

# ESTUARY CROSSING STUDY

## ALAMEDA-OAKLAND BICYCLE-PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FEASIBILITY STUDY

Task Force Meeting | April 29, 2008 | Alameda City Hall West

### *In attendance:*

Julian Carol, Caltrans

John Eddy, Arup

Christina Ferracane, City of Oakland

Surlene Grant, Envirocom

Carl Hausner, U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Office

Lee Huo, Bay Trail Project

Obaid Khan, City of Alameda

Mercy Lam, Caltrans

Qiyu Liu, Arup

Celia McCarthy, Port of Oakland

Gail Payne, City of Alameda

Diana Sherman, MIG

Tina Spencer, Alameda-Contra Costa Transit

District (AC Transit)

David Sulouff, USCG

Saravana Suthanthira, ACCMA

Andrew Thomas, City of Alameda

Rochelle Wheeler, ACTIA

### **INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW**

Members of the Estuary Crossing Study Task Force gathered for the second in a series of meetings to learn about the project background and to discuss potential project alternatives. The goal of this meeting was to review the project alternatives in preparation for the presentation of these ideas to the general public and to key elected officials and decision makers at the policy advisory group's meeting later that week and at the May community workshops in Oakland and Alameda.

The meeting closed with a brief review of the overall project schedule, next steps, and the agenda for the upcoming public meetings. Information and materials from this meeting and others related to this project will be available on the City website at [http://www.ci.alameda.ca.us/publicworks/0801\\_estuarycrossing\\_feasibility.html](http://www.ci.alameda.ca.us/publicworks/0801_estuarycrossing_feasibility.html).

### **REGIONAL PLANS & EFFORTS TO BE CONSIDERED**

- Bay Trail
- MTC Regional Bike Plan
- BCDC Seaport and San Francisco Bay
- Alameda County Bike Plan
- Oakland Waterfront Trail Plan
- AC Transit 2000 Alameda Plan
- JLS MTC Study

### **STUDY AREAS**

- Bus Rapid Transit will only go to Downtown Oakland, not Jack London Square
- Is there a plan to do policy-level summarizing of plans that have already recommended something?
- Is Broadway Jackson the only study that is currently underway?

- Where did the assumptions regarding 2,000 to 3,000 trips per day on this corridor come from? In the future, plan should rely on projections of employment, housing, etc.
- Oakland does not have a sub-area model for Jack London Square; Alameda's sub-area model is not final yet
- These studies will be incorporated into the Draft Feasibility and Final Feasibility Study

#### **BEST PRACTICES**

- Best practices tables – note distinction of service frequency
- Base clearances on reality
- Use maximum clearances for now – can adjust later as bridge location is more defined

#### **POTENTIAL PROJECT ALTERNATIVES: TUNNEL**

- Check with Army Corps on depth of tube – may not be 45 feet
- Alignments will be cast of trimming basin.
- Coast Guard is trying to get Corps to dredge out to Coast Guard Island.
  - Try to define this before May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Coast Guard will not provide alignments for all alternatives—must narrow this to one first
- For tunnel alternatives, existing tube is a good model (for depth)

#### **POTENTIAL PROJECT ALTERNATIVES: BRIDGE**

- Drawbridge may also be a no-go because of potential for mechanical failure – no alternative egress
- Need to balance missed opportunities, promises
- May need to be no collapse
- Coast Guard needs decision on bridge versus other crossing to proceed
- Suggestion: look at broader constraints – height, size of results, underwater concerns
- Add wait time for bridge, too
- Consider multi-modal bridge

#### **POTENTIAL PROJECT ALTERNATIVES: FERRY**

- Some intrinsic benefit to putting ferry, etc. – you get fixed guide funding for this type of project, (e.g. BART, ferry, etc.)

#### **GENERAL COMMENTS ON ALTERNATIVES**

- Facilities are all west of alternatives
- Cost could be important – present as order of magnitude

- Add estimated time to implement
- What is a fatal flaw? There's a long list and some are subtle. The project team is looking for things that will "stop the project dead in its track." Some alternatives will come off the list because the barriers are just too great.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- Beginning of August for next meeting
- Try to ascertain more about the Coast Guard's requirements and the Corps' limitations before May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting