

CONNECTING PASADENA PROJECT (CPP) STATUS—2015

The Connecting Pasadena Project (CPP) is a grass roots, citizen initiated endeavor aided by experts in the fields of transportation, urban planning, and economic development. The goal is to provide master planning alternatives for the 710 Stub that runs through Pasadena to create a beautiful new place that would provide long term social and economic value to the City of Pasadena and the region.

The decades-long battles with state transportation bureaucrats over the 710 extension have led to "issue fatigue." People have dismissed urgent warnings of Metro's coming tunnels with, "It'll never happen." If this is true, it begs the question, "How could that stub area be transformed to benefit Pasadena and the region?" That question has been asked and answered via the CPP.

The efficacy of the CPP was manifested in the momentum it achieved in just six months. During this time a steering committee was formed and two Visioning Workshops were developed attended by about 180 participants and observers from across Pasadena and nearby communities.

The participants of the first workshop proposed potential uses for the area of the freeway Stub. Participants at the second workshop offered ideas on what form development should take in order to properly integrate the redeveloped area into the urban fabric of Pasadena.

Two land use options emerged. One assumes that the Stub is filled so that the ground surface is level with the adjoining neighborhoods. The second assumes that the Stub is not filled and mostly retains the current Stub terrain. How these options are realized, phased and constructed will be the task of the CPP going forward. Figures 1 and 2 at the end of this document illustrate the two options.

Two transportation concepts resulted from these options and they align with the city's transportation goals, allow for various land use scenarios, and are compatible with rail transit, if desired. More details for the resulting transportation alternatives will be developed as the project moves forward.

The CPP plans to work with the City of Pasadena to determine how the project vision might be incorporated into city plans. An initial step was to present the project's transportation alternatives to the Pasadena working group charged with devising a Pasadena Preferred Alternative to the SR 710 North Study. Once the working group has published their alternative this report will be placed on the CPP website.

In conclusion, it is important to note that the CPP is first and foremost a master planning alternatives for the 710 Stub and, therefore, it will proceed independently of all initiatives to defeat the tunnels.

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Figure 1 | Option A (Fill the Stub)

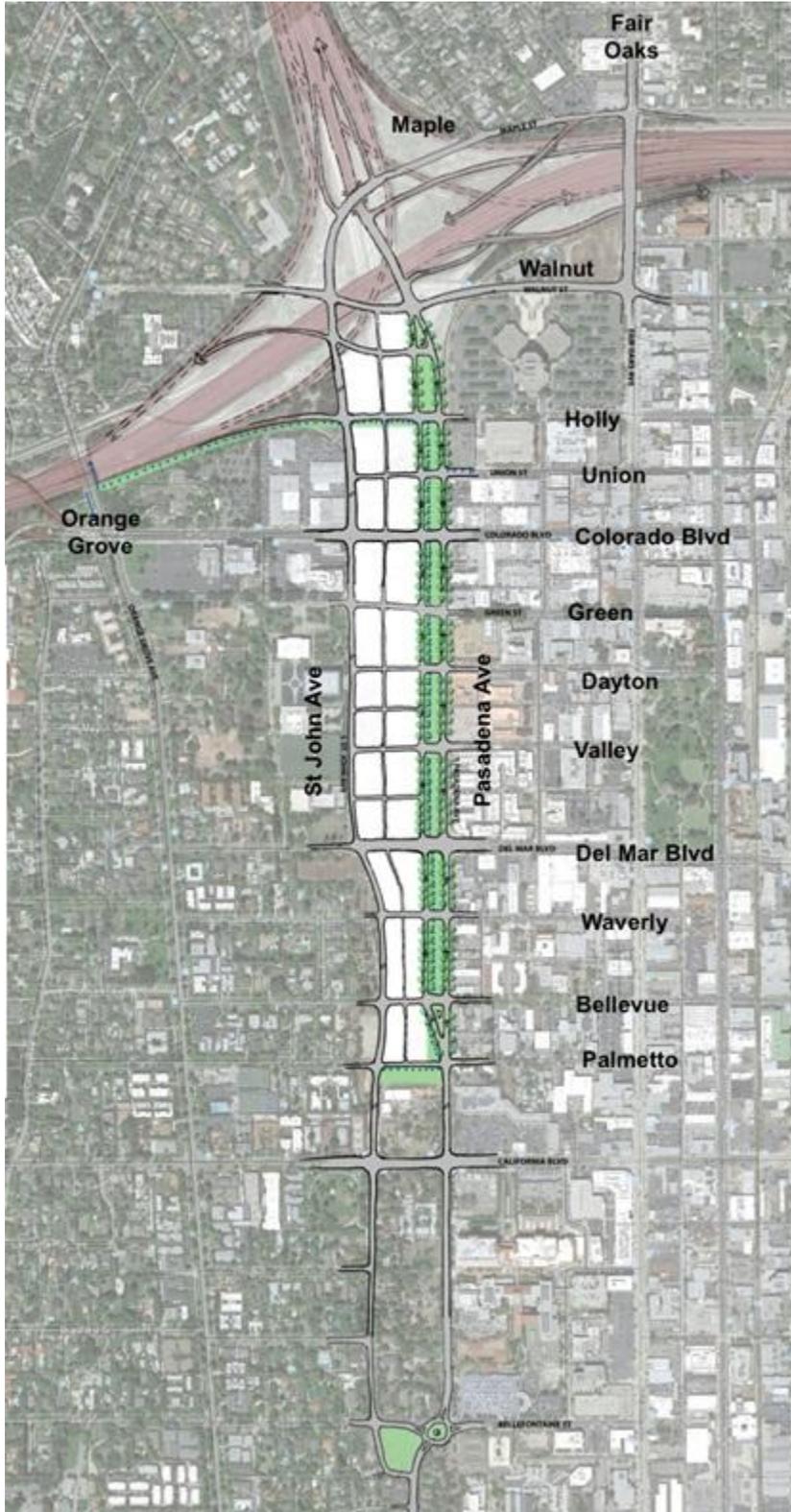


Figure 2 | Option B (Retain Most of the Current Grades)

