

South Bay Cities Council of Governments Infrastructure Working Group August 19, 2015 – Meeting Notes

Attendees: Rob Beste (Torrance); Richard Garland & Maria Slaughter (Carson); Stephanie Katsouleas, Floriza Rivera & Lifan Xu (El Segundo); Alan Leung (Hawthorne); Eloy Castillo (Inglewood); Crystal Killian (Los Angeles); Ed Kao (Manhattan Beach); Diana Reznik (Rancho Palos Verdes); Greg Grammer (Rolling Hills Estates); Wisam Altowaji, Didar Khandker, Brad Lindhal, Maureen Lull & Tim Shea (Redondo Beach); Tracey Frost, Dan Kopulsky, Tadeo Lau, Peter Lin, Leon Romero & Jimmy Shih (Caltrans); Angela Driscoll, Pamela Manning, Andres Narvaez & Jane White (LA County DPW); Tham Nguyen & Isidro Panuco (Metro); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Carlos Ortiz (Advantec Consulting Engineers); Marie Marston (Civil Works Engineers); Irene Lee Wyatt & Alex Zupanski (FPL & Assoc); Calvin Yoshitake (Guida Surveying); Alan Clelland, Chris Curd & Alek Hovsepian (Iteris); Ken Berkman & Scott Simpson (MARRS Corp); Janna McKhann (NexTech Systems); Jeff Cooper (Penco Engineering); Anissa Voyiatzes (Psomas), Doug Prebble (Quantum Consulting); Rock Miller (Stantec), Jim Parker (V.A. Consulting)

Chair Beste called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of July 15, 2015 Minutes** (Attachment A) – Minutes were approved as presented.

II. **Agencies & Other Reports-**

- **SBCCOG** – Steve Lantz reported that the SBCCOG’s 17th Annual General Assembly will take place on February 26, 2016. The theme will be “Governing in an Era of Disruptive Technologies,” which the SBCCOG hopes will help people understand the capabilities, applications and adoption rates of drones, 3D printers, autonomous vehicles, robots, virtual reality, holographic computing, smart houses, etc. The SBCCOG is seeking regulators and providers of these types of technologies for exhibits and demonstrations.

SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County DPW – Andres Narvaez reported that the City of Gardena’s Traffic Management Center is currently under construction and is to be completed by September 2015. In addition, the South Bay Fiber Interconnect project is under construction and is to be completed by October 2015. Design consultants have been procured for four Traffic Signal Synchronization Program projects that were awarded CFP funds by Metro in 2009, and two projects that were awarded in 2007 are scheduled to advertise for construction in September. Jane White gave an update on the Information Exchange Network (IEN), a system that allows exchange of traffic signal data among agency systems. Since 2002, the Los Angeles County DPW has been operating the LA County IEN, which was developed by TransCore. The IEN supports Agency traffic signal operations at local, corridor, and regional levels. TransCore is no longer supporting this technology, so LA County DPW has released a Request for Information for IEN Phase 2.

- **Caltrans** – Jimmy Shih gave updates on the executed Caltrans Measure R projects in the South Bay.
- **Metro** - As the Metro Board and Committees were dark in August, there was nothing to report.

III. **Measure R Updates -**

- **Recommendations from August 10 Transportation Workshop** (attachment B) – Steve Lantz thanked the agency staff that attended this event on August 10. The workshop addressed pressing policy issues and the potential to influence Metro policy development. Ms. Bacharach and Mr. Lantz presented the history, progression, and current status of four topics related to South Bay’s relationship to Metro: Long Range Transportation Plan, Call for Projects Restructuring, Design of a New Transportation Sales Tax Measure for the November 2016 Ballot, and South Bay Highway Program Update. Metro staff recommendations for each topic were compared against the priorities of the SBCCOG, and then Ms. Bacharach opened discussion in response to SBCCOG staff’s proposed Board recommendations for each topic. Based on the discussion that took place on August 10, the proposed recommendations were finalized and sent to the SBCCOG Board, and subsequently, the Metro Board, for consideration. Mr. Lantz announced that the updating of the SBHP Implementation Plan, which was scheduled for 2015, will be postponed until 2016, after the Metro Board has finalized several policy issues.
- **SBHP Preliminary Metro Budget Request Nexus Analysis** – Steve Lantz announced that the SBCCOG has been working with the South Bay agencies to develop the annual Metro Measure R SBHP Budget Request. Metro has asked that the SBCCOG change the request format from an allocation budget to a budget based upon cash flow - when Metro would need to reimburse agencies for Measure R-eligible expenditures. Metro is also requesting that the Budget Request reflects projected cash flow BY QUARTER for all existing and new projects and feasibility studies. This is consistent with the B-1 form in current Metro Funding Agreements. In order for the SBCCOG Board to approve the Budget Request in November, SBCCOG staff and Iteris staff will be reaching out to the agencies to collect and confirm data for the budget request in September.

- **SBHP Project Progress – Financial & Schedule Risk Report** (Attachment C) - Steve Lantz briefly discussed the outstanding monthly and quarterly reports and noted that staff had reported to the Steering Committee at its August meeting that no projects were currently at risk for deferral or deobligation.
- **Three Month Look Ahead** (Attachment D)- Steve Lantz announced that the draft final budget request will be reviewed at the IWG September IWG meeting, the draft budget request will be presented at the October IWG meeting, and a presentation on subsidized funding to public agencies will be made by the CA Infrastructure & Economic Development Bank.

- IV. **Project Spotlight - Metro's Complete Streets Policy & Active Transportation Strategic Plan** – Tham Nguyen, from Metro Countywide Planning, gave a presentation on Metro's Complete Streets Policy update and Metro's Active Transportation Strategic Plan. She began by distributing the Recommended Elements of a Complete Streets Policy to Comply with Metro Capital Grant Programs, a city resolution template, the City of Baldwin Park Complete Streets policy, and a list of LA County jurisdictions with a Complete Streets Policy adopted or in progress. She said that Metro will provide templates and workshops for cities and transit operators that request them. Ms. Nguyen reported that, by January 2017, partner agencies of Metro must adopt a Complete Streets Policy/resolution or general plan consistent with the Complete Streets Act of 2008 to be eligible for the next cycle of Metro capital grant funding programs.

Regarding Metro's Active Transportation Strategic Plan (ATSP), Ms. Nguyen said that Metro has a Technical Advisory Committee that is developing a funding strategy for Metro's ATSP program. The strategy will focus on identifying improvements that increase access to transit for people who walk and bike. Template cost estimates will be released in the Fall 2015, and plan adoption is scheduled for Summer 2016. Applicable elements of the ATSP include: station area access improvements, regional active transportation facilities, sidewalks, and Class I-IV bike routes. She explained how previous Metro strategic plans (Bicycle Transportation, LRTP, First Last Mile, Mobility Matrices, Countywide Sustainability) have been connected and led up to the ATSP. She said that the ATSP helps adopt the Complete Streets policy. In tandem with Ms. Nguyen's presentations, Ms. Hiratzka introduced the City of Redondo Beach's consultant, Rock Miller, who recently completed the Redondo Beach Harbor Gateway and Bike Path Improvement Project, which contained active transportation elements. Key improvements of this project include: reconstruction of the City Parking Lot at the corner of Herondo Street and Harbor Drive into a plaza parkette that features open space, landscaping, lighting, public art, and a portion of existing parking; installation of a bi-directional bike lane separated by a landscaped buffer along Harbor Drive; resurfacing Herondo Street and Harbor Drive; replacing existing street lighting, and improving pedestrian crossings. Funding sources (\$5 million total) included State Gas Tax Funds, Proposition C Local Return Transportation Funds, Measure R Local Return Funds, CA Bicycle Transportation Grant, Trash Hauler Roadway Impact Fees, and Capital Improvement Funds. Mr. Miller said that although this project has reduced speeds of motor vehicles in some areas, and has resulted in some ongoing community opposition, it has greatly improved the safety of the large number of bicyclists and pedestrians in the area, which, when analyzed, outnumber motor vehicles within the project limits. While the compliance of drivers was an initially discouraging after the opening of this project, it has improved. Bicyclists' compliance was very high and their numbers are increasing. The City believes that the increase in bicyclists is due to the fact that the bike lanes are protected. There are plans to add a right-turn arrow at Yacht Club Way to reduce delay.

- V. **Announcements** – Jane White announced that the ITS-CA 2015 Annual Meeting will be held from September 21-23, 2015, at the LAX Hilton. Registration at www.itscalifornia.org. There is free access to the exhibit hall for all public agencies. Chair Beste requested that those who plan to attend future IWG meetings RSVP beforehand so that the Blue Water Grill is not overrun with lunch orders and table settings for which it was not prepared.
- VI. **Adjournment** - Chair Beste adjourned the meeting at 1:15pm until September 16, 2014. Those who wish to include an item in the agenda must e-mail Marcy@southbaycities.org by September 4, 2015.