



Transportation Authority of Marin Stakeholder Working Group Meeting #1 Summary

Northbound US 101 – Eastbound I-580 Direct Connector Project
Monday, June 29, 2020, 3:00 pm via Zoom

The first meeting of the Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) provided an opportunity for the working group members to introduce themselves, and add the community sector they represent, along with a statement of their interest in this project. Additionally, an overview of the project, answer questions about the project, schedule and discuss initial thoughts about the seven alternatives presented. Comments were taken from SWG members as well as public members in attendance regarding initial thoughts on alternatives and what additional information is needed in order to better understand and evaluate the alternatives. The PowerPoint presentation for the meeting is [available here](#).

Summary of Key Project Issues and Comments

Comments about Circulation, Access and Safety

1. Enhanced access to East San Rafael is needed.
2. Include connection to the North/South Greenway and Canal.
3. Consider reducing the number of travel lanes on Bellam.
4. Improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians, specifically on Bellam
5. Emphasize the importance of human scale elements, greenery, public art, wider sidewalks, protected bike lanes.

Comments regarding Business and Community Impacts

1. Provide information about how well each alternative complements the community and the businesses of that area.
2. Central San Rafael and East San Rafael are impacted by the freeways bisecting the community. As the Canal is bisected by both freeways, clarify how the project could address historical inequities.
3. It was noted that many of the alternatives create additional viaducts/overcrossings in the community.
4. Provide additional information regarding environmental, aesthetics, economic, and community impacts and how these elements will be evaluated.

Comments about Traffic

1. Clarify how the project alternatives will move traffic to best alleviate the northbound US-101 traffic.
2. Explain what the potential impacts of alleviating traffic on Sir Francisco Drake could be to businesses at Country Mart, Larkspur Landing.
3. Clarify how the slow speed alternatives will prevent traffic backing up at the connector.
4. Clarify the capacity for each alternative and if traffic will continue to back up at northbound US-101/Sir Francis Drake.
5. Explain if the project alternatives are just moving the traffic log jam another 50 feet or will it allow traffic to flow.
6. Clarify if the Richmond San Rafael bridge can handle the eastbound traffic even with 3 lanes
7. Explain how potential confusion with two off ramps, one to I-580 and one to Bellam, will be handled.
8. Provide expected difference in travel time for each alternative.
9. How will it be communicated to drivers to use the connector.
10. Design a seamless off ramp to Bellam that separates local and regional traffic.

Public Outreach and Communication

1. Provide public outreach and information that allows everyone to envision a new direct connector can be an asset to improve safety, reduce congestion and provide environmental benefits, including tree planting to sequester carbon.
2. Provide more information about the outreach and communications plan for the project
3. Translate information materials to Spanish.

Environmental

1. Clarify environmental impacts of Alternatives 1A/1B as they cut through the only swath of open space/land in the area.
2. Explain how the design for each alternative will balance environmental and aesthetics versus new structures.

Coordination with Local Planning Efforts

1. Coordinate with other plans and projects happening around this project. Connect with other groups working in these spaces to ensure the projects complement each other and don't create more issues.
2. Consider how this project might support the issues of housing, sea level rise, and inequity.
3. Coordinate outreach for this project with other local planning efforts.

Standing Working Group Members

Present	Organization	Member	Interest Represented
X	Brett Harte Community Assoc	Betsy Swenerton	Community
X	Canal Alliance	Omar Carrera	Community
X	College of Marin	Jon Horinek	Community
X	Country Mart, Larkspur Landing	Elaine Lin (Alt)	Business
X	East Bay to/from Larkspur	Becky Kitteridge	Commuter
X	East Bay to/from San Rafael	Air Gallegos	Commuter
	East San Rafael Businesses	Stephanie Plante	Business
X	Fed. of San Rafael Neighborhoods	Jim Draper	Community
X	Larkspur Chamber of Commerce	Julie Cervetto	Business
X	League of Women Voters	Kevin Hagerty	Community
X	Marin Conservation League	Kate Powers	Environmental
X	Marin County Bicycle Coalition	Bjorn Griepenburg	Bike & Pedestrian
X	Multicultural Center of Marin	Douglas Mundo	Community
	Pt. San Quentin Village HOA	Michele Barni	Community
X	Rides GGT through project area	Dave Troup	Transit Rider
X	San Rafael Bike/Ped Adv. Comm.	DJ Allison	Bike & Pedestrian
X	San Rafael Chamber of Commerce	Joanne Webster	Business
X	San Rafael City Schools	Dave Pedroli	Community
X	Sustainable Marin	Wendi Kallins	Environmental
	Sustainable San Rafael	Jerry Belletto	Environmental