

July 19, 2007

TO: Bi-State Coordinating Committee
FROM: Doug Ficco and John Osborn
SUBJECT: CRC LPA Adoption Process

Upcoming Milestone Dates

The Draft Staff-Recommended Alternative Report will be publicly released at the Task Force meeting scheduled for November 27, 2007. Following informal outreach and comment opportunities in December and January, a revised draft will be released concurrently with the DEIS in early February, 2008. Following a two-month formal public comment period, the final LPA recommendation will be published in April. Endorsement or adoption actions by local agencies are scheduled to occur in May and June, 2008, leading to submittal of an application for New Starts funding. An overview of the schedule is shown on the following page.

What will the LPA include?

The LPA Report will be a concise report summarizing the analyses and recommendations. In general, it will address the following:

1. Introduction and Purpose of the Report
2. Project Background
3. Description and Evaluation of Project Alternatives
 - a. Range of Alternatives Considered
 - b. Key Findings on Alternatives
4. Recommended Locally Preferred Alternative
 - a. Definition of Locally Preferred Alternative
 - i. HCT Mode – BRT or LRT
 - ii. Major HCT Alignment – I-5 or Main Street
 - iii. Supplemental or Replacement Bridge.
 - iv. Project funding strategy
 - b. Rationale/Benefits of the Locally Preferred Alternative
5. Next Steps
 - a. EIS process/documents
 - b. Opportunities for Public Involvement
 - c. Issues to be addressed

Note that many project decisions will not necessarily be resolved at the LPA stage, but will be subject to further design development through the Record of Decision (and beyond). For example, detailed transit guideway alignments within a street right-of-way, minor changes in interchange ramp configurations, or toll rates (if the LPA includes tolling) can be expected to be refined following adoption of the LPA.

How will local Councils and Boards be involved?

CRC staff are working with each partner agency to establish a series of Council/Board work sessions tailored to their project issues of concern. The work sessions will be in advance of the May-June 2008 adoption cycle. For example, the Vancouver City Council has established a schedule of work sessions/briefings covering the range of project-related issues of interest, comprising nearly twenty events over the next ten months (see attached schedule).