

Memorandum

ARUP

To	Michael Throne	Date	June 11, 2019
Copies	Dana Hang (City), Gail Farber, Heather Rosenberg, Sameer Deo, Kaitlin Coari	Reference number	
From	Katherine Perez-Estolano	File reference	
Subject	San Marino 710 Metro Funds Community Input Meeting Notes		

Questions / comments captured from residents during Community Meeting are listed below. Names were taken when provided – please excuse any misspellings.

Process Questions:

- Is the Council aware of all developments in the Metro process? (Dr. Roumani) Did they know about and approve the 5 proposals in consideration?
- Who originated the 5 proposals - Metro or the City - and when were they submitted? (Albert Mezerini) Why were they submitted without input from residents? (Marjorie Peterson)
- Why doesn't the staff withdraw the 5 proposals if San Marino residents are not happy?
- Who is the ultimate decision-maker on whether San Marino takes the money? (Shelly Boil)
- What is the deadline to accept the money from Metro? Are the proposals fluid – can they be changed?
- Residents are having their own conversations with South Pasadena regarding coordination, why isn't the administration?
- Did the Council consider leveraging surrounding cities when it was coming up with proposals? Residents concerned that San Marino will become a funnel taking on overflow from other cities' projects.
- What has staff decided to ask for in the second round? When are the revised proposals being submitted? (Wes Reutimann) What are final solutions going to be?

Impact Questions:

- Have analyses been considered for all of the proposed changes - economic, safety, pollution, financial, etc?

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- Why spending \$150k on a traffic study? Should the City be submitting proposals without having a full understanding of traffic patterns? If the City does have a full understanding, why are we spending money on a study?
- What considerations are being taken regarding Waze and similar technology that diverts traffic onto side streets/local residential streets? (Charlie M.)
- Resident is concerned about potential increase in amount of speeding if all lights are synchronized.
- Have the schools and their safety been considered when putting together the proposals?
- Are the solutions taking into account air and noise concerns? If not, they should be a priority.
- These proposals are increasing traffic which will impact the police and other services - is that being considered when putting together the proposals?
- Huntington Dr. isn't the only place that will be affected. The City needs to consider what Alhambra is going to do with their portion of the dollars and the impact it will have on San Marino.
- Staff should consider North-South and East-West traffic flow impacts as well. Streets surrounding any proposed project will be impacted and that needs to be considered. (John W)

Proposal Goal Questions:

- Why is the City considering proposals that increase capacity over streets' allowance? Goals of proposals should be: safety, pedestrian-friendly, traffic reduction. (Richard P)
- What is the City doing with the information it already has like the SCAG Report, Huntington Dr. Safety Study (February 2018)? The report calls for safety for pedestrians and bikes. (Kim Campbell)
- Why are proposals concentrated on Huntington Dr. when there are 5 other ways to access the surrounding highways without cutting through San Marino? (Exhibit shared - Karen Habeb)
- Metro's projects are only concerned with traffic flow, can our proposals be about safety? (Judy)
- Resident noted that driveways needs to be considered on Huntington Dr. for safety reasons.
- Resident believes the goal of the proposals should be to impede the flow of traffic.
- Metro's goals are about increasing the volume of traffic, but why is the City considering this if that goal is not in line with City's priorities? How does San Marino benefit from the proposals?
- Los Robles is at full capacity - it is not safe for kids to bike on or even cross. Residents want a crosswalk.

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Metro Criteria Questions:

- What strings are attached if San Marino accepts the Measure R dollars?
- Who at Metro communicated that no strings were attached if City takes the Metro dollars? Residents want clarification and confirmation in writing.
- Did staff or Metro choose to focus on Huntington Dr.? Why is it the focus?
- Is the money only available for these 5 proposed projects? Can the City propose a new alternative?
- What are Metro's criteria? Will they fund projects focused on safety? Why has it never been included in Metro's previous proposals?
- If San Marino gives Metro these projects, will they give the City something in return (ie. pave roads for 5 years)? A 4th option needs to be considered that benefits San Marino citizens.

Administrative Questions:

- The City website is lacking the proposal documentation – can this be added? (Richard P.) All proposals should be available to read – not just the 5 that are in consideration right now. (Andrew Ko)
- Can the website include all information residents need to make an informed decision? Residents request a URL be sent to them that directs them to this information and the 5 proposals.
- Resident requests more user-friendly materials that show the map of what Metro wants. (Marjorie Peterson)
- When do residents get answers to these questions?
- Many residents work during the day and want to attend the City Council workshop. How can it be made accessible to residents and scheduled after work hours?
- The process has been very opaque, and residents are unclear on how projects were selected. (Wes Reutimann) There is general confusion on next steps and how final proposals will be decided.
- Resident concerned that the decision has already been made "behind closed doors."

Technical Questions:

- How can we decide if we want to invest in synchronized lights without understanding how it works? How does ATMS work? (Stephanie – lives on Los Robles)
- Can we set signal coordination at lower speed (35, 40 mph) to help increase safety? (Michael Johnson)

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- Is it possible to align the City's objective of safety regarding the synchronized signals and the State's prevailing speed requirements?
- What is the life cycle cost of synchronization - maintenance, upgrades?
- How do coordinated lights work exactly? Do they run on a network - AT&T, Verizon?

Ideas drawn from residents' comments listed below.

- Focus on Los Robles – reverse previous projects that have negatively impacted Los Robles. A lot of projects are from other cities' proposals and force people onto Los Robles. (Stephanie)
- Add crosswalk on Los Robles (Stephanie)
- Coordinate and collaborate with South Pasadena, Pasadena, Alhambra, and other surrounding cities to make a more regional proposal
- Goals and priorities of proposals should be: safety, pedestrian-friendly, and traffic reduction
- New proposals need to consider safety and environmental impacts as well as impacts on surrounding local streets in San Marino
- Provide transparent analysis regarding safety, environment, financial, side street, etc., impacts
- Benefits to the City of San Marino and its residents need to be clear in the updated proposals
- Expand project improvement proposals to include other streets besides Huntington Dr. Residents have concerns about other local streets and believe they have been neglected.
- Update website to include all proposals that have been submitted to Metro as well as information that helps clarify the process and proposed projects. Residents would like to be notified of any updates to website.

City Staff and Council comments / responses / explanations listed below.

- The City has 3 potential options:
 - o Take Metro money
 - o Take the Metro money and make improvements
 - o Reject the Metro money
- The purpose of the Metro Measure R 710 money is to reduce congestion.
- The ultimate decision-maker on this project will be the City.
- There are no known “strings” attached to this money.
- Metro requested that each city provide a list of projects and the City responded with the 5 proposed projects. The projects were put together by staff.

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- Metro has accepted the 5 project proposals from the City.
- SCAG is an important regional organization and can help in evaluating these projects.
- There are no set deadlines – Metro wants to see projects from cities in June.
- The City staff wants to recommend projects to City Council after input from community meetings.
- City staff will upload all relevant documents and have the link for download on their homepage in the next few days.
- The City was aware of the 710 Metro money and put a project list together after staff provided input.
- There is a lot of fluidity on these proposals – projects are not set.
- The City staff provided explanation on types of signal technology for synchronization – actuated vs adaptive.
- The Chief of Police provided overview of public/traffic/vehicle safety and emphasized that bicycle safety should be studied more.
- The City emphasized that the Brown Act is being followed and that the City is working transparently. (Mayor)
- The City is spending \$150k to update traffic circulation data.
- The City staff outlined the next steps of the process:
 - o The City will provide answers to meeting's questions by June 24th
 - o These projects will be discussed at a City Council workshop

Next steps provided to residents:

Public Safety Meeting – Monday, June 24, at 7pm

- Questions posed at the Community Meeting will be addressed
- Open to public