

Office of the City Council

CITY OF
RIVERSIDE

June 29, 2009

Ms. Anne Mayer
Riverside County Transportation Commission
4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor
PO Box 12008
Riverside, CA 92502-2208

Dear Ms. Mayer:

I appreciate everyone taking the time to meet with the City regarding our concerns with the re-focusing of the Mid-County Parkway (MCP) study. The City's major concern is that the re-focusing of the MCP study does not mean that the MCP between 15 and 215 freeways is not going to be constructed in the future. The action to re-focus the MCP should be considered part of a long term plan to complete the parkway between SR 79 and the 15 freeways and for the County as a whole to focus short term efforts on improving Cajalco, between the 15 and 215 freeways and the easterly segment of the MCP.

In general, the City of Riverside will support the proposal outlined in your letter of June 15th under the following principles:

1. The City of Riverside will support RCTC's proposal to prioritize funding for the environmental review to widen Cajalco Road between the 15 and 215 freeways. The widening of Cajalco should ultimately include:
 - a. 6-lanes between I-15 and Lake Mathews
 - b. 4-lanes south of Lake Mathews (future expansion to 6-lanes) ; and,
 - c. 6-lanes between El Sobrante and I-215
2. The City of Riverside also supports preparation of a phasing plan for the MCP east of the 215 freeway and for Cajalco Road between the 15 and 215 freeways as outlined in your June 15th letter. The critically important points are:
 - a. The improvements on the 91 and 15 freeways must be a top priority and must be built at least concurrently with the MCP and Cajalco Road improvements;
 - b. There must be equity in the funding and capacity improvements on MCP east of the 215 freeway and on Cajalco Road between the 15 and 215 freeways;

3. Should the County be unable to environmentally clear the Cajalco Road improvements by 2013, RCTC will re-start the westerly segment of the MCP; and,
4. Circulation between the 15, 215 and 60/215 freeways should be a priority for RCTC to fund under the Measure Arterial highway Program or through other funding sources once the economy improves. The program should give priority to arterials such as: Van Buren, MLK, Arlington, Overlook Parkway, Washington, Madison, and similar transportation corridors.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 826-5991.

Sincerely,



Steve Adams
Councilmember, Ward 7



MID COUNTY PARKWAY PROJECT

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MCP Timeline:

2004 - 2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 - 2012	2013 and beyond
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Studies • Public Meetings • Identify Alternatives • Value Analysis Studies • Public Meetings • Alternative Refinement • Study Alternatives • Environmental Studies and Engineering • Identification of Preferred Alternative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft EIR/EIS • Public Information Meetings • Public Hearings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of comments received by public and agencies • Project Refocused • Public Information Meetings (Summer) • Preparation of supplemental and revised technical studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recirculated Draft EIR / Supplemental Draft EIS (Summer) • Public Hearings (Fall) • Respond to comments • Obtain other environmental approvals and permits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final EIR/EIS • Final Design • Right of way acquisition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction