

## South Bay Cities Council of Governments

### Transit Operators' Working Group

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### Meeting Notes

Attendees: Steve Lantz, David Leger (SBCCOG); Amy Ahdi, Leslie Scott (Beach Cities Transit); James Lee, Godfrey Offoegbu (Torrance Transit)

#### 1) Self-Introductions & Acceptance of the May 17, 2017 Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order at 2:35pm.

#### 2) SBCCOG Transportation Committee Update

The SBCCOG Transportation Committee and Board of Directors approved the Cooperative Agreement amendment with Metro for the administration of the South Bay Highway Program (SBHP) by the SBCCOG. Steve Lantz briefly explained the new Annual Performance Evaluation required for Measure R SBHP projects and informed the group that the SBCCOG will be sitting down for one-on-one meetings with the cities to discuss their projects. Torrance Transit will be included in the meeting for the City of Torrance due to their partnership in the Torrance Transit Center SBHP project.

#### 3) Measure M Guidelines

Steve Lantz began the discussion by once again noting the fact that Measure M has created entirely new category of programs, the subregional programs. Assuming that the SBCCOG has a role in helping define these subregional programs and project lists, Mr. Lantz noted that these recommendations may or may not be managed by Metro's Multi-Modal Department rather than the Highway Department.

Leslie Scott added that previously, the separate pots of money were clearly defined, but that with Measure M programs such as First Mile/Last Mile, it is unclear exactly what that means. Ms. Scott noted that what that term means to Transit Operators can be very different than what it means to Public Works or Planning departments and that therefore the Transit Operators want to be involved in this process. Ms. Scott used the Redondo Beach Transit Center as an example. She briefly mentioned that in regard to Kingsdale Avenue, Redondo Beach's Planning Department wanted to look at it as a Complete Street and a First Mile/Last Mile connection, which would require the addition of bike lanes to the street. Public Works noted that the configuration of the street is only so wide so that isn't an option. The Transit Operators intend to offer bike parking at the Transit Center, but would be concerned that the bike lane placement could impede the entrance/exit for the busses into the Transit Center. Ms. Scott summarized it by explaining that these three groups all see "First Mile/Last Mile" through their own lens, which is very different than before when funds were clearly defined for pedestrian improvements, bike improvements, etc. and eligibility was potentially not so blurred.

The discussion then transitioned to the Transit Operators' view of the role of the SBCCOG, the future of the Transit Operators Working Group and the purpose it should serve, and how to properly utilize Measure M subregional funds. The Transit Operators agreed that the SBCCOG should focus on regional issues and projects and that the Working Group should assist in defining these issues/projects. The Transit Operators, led by Leslie Scott, gave several examples of collaborative efforts (potential Measure M projects) that they felt could be appropriate for the SBCCOG and Transit Operators to work on. These brainstorming ideas included:

- 1) The potential for a regional recharging network or recharging center for electric busses as they are become more widely used and incorporated into the municipal fleets
- 2) The role of the SBCCOG in advocating for the acceleration of the Green Line extension to Torrance
- 3) The use of funds to study possible restructuring of the Transit Operators operating lines to better serve the entire South Bay region

It seemed to be the consensus of the Transit Operators that the ongoing role for these meetings will be to discuss regional issues and help the SBCCOG develop regional projects when appropriate.

- 4) **Announcements/Adjournment – Next Transit Operators Working Group meeting:** The Transit Operators Working Group will meet on June 14, 2017 at 2:30pm. The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.