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October 30, 2012

Honorable John Valdivia  
Councilmember, Third Ward  
City of San Bernardino  
300 N. D St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
San Bernardino, CA 92418

Dear Councilmember Valdivia:

I am writing in response to the issues you raised in an October 17, 2012, e-mail regarding activities on the E Street Corridor sbX Bus Rapid Transit construction project within your ward:

- 1) Traffic headed east bound from G Street to E Street on Mill Street - Lanes are closed and backup is too long and impedes flow. Would you please consider opening both lanes to allow traffic to flow unrestricted through the intersection at Mill/E Street and southbound onto E?***

The duration of the lane closure is due to underground utilities found after the demolition of the southeast corner of the intersection in front of the National Orange Show Events Center. The project engineer had to redesign the area with approval from the City. As an update, the traffic signal poles were installed the week of October 15 and the curb and gutter was poured last Tuesday.

A challenge that we have at this time is that we are in a holding pattern at this particular location, as the slot paving and ADA ramp installation cannot be scheduled until SCE moves its vent that currently falls where the proposed curb and the traffic signal pedestal is relocated. Construction management has been pushing this issue with SCE on a weekly basis for some time. The contractor is projecting that the work will be completed and the traffic control will be removed in approximately two weeks. This is contingent on SCE relocating the vent in a timely manner.

Very important to note is that the timing of the relocation of utilities is one of our biggest challenges at the moment. This is especially apparent on Hospitality Lane where most of the work on the north side of the street between E Street and Tippecanoe Avenue is done. However, we cannot open the lane nearest the curb because we are awaiting SCE, Verizon, or other utility providers to relocate vaults, vents, communications lines and/or water service. We are working with the City to urge the utilities to resolve the issues as expeditiously as possible.

- 2) Street lights are out on E Street from Mill Street to Orange Show Road. Crosswalk safety lights along with standard street lights. Request to repair and coordinate with public works to repair and get these lights operating.***

Safety at crosswalks is paramount and lights foster "welcome/open for business" mentality for both businesses/shoppers at automobile dealers and Inland Center Mall. In discussion with the City Engineer, he confirmed that the City will be responsible for fixing any areas outside of the sbX Project. Specifically, the light outage between Mill Street and Orange Show Road is not a result of the sbX Project. Our investigation revealed that the outage is a result of wire theft. Copper, brass and material/property theft has been a big issue since work started. Just last week, there were two more theft incidents - at G Street and Mill Street, where the contractor has its crushing operation for the project, and at H Street and 4th Street, where thieves broke into the night shift construction workers' personal vehicles and stole whatever they could get their hands on - despite the project having security staff at both locations. Thieves are getting more brazen and it is convenient for them to sell the metals at the recycling facility on G Street and Rialto Avenue. We are trying to work with law enforcement and private security to be more vigilant. All this said, if there are any light/power outage issues as a result of the sbX project, I am asking construction management to resolve the issues quickly.

With regards to safety, Omnitrans and the contractor each have dedicated personnel to monitor conditions along the project. There is no compromise to safety. We will continue to work with the City to address safety-related concerns immediately.

- 3) ***Hospitality Lane: Costco Shopping Area- Help me understand the timeline for repairs. Costco, undoubtedly a large tax revenue generator in our city, soon welcomes the holidays. As expressed to me personally, they don't want their clientele having the inconveniences of contribution<sic> especially during their peak season. What are the plans and how will you address these so as to not compromise sales along this area?***

Omnitrans is prohibited from working in front of Costco between November 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> each year, as stated in our settlement agreement with Costco. Currently, we have substantially completed the work directly adjacent to Costco on Hospitality Lane. We have walked the frontage area with Costco management to let them know the condition of the property during the moratorium. We are also working with the City to coordinate traffic control in front of Costco during the moratorium.

With regards to other areas of the project, we are working with the City's Public Works Department to open lanes currently closed for sbX station construction on Kendall Drive at Shandin Hills Drive and Little Mountain Drive. As utility issues are resolved along the entire corridor, we will be able to finish paving work to open up street lanes for regular travel.

One final note, we do hear from time to time that there are too few people working on the project. With a project that spans 15.7-miles, we understand that some people may not be able to drive the entire corridor to see the work taking place day-to-day. The fact is that there are about 130 construction workers along the corridor each day during two shifts - morning/afternoon and late night/early morning. In all, about 200 people are working as a result of the project.

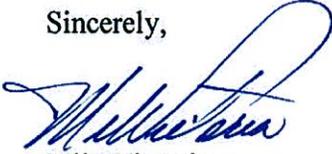
Our commitment to you, the entire City Council and staff, and the residents and business operators of the transit corridor is that we will work diligently to complete the sbX E Street

Councilmember John Valdivia  
October 30, 2012 – Page 3

project as quickly as possible with the least amount of impact. I appreciate your patience for our response, as well as your support in this.

Please let me know if other issues need addressed.

Sincerely,



Milo Victoria  
CEO/General Manager

MV

c: Omnitrans Board of Directors  
Mayor & Council, City of San Bernardino  
James Penman, City Attorney  
Andrea Travis-Miller, Acting City Manager