we don't proceed with the project (Arturo Herrera)?
- How many lanes will the new bridge have (Arturo Herrera)?
- The Boyle Heights community has issue with the speed of vehicular traffic on the current bridge. What will be the maximum allowable speed for the new bridge (Teresa Marquez)?
- Can the preferred alignment 4A be constructed on the existing bridge alignment?
- The community at Resurrection Catholic Church strongly supports the preferred alternative 4A (Saul Martinez)
- The design of the new 6<sup>th</sup> street bridge needs strong community input (Juaquin Castellanos)
- The new design of the 6<sup>th</sup> street Bridge needs to continue to provide revenue and great value to the City of Los Angeles and its stakeholders. Designing the new bridge will be important and a great opportunity to make a design statement for future generations (Will Wright).

- Are the existing towers and pillars solid? In the new bridge design, the towers and pillars could be used for security or active space. Please consider this in the design (Diana Ybarra).
- AIA president Paul Dana read a letter to the CAC regarding the designing of the bridge as an opportunity to look forward and to create a great landmark.
- A new historic district study by CRA Los Angeles in the Adelante Eastside area project has discovered several historic properties in the immediate vicinity of the bridge. Was this studied in the DEIR/EIS (Julia Stewart)?
- Please publicize the City of Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission hearing on August 4, 2010 at 10AM (Ken Bernstein).
- The new bridge design should incorporate “green” design principles (Estela Lopez)
- How many properties are slated for acquisition in order to replace the bridge (Peter Khan Jr.)?

**Next CAC Meeting:**

August 2010 (Date TBD)

**Action Items:**

- Send meeting minutes to CAC members.
- Send email announcing City of LA Cultural Heritage Commission hearing on August 4, 2010.