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July 8, 1986

Transportation and Community Development Committee
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

Subject: Light Rail Transit Extension Study Final Report

SUMMARY

The Final Report of the Light Rail Transit Extension Study has been completed. The study identifies preferred alignments for nine study corridors and places the corridors into two priority categories for further study. The conclusions of the study provide a starting point for more detailed planning and design studies by Regional Transit in the future.

BACKGROUND

As the planned LRT system becomes a reality, the need for timely planning for future development and extension of the system becomes a necessity. Recognizing that need, the City of Sacramento, the County of Sacramento, Regional Transit and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) agreed to conduct the Sacramento Light Rail Transit (LRT) Extension Study. SACOG was asked to take the lead on the study.

The primary purpose of the study is to identify preferred alignments for potential extensions of the LRT starter line now under construction. In addition, the City and County can use the results of the study to evaluate their land use and transportation policies as they relate to future LRT development. The study will provide Regional Transit with a base for more detailed analysis as they consider further LRT development.

This study does not, however, take the place of the systems level planning studies that would be required prior to applying for federal funding to add to the system now under construction. The study also does not provide the level of detail necessary to require dedication of right-of-way.

With the publication of the Final Report (copy attached), the study is now complete. In the first phase, a range of alternative alignments within each of nine different potential LRT corridors were identified. Each corridor's alter-

natives were evaluated and one preferred alignment was selected in every corridor. A progress report was made to the Transportation and Community Development Committee on Phase I on March 25, 1986.

In Phase II, the nine corridors were evaluated against each other to arrive at two priority groupings for further study. The following is a brief description of the nine preferred alignments by priority category.

PRIORITY FOR FURTHER STUDY

Natomas Extension - North from downtown via I-5 to the vicinity of the stadium complex at Del Paso and I-5.

I-80/Antelope Road Extension - From the starter line, southwest of the Watt Avenue station, along the east side of the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks to the vicinity of Antelope Road.

Highway 50 Extension - East from the Butterfield Way terminus of the starter line to Hazel Avenue parallel to the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks.

Meadowview Extension - From downtown via R Street to the Sacramento River levee then south on the railroad right-of-way parallel to Freeport Blvd. to the vicinity of Meadowview Road.

LOWER PRIORITY FOR FURTHER STUDY

Airport Extension - From the terminus of the Natomas Extension to the airport terminal parallel to I-5 on the east and north side of the freeway.

Sunrise Mall/I-80 Extension - East from the vicinity of Elkhorn Blvd. at the Antelope Road Extension on an elevated structure in the median of Greenback Lane to the vicinity of Sunrise Mall.

Sunrise Mall/Highway 50 Extension - North from the Highway 50 Extension, east of Sunrise Blvd., along the abandoned rail right-of-way to the American River then elevated in the median of Sunrise Blvd. to the vicinity of Sunrise Mall.

Calvine Extension - East from the terminus of the Meadowview Extension in the median of the proposed east-west arterial across Highway 99 at Calvine Road.

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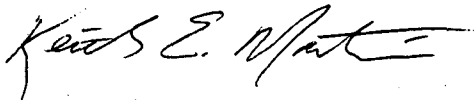
Elk Grove Extension - East from the terminus of the Calvine Extension to the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks then south along the west side of the tracks to the vicinity of Elk Grove Blvd.

The above alignments and the relative priority groupings have been accepted by the study's Technical and Policy Advisory Committees and SACOG. Regional Transit will be receiving a completion report on July 14 and a presentation to the County Board of Supervisors is scheduled for July 29. Their comments will be reported to you at the committee meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

There is no recommendation at this time. This item is before the Transportation and Community Development Committee for information.

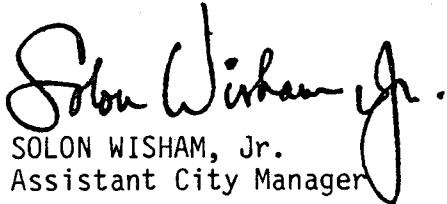
Respectfully submitted,



KEITH E. MARTIN
Associate Planner

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Approved for Committee Information:



SOLON WISHAM, Jr.
Assistant City Manager

Attachment