

Planning and Programming Committee
Presentation on Items 11 & 12
Response to I-710 South Corridor Project Motions 47 & 48
September 15, 2021

Motion 47 Response

Work on the 710 South Corridor Project EIR/EIS has been **suspended**.

Existing Project elements in the EIR/EIS will be examined through the new 710 Task Force process, including additional locally-supported, complementary non-highway projects.

Motion 48 Response, Item 1

EPA and Conformity Requirements

EPA re-affirmed to Metro and Caltrans that it intends to require a Particulate Matter (PM) Hot Spot conformity analysis

- **\$50 million commitment from Board for the I-710 Clean Truck Program (CTP) helped - allowed Metro/Caltrans to re-engage EPA on conformity determination**
- Ultimately EPA would not agree to create precedent with Metro/Caltrans proposal to use the CTP as a programmatic feature to reduce diesel emissions
 - CTP would demonstrate reduction in diesel truck trips
 - CTP deemed by EPA to be non-enforceable under CEQA & NEPA
 - **EPA concerned with PM increases caused by entrained road dust and tire/break wear – not just tailpipe emissions**
 - I-710 Project held to higher standard than most highway projects
- Mitigations (e.g. CTP), while allowed as part of the Hot Spot Conformity Analysis, cannot substitute for the analysis
- EPA could not provide acceptable/quantifiable ways to fully mitigate entrained road dust and tire/break wear PM increases
- **Result: No viable way to demonstrate air quality conformity for 710 Project.**

Motion 48 Response, Items 2 & 3

Potential for State and Federal Support

Current Project elements (non-freeway)

- Include the Clean Truck Program, transit enhancements, or active transportation improvements, for example
- Individually would not fully address the Project's original purpose and need
- Are eligible to be considered as part of a re-evaluation of alternatives developed through the 710 Task Force

Ideas that were not fully vetted during the environmental process

- Some examples include conversion of existing mixed flow freeway lanes to new purposes, priced/managed lanes or dedicating lanes for ZE trucks
- To be considered as part of the 710 Task Force process

State and Federal support for the Project will ultimately require a re-evaluation of the Project, from Purpose and Need to Project Elements

710 Task Force: Re-envisioning the Project

The Metro Board via Motions 47 & 48 called for a new process for examining how to make improvements within the 710 Corridor that focused on collaboration with affected communities and local stakeholders.

In response, Metro and Caltrans will convene a robust set of 710 Corridor stakeholders to review the Purpose and Need for investment within the corridor.

- **Focus:** Bringing Community Based Organizations to the table
- Work together to develop effective community outreach strategies.
- Modeled after Goods Movement Strategic Plan engagement process

Equity: Metro will lead the reimagining of the 710 Corridor project with equity by seeking engagement with impacted communities, understanding disparities experienced, and developing multimodal approaches to delivering benefits for these communities while improving regional mobility, safety and air quality.

710 Task Force: Re-envisioning the Project

Partnership: Partner with the Gateway Cities COG to develop and deliver an investment plan developed through the 710 Task Force process that implements projects and programs designed to realize multimodal strategies that address the re-established purpose and need.

Ultimate goal: Develop a collaborative engagement process where local stakeholders, impacted communities and regional partners can work together to develop a new approach to investing in the 710 Corridor that will reduce disparities, increase benefits and improve mobility and safety within the corridor for local residents and the regional movement of people and goods.

First meeting: Took place on Monday, September 13, 2021 @ 6pm (Zoom)

710 Task Force: Community Outreach

Central to the 710 Task Force's work will be a **commitment to community outreach and public engagement**

Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) will have a seat at the table

- Metro will partner with CBOs to develop an effective strategy to inform and engage residents from impacted communities as part of process

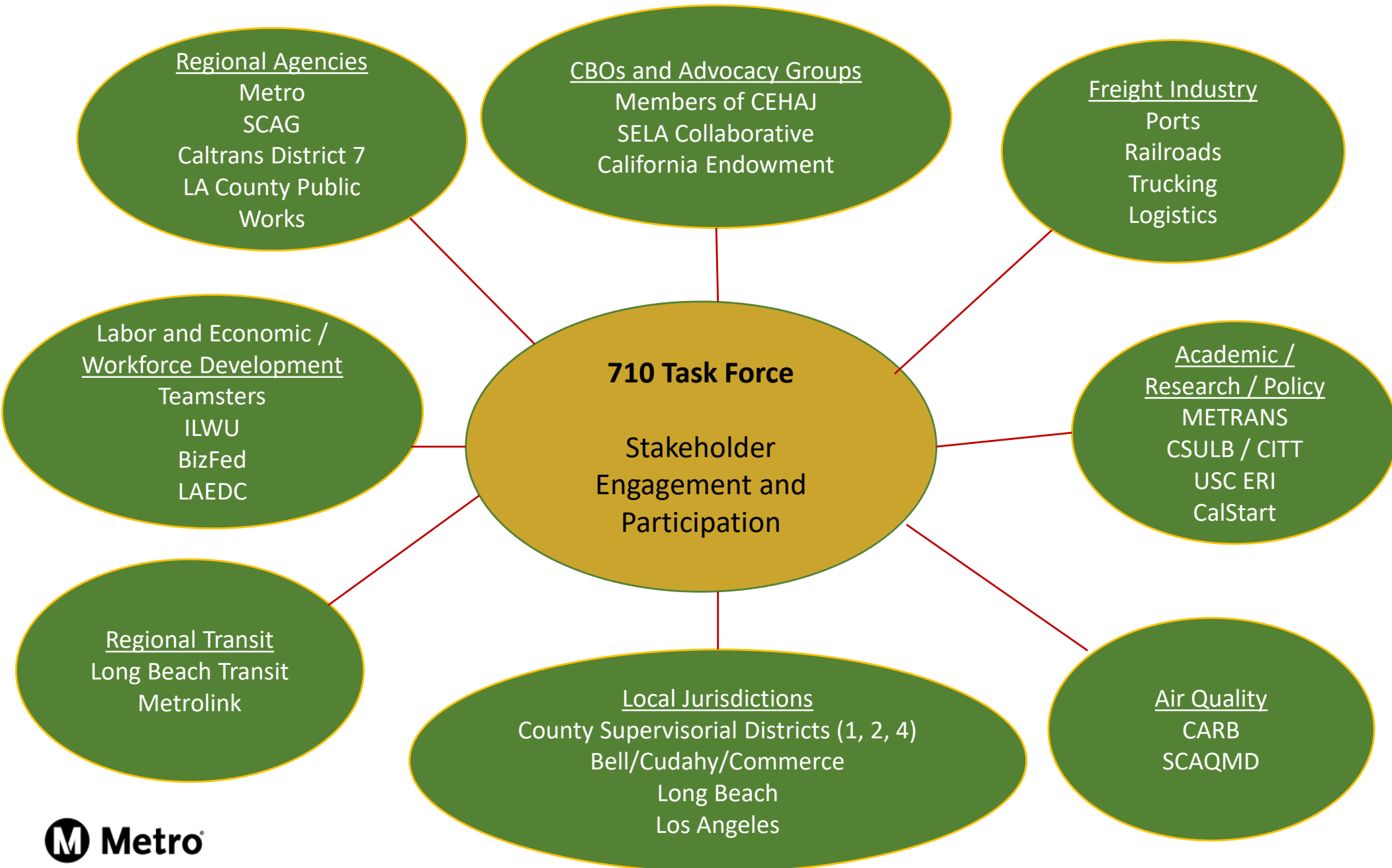
Re-engage residents **previously contacted** through the prior 710 Project process

Employ innovative outreach methods

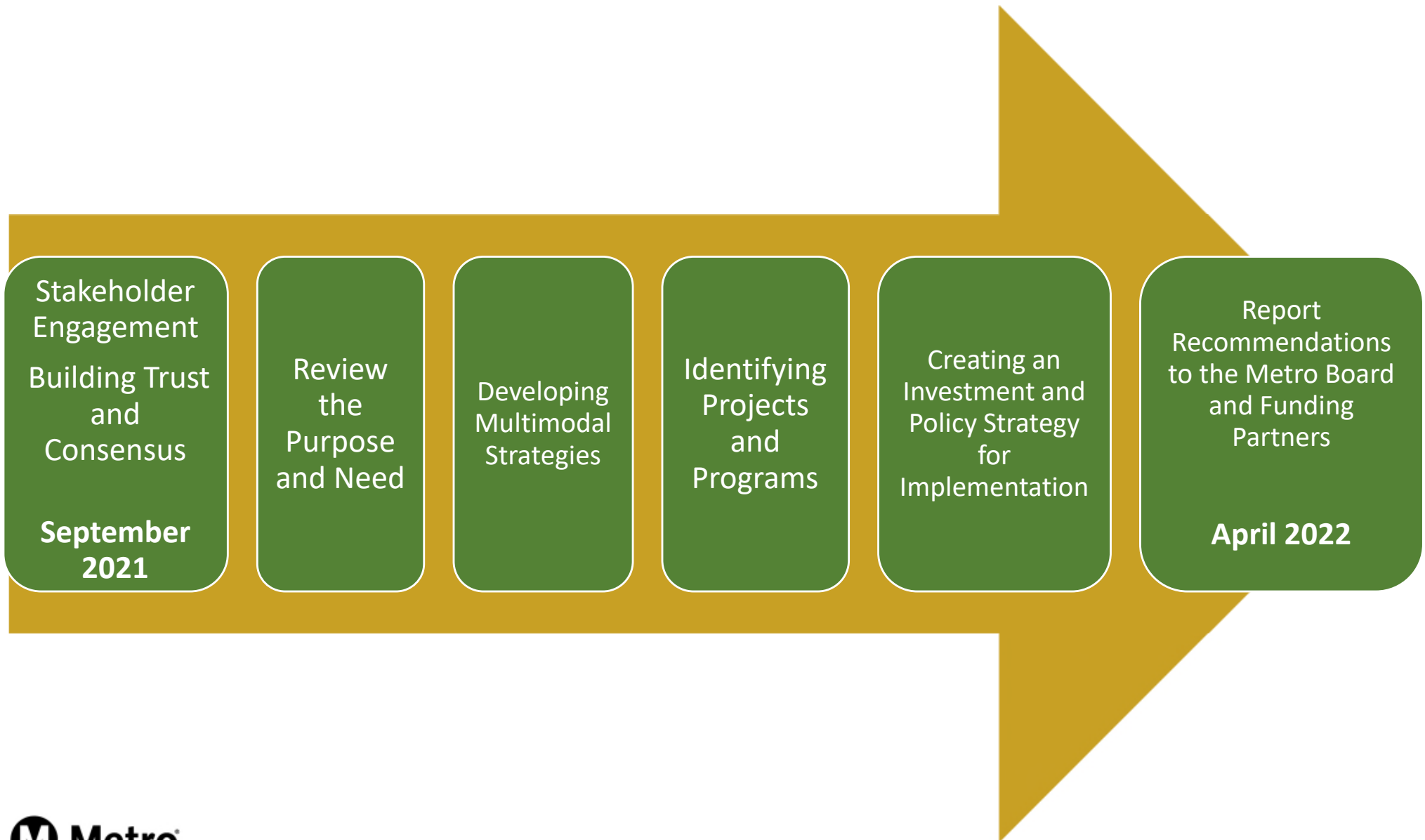
Bring outreach into local communities to meet residents where they are

Public encouraged to attend and provide comment at 710 Task Force meetings

710 Task Force: Stakeholder Engagement



710 Task Force: Process and Goals



710 Task Force: Meeting #1 Recap

Attendance: Excellent turnout – approximately 150 participants

Topics: Introductions and Keynote Addresses
History of the 710 Corridor and Lessons Learned
How the 710 Task Force Can Come Together
How to Build an Effective Community Engagement Strategy

What We Heard: Build stronger outreach effort to engage corridor residents
Create longer lead times for notices, agenda and materials
Overcome the digital divide
Translation services for meetings and materials
Eliminate “jargon” and provide clear information

Next Meeting: Equity Assessment Tool
Charter and Terms of Engagement
Review Purpose and Need

710 Task Force: Next Steps

Work with community-based organizations to develop public engagement strategies, identify resources and plan events

Engage Task Force members to link outreach network opportunities to coordinate / build on existing engagement structures

Finalize webpage and public-facing information to meet transparency goals

- Post meeting recording, summary, additional information

Evaluate and finalize Task Force membership

Identify opportunities to create focus groups and community input opportunities before Meeting #2

Coordinate with Gateway Cities COG Ad Hoc Committee on joint meetings