

**NORTH COUNTY CORRIDOR
TRANSPORTATION EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY**

ITEM: 3a

SUBJECT:

Project Updates

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Discussion Only

FISCAL IMPACT:

Not determined

DISCUSSION:

Jacob's staff provides the following updates:

Public Outreach Update –

- The next Community Focus Group (CFG) is scheduled for Wednesday, June 8, 2011, at 6:00 pm, at StanCOG office conference room. At this meeting the CFG will be presented the project alternatives that are moving forward for further environmental study and a preview of the upcoming Public Information Meeting.
- A Public Information Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2011, from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm, at the Riverbank Community Center (3600 Santa Fe Street). A Presentation of the project alternatives that are moving forward for further environmental analysis will be made.

Traffic Update –

Land use projection assumptions have been established in consultation with the Planning staff from the Cities of Modesto, Riverbank and Oakdale, and Stanislaus County. The Traffic Forecasting Model Calibration/Validation report has been submitted to Caltrans for review and a conference call was held with Caltrans to discuss the Existing Conditions Report. The work for developing the traffic forecasts has started now that the project alternatives for study have been defined by the Project Development Team (PDT). Caltrans has accepted the long-range forecasting methodology and assumptions proposed for this project.

Environmental Update –

The Final Draft Reports of the Agency 6002 Coordination Plan, Purpose and Need Methodology and the Alternatives Screening have been submitted to Caltrans and the PDT. The next Agency 6002 Coordination Meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2011.

Fieldwork for the spring biological surveys continues, primarily along the western end of the alignments, and will continue over the next few months. We will also be coordinating with Caltrans to identify the area of potential effect for cultural resources. Other studies are presently underway that will be used for the environmental document.

Of the 1,164 individual parcels, we have received 817 Permission to Enter (PTE) letters. There are 61 parcels that are owned by 38 individuals that have denied consent. Jacobs has prioritized our work (based on biological and historical entry needs) for all remaining outstanding properties and those that have denied consent. We are currently coordinating with Caltrans on how to move forward with the owners that have denied consent. Caltrans is beginning to call these property owners in order to explain the project further and ultimately attempt to secure consent for the top priority owners. Jacobs will also be doing some follow-up mailings for updated addresses of owners, as well as some additional calling of outstanding owners that we have talked to in the past but have yet to return consent.

Design Update – Access points to the proposed facility by either interchange or at-grade intersections were reviewed and confirmed by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on May 3, 2011. They will now be provided to Caltrans for review. These proposed access points address the local transportation network and state standards and have been determined through collaboration with the local agencies and the PDT. The Preliminary Environmental Study Limit (ESL) maps are being prepared based on the project alternatives for study defined by the PDT.