



Long Beach-East Los Angeles Corridor Mobility Investment Plan Zero-Emission Truck Working Group Meeting #15 Summary

April 25, 2023



Zero-Emission Truck Working Group Meeting #15 Summary

ATTENDEES

Community-Based Organizations and Advocacy Groups

Ambar Rivera, Researcher, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE)

Business, Freight and Logistics Industry

Amber Coluso, Environmental Management, Port of Los Angeles (POLA)

Leela Rao, Environmental Specialist, Port of Long Beach (POLB)

Mario Gonzalez, Deputy Chief of Staff/Assistant Executive Officer to the Board, Port of Long Beach (POLB)

Tess Paige, Manager of Grants & Incentives, Forum Mobility

Thomas Jelenić, Vice President, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA)

Salim Youssefzadeh, CEO& Founder, WattEV

Steven Tilk, Manager of Commercial and Industrial Segment, Southern California Edison (SCE)

Environmental Organizations

Fernando Gaytan, Senior Attorney, Earthjustice

Najah Louis, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Academic / Research / Policy / Foundations

Niki Okuk, Deputy Director, Calstart

Jack Symington, Project Manager, Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI)

Sue Dexter, METRANS Researcher, USC

Local Jurisdictions

Luke Klipp, Senior Transportation Deputy, County of Los Angeles, Supervisorial District 4

Viviana Gomez, Transportation Deputy, County of Los Angeles, Supervisorial District 4

George Payba, Manager/Environmental Affairs Officer, Electrification of Transportation Networks and EV Policy, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Community Leadership Committee (CLC)

Natalie Diaz Rubio, Bell Gardens

Ex-Officio

Connell Dunning, Environmental Scientist, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

Andrew Zellinger, Environmental Reviewer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

Nancy Pfeffer, Executive Director/VP, Finance and Budget, Gateway Cities Council of Governments (GCCOG)

Norman Emerson, Consultant, Gateway Cities Council of Governments (GCCOG)

Kekoa Anderson, Consultant, GCCOG

Project Team

Michael Cano, Executive Officer of Countywide Planning & Development, Metro

Akiko Yamagami, Transportation Manager of Countrywide Planning & Development, Metro

Steven Lee, Manager of Transportation Planning, Metro

Cris Liban, Chief Sustainability Officer, Metro

Robert Cáliz, Principal, Cal Strategic Management

James Shankel, Senior Environmental Planner, Caltrans District 7

Paul Marquez, Deputy District Director of Planning, Caltrans District 7

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Alice Tyree, Equity Program Manager, Caltrans District 7

Erika Morales, Facilitator, Morales-Partners

Tyler Reeb, Director of Research and Workforce Development, Center for International Trade & Transportation and California State University, Long Beach

Susan DeSantis, Senior Project Manager, Arellano Associates

Xochitl Medrano, Project Coordinator, Arellano Associates

Trey Grogan, Project Coordinator, Arellano Associates

Eric Davidian, Assistant Project Coordinator, Arellano Associates

Introduction

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 7 initiated the Long Beach-East Los Angeles Corridor Task Force to develop a community-supported, regionally significant, multimodal approach to addressing major mobility, safety, air quality, and equity needs for moving people and goods through the I-710 South Corridor between the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and State Route 60. The Long Beach-East Los Angeles Task Force will review and assess the purpose and need for investment in the Long Beach-East Los Angeles Corridor, develop multi-modal improvement strategies, identify programs and projects to advance these strategies, create an investment and implementation plan, and provide recommendations to the Metro Board in 2023.

The Zero-Emission Truck Working Group Meeting #15 was held virtually on Tuesday, April 25, 2023. The intent of this meeting was to:

- > Receive status report on LACI's Community Project Funding Request
- > Participate in a Test for Consensus on the staff recommendation for the funding request
- > Learn about a federal discretionary grant opportunity and regional and state efforts to advance charging and fueling infrastructure
- > Receive a presentation on workforce development and discuss how Metro and its partners can create opportunities for residents to gain skills and training on new technologies as well as targeted local hire on ZET infrastructure development

Spanish interpretation was provided simultaneously for this meeting. Prior to the meeting, the Zero-Emission Truck Working Group received the agenda (**Appendix A**), meeting presentation (**Appendix B**), and detailed comments (**Appendix C**).

710 Zero-Emission Truck Working Group #15 Virtual Meeting

1. Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review, and Purpose of the Zero-Emission Truck Working Group

- > Erika Morales, Meeting Facilitator, opened the meeting by providing a brief overview of the agenda and reminded attendees that all project information can be found on the Metro [website hub](#).

2. Agenda Item #1: Metro Update

- > Michael Cano, Executive Officer of Countywide Planning & Development at Metro provided an overview of the previous ZET meeting, the Metro Board Direction on the development of the ZET Program, and the eight (8) approved ZET Program Principles.
- > Mr. Cano explained Metro's Vision of implementing Regional Zero-Emissions MD/HD Truck Charging Facilities that are reflective of community, industry, and infrastructure needs.

3. Agenda Item #2: LACI Project Update

- > Mr. Cano provided an update on the LACI proposed LB-ELA Corridor Charging Project Funding Request and gave an overview of the potential new charging sites that are under consideration.
- > Mr. Cano explained how the selection of potential new charging sites will be evaluated based on the criteria set in the ZET program principles and Metro's Vision for Regional ZE MD/HD Truck charging facilities.
- > Jack Symington, Senior Program Manager, Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI) provided an update on the next steps for the project.
- > An informal Test for Consensus was conducted in which Working Group members were asked if they could support the staff recommendation to provide up to \$3M in funding for the project.
 - Several working group members said they could support the project, and several had questions regarding the proposed funding.
 - Highlights of comments and questions from the test for consensus discussion included:
 - How the communities will be engaged in the development of these charging infrastructure projects and whether Metro and LACI are open to additional engagement from highly impacted areas
 - A concern raised by Earthjustice about streamlining CEQA. Mr. Symington clarified this reference as an effort for LACI to identify opportunities to improve the process in receiving approval for the project without sacrificing community well-being.
 - The need to identify utility capacity at proposed project sites
 - The need to collaborate with local governments to resolve potential permitting issues
 - The potential for working with community members to prioritize job creation in these impacted areas

4. Agenda Item #3: US DOT Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Grant Opportunity

- > Akiko Yamagami, Transportation Planning Manager, LA Metro gave a presentation titled “U.S. DOT Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Grant Opportunity”
- > Presentation topics included:
 - Overview of Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Grant Opportunities
 - Plans of Regional and State coordination & partnerships to streamline the process in submitting a grant application.
 - How the Charging & Fueling Infrastructure aligns with the ZET Program Principles
 - Evaluation criteria for determining locations for charging facilities
 - Next steps for applying by May 31st.
 - Working with MSRC and Southern California partners to further detail out ZET Program implementation

5. Agenda Item #4: Workforce Development in ZE Infrastructure Deployment

- > Dr. Tyler Reeb, Director of Research and Workforce Development Center for International Trade and Transportation (CITT) at Cal State University Long Beach, gave a presentation titled “Sustainable Freight Foundations Pilot Findings”.
- > Presentation topics included:
 - Creating a plan for more comprehensive workforce development along the corridor
 - Identifying workforce needs along the 710
 - Showing anecdotal information of previous workforce development strategies
 - Targeting industry sectors and occupations for hire
 - Assessing potential frameworks for workforce development partnerships
- > Ms. Morales and Dr. Reeb facilitated a working group roundtable discussion
- > Highlights of working group roundtable discussion included:
 - Developing a needs assessment to understand the next steps to increase interest
 - Creating a structured outreach plan to target potential individuals
 - Collaborating with community colleges and schools in the corridor to implement workforce development opportunities
 - Increasing community readiness by engaging with stakeholders directly and online

6. Closing Remarks, Upcoming Meetings & Next Steps

- > Ms. Morales reviewed the upcoming Task Force meeting information and other key dates.
- > Ms. Morales encouraged working group members to contact Mr. Cano should they have any questions or concerns.
- > The meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

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Meeting Format Logistics

- Meeting Format: Zoom Meeting
- Participants: Task Force, Working Group, and CLC