

Great Reach Roadshow Summary

September 24, 2013 – Meeting with Chamber of Commerce

The meeting was attended by nine members of the business community, property owners, Chamber of Commerce and South Coast Metro Alliance.

This meeting was a follow up of a meeting held on June 5, 2013. Staff had requested a subsequent meeting with the business community to provide a second opportunity for those who were not able to attend the first one.

The meeting started with a brief summary of the General Plan Update process and continued with discussion on the I-405 Freeway and potential impacts to the roadways and businesses.

Mr. Setharaman provided an update on the status of the Circulation Element including the master circulation plan, master bikeway plan and potential changes in the future that may be included in the General Plan Update.

The Newport Boulevard plan including the cut/cover option that separates the regional traffic from local traffic was discussed.

One of the attendees noted that the City should plan to preserve small businesses on the west side since most are locally owned and operated and provide a stable employment/revenue base. Promoting additional residential development in that area will force these businesses to relocate and will diminish the industrial land use areas in the City.

Another attendee noted that healthy communities include thriving businesses; City policies should consider the value and importance of business investments (small or large) in the community and promote healthy economic growth for commerce and preserving the quality of life for residents.