

## South Bay Cities Council of Governments Infrastructure Working Group October 16, 2013 – Meeting Notes

**Attendees:** Rob Beste, Chair (Torrance); Stephanie Katsouleas (El Segundo); Nasser Abbaszadeh & Miguel Alvarez (Lawndale); Crystal Killian (Los Angeles); Edward Kao & Tony Olmos (Manhattan Beach); Hon. Jim Goodhart (Palos Verdes Estates); Greg Grammer (Rolling Hills Estates); Wisam Altowaji & John Mate (Redondo Beach); Craig Bilezerian & Ted Semaan (Torrance); Aziz Elattar & Lindy Lee-Lowell (Caltrans); Bassam Al-Beitawi (LA County DWP); Fulgene Asuncion (Metro); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Liz Suh (CH2M Hill); Alan Clelland (Iteris); John Cruikshank (JMC2); Jim Hoyt (Jacobs); Tracy Bartlett & Caude Corvino (Nichols Consulting Engineers); Sam Ekrami (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Anissa Voyiatzes (Psonas); Gene Bougdanos (RBF Consulting); John Dreher (Rincon Consulting); Marcella Low (Southern California Gas Co.)

Chair Beste called IWG meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of September 18 Minutes** (Attachment A) – Minutes were approved as presented.

II. **Agencies & Other Reports-**

- **SBCCOG** – Program update – Steve Lantz reported that the SBCCOG sent Metro a letter, requesting Metro to permanently waive the monthly maintenance fee for the Metro ExpressLanes pilot program for all participants who work or reside in Los Angeles County because it is not equitable and is a barrier to those in the county that only use the lanes occasionally, such as going to cultural or sporting events downtown. Mr. Lantz also reminded everyone that the SBCCOG will be holding a mixer with the South Bay Area Chambers of Commerce on October 30, and its annual General Assembly on February 28, 2014.
- **SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County Dept. of PW** – Status – Bassam Al Beitawi distributed the South Bay Traffic Forum Status Report for October. Highlights from this report included: The County is continuing installation of the second phase of its Wireless Communication System, which includes 230 County-maintained intersections in the South Bay. These are located in Carson, Hawthorne, Lawndale, Manhattan Beach, and unincorporated areas. Radios at 164 intersections have been installed, 141 of which have been implemented with LACO-4 timing, connecting to the County's Traffic Signal Communications System.
- **Caltrans** – Update - Aziz Elattar distributed a list of 41 Future State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) Projects in the South Bay. These include 11 programmed projects, 8 candidate projects, and 22 future projects as identified in the 2013 ten-year plan. The majority of the projects are located along the I-110 and I-405, the rest being spread out over the I-710, I-105, SR-91, PCH, and Hawthorne Blvd.
- **Metro** –PSRA Update, Board Update, SCA 4 (55% vote initiative) – Fulgene Asuncion had nothing to report regarding PSRA. She announced several items up for consideration on today's Metro Planning & Programming Committee agenda: Implement the park and ride facilities assessment recommendations in an amount not to exceed \$12 million dollars and to amend the FY14 budget in the amount not to exceed \$2 million dollars to begin; Approve the proposed revised project list and recertify previously programmed Measure R Highway Sub-funds for the Highway Operational Improvements in Arroyo Verdugo, Las Virgenes/Malibu, and South Bay Sub-regions and SR-138 Capacity Enhancement; Approve the proposed project list for the programmed Measure R funds for I-605 Corridor "Hot Spot" Interchanges; Award 18 Contract Agreements under the Public-Private Partnerships (P3) Technical Bench (RFIQ) No. PS2210-3049 with the Contractors recommended for a three-year period with two one-year options beginning November 1, 2013 for professional services not to exceed a cumulative total value of \$30 million.
- **Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee** – Update – Chair Beste reported that the TAC discussed the development of "Open Streets," events that invite residents to reclaim their roadways. Temporarily closing streets to automobiles encourages walking, bicycling and allows citizens to re-imagine their streets and how they travel through communities. The City of Los Angeles has hosted successful CicLAvia events, where over 100,000 Los Angeles County residents have participated along 6-15 miles of streets. These successful events set a framework for Metro to establish a competitive grant process to fund open street events throughout the County. A presentation will be given to the IWG on November 20, 2013.

III. **Measure R Updates** – Steve Lantz

- Three-Month Look Ahead (Attachment B) – The SBCCOG Board will vote on the FY 2014-2020 SBHP Funding Request on November 21 and the Metro Board will vote on it on December 5.

- **SBHP Annual Update Calendar** (Attachment C) – This chart has been revised to combine the categories of *Cost Adjustments* and *Programming* into one color.
- **SBHP Project Progress Reporting** (Attachment D)/**Potential change in SBHP Project Monitoring process** (Attachment E) – the SBCCOG is changing the format of the Gantt chart starting in November, listing only current updates, and deferring project risk reports for projects that have seen no recent progress. Discussion is underway at Metro to find a way of simplifying monthly and quarterly reports and having the Gantt Chart prepared by staff rather than by a consultant.
- **SBHP FY Draft FY 2014-20 Metro Budget Request** (Attachment F) – A new category of funding for project studies has been added as a result of the unsuccessful 2013 Call for Projects applications hurriedly submitted by South Bay cities last year. In preparation for the 2015 Call, the SBCCOG will offer the services of its newly-created technical consulting bench to cities, so that the SBCCOG can be sure that cities that wish to use Measure R funds as a local match for their projects have thought the project through carefully before applying to the Call. This will be a formal part of the SBCCOG's SBHP development program. Cities need to make sure that the final budget request matches what was discussed in its annual review with the SBCCOG in September.
- **SBHP Technical Consultant Bench Update** – 9 of 28 bench contracts have been executed; the rest are waiting for SBCCOG legal counsel to approve their requested contract changes.

IV. **Final South Bay Response to Potential 2014 or 2016 Sales Tax Measure** (Attachment G)- Received and Filed – Chair Beste thanked the cities that contributed to the final South Bay priority list, which has an identified cost exceeding \$2.5 billion dollars. The language of the letter to the Metro Board was revised at the last minute, to emphasize the South Bay Cities' desire to maintain and repair existing infrastructure before expanding it. The letter and priority list were officially submitted to Metro on October 4.

V. **Spotlight – High Pressure Gas Line Safety Presentation** – Marcella Low of the Southern California Gas Company gave a presentation on pipeline safety and avoiding gas leaks. It is a federal mandate to inform cities about high pressured lines safety. Ms. Low explained the differences between high-consequence areas and non-high-consequence areas. Cities need to use 811 (same as dig alert) and call before they dig on a project site, as well as clear out tree roots on a regular basis. Methods of testing and maintaining pipelines, residential services, emergency preparedness, and mandates regarding carbon monoxide detectors were also discussed.

VI. **Other Business- Future Spotlight Topics of Interest-** None

VII. **Announcements** – Chair Beste announced that Edison reliability issues were discussed with PUC Commissioner Peavey and follow up meetings will occur, focusing specifically on the South Bay. Palos Verdes Estates Mayor Goodhart added that Senator Liu and Assemblyman Muratsuchi are passing legislation for this.

VIII. **Adjournment** - Chair Beste adjourned the meeting at 12:50 pm until November 20, 2013. If you'd like to include an item in the agenda, please send an e-mail to: [Marcy@southbaycities.org](mailto:Marcy@southbaycities.org) by November 10, 2013.