

PRESS CONFERENCE

I-5 TUNNEL FIRE GALVANIZES RESIDENTS AGAINST SR 710 TOLL TUNNEL PROPOSAL

Biased Process Continues to Underwhelm Participants,
Fuels Grassroots push for Alternatives and
Highlight Public Safety and Environmental Concerns

Residents from 18 impacted communities and local elected officials will hold a press conference/organizational meeting on **Saturday, July 20th at 8:45 am** on the doorsteps of Blair High School in Pasadena to rally against Metro's 710 Freeway Proposal and share collective concerns before MTA's scheduled meeting in the Blair High School Cafeteria.

The press conference aims to educate the public and alert state agencies to the high risks associated with a completed tunnel and the exorbitant costs of the SR 710 toll tunnel project alternative. Cost estimates have ranged from \$1 billion to \$14 billion and neither Caltrans nor the MTA have endeavored to clarify the discrepancies.

Prevailing opinion of many residents who have been following the process agree that the 710 Tunnel option is a fiscally irresponsible project that has lost all credibility amongst community members. Further, it does not achieve or advance the goals that have been set forth as the purpose of extending the freeway. Independent reports have shown that the 710 will increase traffic and air pollution for the effected cities, not alleviate those issues as stated by the proponents.

The No 710 Action Committee demands an EIR/EIS process that includes full transparency, comprehensive public outreach and an intellectually rigorous technical analysis.

WHO: Residents of Alhambra, El Sereno, Los Angeles, Pasadena, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, La Canada/Flintridge, Montrose, La Crescenta, Altadena, Glendale, Highland Park, Eagle Rock, Glassell Park, Monterey Park, Lincoln Heights and Silverlake all recognize the proposed freeway tunnels will increase traffic, increase pollution, are a public safety risk and will benefit only developers and contractors. **INVITED SPEAKERS:** Pasadena Mayor, Bill Bogaard, South Pasadena Mayor, Richard Schneider, La Canada Mayor Laura Olhasso, MTA Board & Glendale City Councilmember, Ara Najarian, Pasadena Councilman Steve Madison and Former State Assemblymember Anthony Portantino

WHAT: Metro's SR 710 toll tunnel proposal is highly flawed in its planning, budgeting and reasoning. There is a tremendous amount of opposition from communities that see the undefined billions expected to be spent on the project as not fiscally responsible, not solving local transportation problems or improving the environment. A broad coalition of community members will be present with arguments against the 710. They will be joined by community leaders and elected officials who collectively oppose the 710 extension.

Metro's own data demonstrates the proposed tunnel will attract four times the current number of vehicles and will increase air pollution.

WHEN:
Saturday, July 20, 8:45 am

WHERE:
Blair High School, 1201 S Marengo Ave, Pasadena



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