



SUMMARY REPORT

Sacramento Regional Transit District



South Sacramento Corridor Phase 2 Project

March 12, 2007

Informational Open House Report and Record of Public Hearing

Prepared by CirclePoint
in association with Parsons & The Hoyt Co.
for the Sacramento Regional Transit District

March 20, 2007

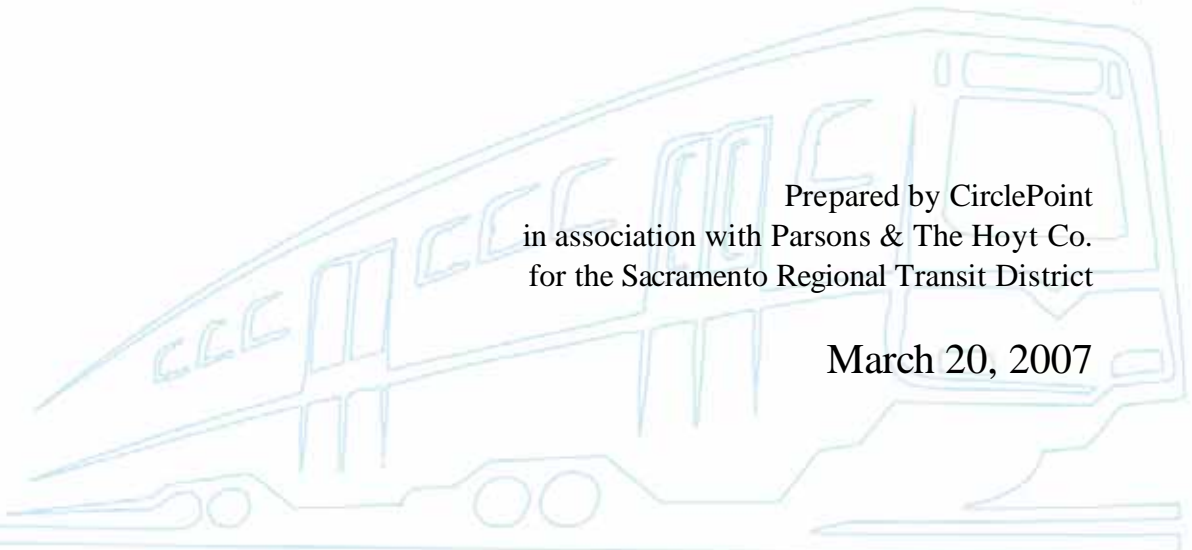


TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROJECT STUDY AREA & DESCRIPTION..... 3
MEETING NOTIFICATION 4
DESCRIPTION OF OPEN HOUSE AND PUBLIC HEARING 4
SUMMARY OF VERBAL COMMENTS 5

Appendix 1 Meeting Announcement Notice/Rack Card

Appendix 2 Handouts

 Welcome Sheet

 SSCP2 Project Fact Sheet with the Proposed 20-Year System Design Map

 How to Read an Environmental Document

 Comment Card

Appendix 3 Exhibit Boards

Appendix 4 Media Coverage

 Display Ad: February 16, 2007

 Press Release: March 2, 2007

 Media Article: Light Rail Rolls South Next - March 22, 2007

Appendix 5 Sign-in Sheets

Appendix 6 Reporter’s Transcript of Public Hearing

Appendix 7 Sacramento Regional Transit District’s Board Agenda

Project Study Area & Description

The Sacramento Regional Transit District (RT) is proposing to extend the South Line light rail system into the Southern Sacramento region. The system has already been expanded into South Sacramento with the construction of South Line Phase 1, a 6.3 mile extension to Meadowview Road. The South Sacramento Corridor Phase 2 project would accommodate transportation needs associated with population and employment growth in the congested South Corridor area by increasing transit capacity and providing faster, more convenient access throughout the Sacramento metropolitan region.

The proposed extension would bring light rail service approximately four miles further south from Meadowview Road to Cosumnes River College and the College Square development.

The proposed extension would follow the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way south from Meadowview Road, turn east and run north of the proposed extension of Cosumnes River Boulevard, follow the Boulevard to Bruceville Road, and then turn south to serve Cosumnes River College and the College Square development.

To address Phase 2 impacts and the numerous related projects and studies within the study area, RT developed a plan recommending outreach activities at key project milestones to increase awareness, and understanding of project constraints and trade-offs. The most recent community outreach effort was the informational Open House and Public Hearing, conducted on March 12, 2007 at the Samuel Pannell Community Center, in Sacramento, CA. This activity represents one of the many outreach activities conducted on this project. The purpose of the informational Open House was to provide an opportunity for the community and other interested parties to learn about the project and results of the engineering and environmental studies on the project. The Public Hearing, conducted by the RT Board, provided an opportunity for formal comment on the draft environmental document.

Meeting Notification

Approximately 5,000 residents, property owners, homeowner associations, environmental organizations, business associations, and key agencies with an interest in the South Sacramento corridor received a meeting announcement by mail. Additionally, 14,000 of these notices were placed on all RT buses and trains as Rack Cards. Prior to the March 12th meeting, additional meeting announcements were hand delivered to key locations along the proposed alignment with a high volume of community activity, such as churches, schools, hospitals, and shopping centers. To reach out to the Detroit Boulevard Neighborhood where gas line relocation will occur as part of the project, approximately 500 flyers were hand delivered to the Detroit Boulevard Neighborhood located adjacent to the light rail extension. RT also hand delivered personalized letters to approximately 20 residences within the neighborhood that will be directly impacted by the gas line relocation. This special outreach was conducted at the request of Councilwomen Bonnie Pannell and RT General Manager Dr. Beverly Scott to ensure notice of the project and Public Open House/Hearing. A display advertisement was published in the Sacramento Bee Main Section on February 16, 2007. A press release providing meeting details was distributed to local print outlets on March 2, 2007. A copy of the notification/rack card is included in Appendix 1 of this report. All media coverage, including the display advertisement, the press release, and follow-up article, are included in Appendix 4. Additionally, the Hoyt Company completed personal telephone calls to a list of “key stakeholders” including elected officials that have been interested in this project.

Project updates (as well as the announcement for this Informational Open House and Public Hearing) can be viewed on the Project Web site, www.slp2.org. On the Web site, there is contact information containing the mailing address where written comments can be mailed and a site where one can send a personal email. Furthermore, RT has established a 24-hour information line that provides project updates and a voice mail service that sends one’s question or comment directly to RT staff and/or technical consultants. That number is: (916) 491-5003.

Description of the Open House and Public Hearing

The informational Open house and Public Hearing was held at the Samuel Pannell Community Center, at 2450 Meadowview Road in Sacramento on Monday, March 12, 2007. There were approximately 25 public persons in attendance at the Open House, as well as representatives from Regional Transit and staff from the consultant team. The purpose of the Open House was to provide information on the proposed project that is evaluated in the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Subsequent Draft Environmental Impact Report (SDEIS/SDEIR). RT and consultant staff were available to answer questions about the SDEIS/SDEIR, to discuss technical aspects of the proposed project, and to answer questions regarding the exhibit boards on display throughout the room. The exhibit boards can be viewed in Appendix 3 of this report.

During the Open House (between 5:00 and 6:00 P.M.), meeting attendees were greeted at the registration table and asked to sign-in. Completed sign-in sheets are included in Appendix 5 of this report. Each attendee received a packet of handouts pertinent to the meeting (see Appendix 2), which included the following:

- Welcome Sheet
- SSCP2 Project Fact Sheet with the Proposed 20-Year System Design Map
- Tips on How to Read an Environmental Document
- Comment Card

Meeting attendees were invited to review exhibit boards and ask questions of staff. They were informed that the RT Board meeting would begin at 6:00 P.M., which would include a Public Hearing on the draft environmental document. To make a comment during the Public Hearing, participants were asked to submit a completed Speaker Card (provided by RT staff). Written comments can be submitted up until 5:00 P.M. on April 3, 2007—mail-back comment cards were provided to each attendee.

The RT Board meeting began promptly at 6:00 P.M. with a report from RT General Manager (Mike Wiley, Deputy Director of Regional Transit, on behalf of Dr. Beverly Scott) and several consent items. The final agenda item was the SSCP2 public hearing. Dave Mansen, Project Manager from Parson's Transportation Group, provided opening remarks and referenced the _____

display boards located at the back of the room. Mr. Mansen addressed the project status and overview of the environmental document, describing the stations at Morrison Creek, Franklin, and Center Parkway, with a terminus station at the Cosumnes River College. Mr. Mansen explained that this project was seeking Federal funding and “new starts” reports have already been submitted to the Federal Government for this purpose. He further explained that the environmental document has been circulated and the preliminary engineering is being completed. Mr. Mansen reiterated that the comment period on the environmental document closes at 5:00 P.M. on April 3, 2007. In the fall of 2007, the document will be considered by the RT Board for certification, followed by a Record of Decision (ROD) from the Federal Transit Administration. Design and construction of the project is anticipated between the years 2007 and the end of 2010.

Mr. Mansen then described the various outreach efforts—14,000 flyers were placed on the light rail and bus vehicles, 253 computer disks of the environmental document were mailed to elected officials and agencies, and a press release announcing the document’s availability and details on the Public Hearing was distributed. Furthermore, the environmental document’s availability was noticed in the Sacramento Bee and in the Federal Register on February 16th. The document was placed on the project website and is available in six libraries in the Sacramento area and downtown. There were also 500 hand-delivered flyers along the Detroit Boulevard area because of the proposal to relocate a gas facility in that area. In addition, Mr. Mansen described the public information meeting held on January 3, 2007 which had over 50 public persons in attendance.

Summary of Verbal Comments

Public testimony, including Board comments, can be viewed in the Court Reporter’s transcript which is Appendix 6 of this report. All relevant comments received from the public and other interested parties, including resource and jurisdictional agencies, will be addressed and responded to in the final environmental document.