

6th St Viaduct Seismic Improvement Program

Public Information Meeting

Meeting: First Public Meeting East Side

Meeting Date: January 25, 2007

Attendance: Residents, Business Owners and Community Groups

Wally Stokes, LABOE

Jim Wu, LABOE

Jeff Bingham, Parsons

Anne Kochaon, Parsons

Tony Torres, DSO

Glenda Silva, DSO

Jorge Adame, DSO

Walt Quesada, Moffat and Nichol

Dick Chan, Moffat and Nichol

Grace David, LABOE

Nick Schilling, Moffat and Nichol

Introduction

A public meeting was held at St Isabel Church to discuss the first phases of project scope with local residents and property owners of businesses close to the bridge.

The meeting began with an introduction of the team, followed by a power point presentation by Jeff Bingham on project history and the reasons for public involvement.

The meeting ended with a question and answer session.

Review of previous meeting:

- Please review what happened on Tuesday's meeting?
- What were the major concerns brought up at the previous meeting?

Historical View:

Questions:

- Can recent and local retrofit example techniques be provided that dealt with historical structures that can be used for this project?
- The Pasadena Colorado Street Bridge was completely replicated and all seismic problems were corrected. Is there a way to replicate the current bridge?

Comments:

- The bridge has roots to the Boyle Heights Community and it should be rebuilt to its original design regardless of money.
- The City needs to find the amount of money to faithfully replicate and rebuild the bridge.
- \$200 million is not enough to replicate historical aspect.

- Even though it might not be cost effective, the bridge should maintain its original design because of its historic value and beauty. The Bridge is an icon for this City.

Aesthetics Concern:

Questions:

- Will other projects that support other modes of transportation other than vehicles influence the outcome of bridge design?

Comments:

- \$200 Milion is not enough to build a new and beautiful bridge for the City. Money should not be an issue – \$400 Million should be spent on this project to build a bridge that is valuable to Boyle Heights and Downtown. A major amount of money needs to be invested to build a beautiful new bridge that leads into the community of Boyle Heights.

Green Project ideas:

Comments:

- Rebuild bridge with same historical design, take away one lane of traffic, add a bike lane and connect bike paths to rail system. Make it a green bridge that is bike and pedestrian friendly.
- Limit traffic on bridge to low impact vehicles like bikes.
- Limit the number of vehicles that can travel on bridge all together and make the bridge pedestrian friendly for the residents in Boyle Heights and Downtown.

Concerns on Cost and Funding:

Questions:

- Will more funding be available for this project depending on the growing expectancy of vehicles?
- Slide left us to infer that the life span of the new bridge is only 10 years. Can you provide a future seismic analysis for the new bridge including seismic risk factor component improvements and with the number of years and cost?
- Have you added into your \$200 Million the cost of redesign with a new alignment the cost for obtaining all the property sites?
- What is the additional cost for land purchase under the realignment option?

Comments:

- We need a diagram with the cost analysis that compares the cost of retrofitting the current bridge, risk factors of a new bridge with years of life expectancy for both bridges.

Construction concerns:

Questions:

- Will this project overlap the construction on First St Bridge? If so, how will traffic issues be handled?
- Does the construction period include demolition and construction of bridge?
- Does the team have any idea of how the traffic will be rerouted?
- What are the seismic risk / life span numbers for the rehabilitation alternatives?

Comments:

- Consider re-doing each section of the bridge piece by piece to keep design.

Project Information Availability:

Questions:

- Will the color presentation be available on the internet for everyone in community to view?
- Can you send a mailing out with the internet address where we can see the power point presentation?
- Have you contacted any community organizations in the area and who?

Comments:

- Union de Vecinos and Comunidades Unidas de Boyle Heights would like to have an individual meeting about the project in the future.

Public Safety Concerns:

Comments:

- The focus on this project should be public safety and to do this we must change the number of vehicles traveling on the bridge.
- Do not widen bridge; a wider bridge means more cars on that bridge resulting in more fatal accidents.
- Add more “life” to bridge by removing truck traffic.
- Consider putting cameras at bridge to control speed.

Miscellaneous Question:

Has anybody considered using the the LA River for truck traffic?

Action items for team:

- Setting up webpage for public to view project information.
- Possibility of creating mail card with internet address.