

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Transportation Committee
December 11, 2017
Minutes

COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR WEIDEMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:34 AM

I. Welcome / Self-Introductions

In attendance were the following voting SBCCOG Board Members:

Christian Horvath, Chair (Redondo Beach)	Hany Fangary (Hermosa Beach)
Kurt Weideman, Vice Chair (Torrance)	Jim Butts (Inglewood)
Suzanne Fuentes (El Segundo)	Jim Osborne (Lawndale)
Olivia Valentine (Hawthorne)	

Non-Voting Representatives

Donald Szerlip, Metro South Bay Sector Council
Stephanie Katsouleas, IWG (Manhattan Beach)

Also in attendance were the following persons:

David Leger (SBCCOG)	Jimmy Shih (Caltrans)
Jacki Bacharach (SBCCOG)	Mike Bohlke (Metro)
Steve Lantz (SBCCOG)	Isidro Panuco (Metro)
Josie Gutierrez (La County)	Mark Dierking (Metro)
Frank Senteno (Lawndale)	Ayda Safaei (Metro)
Rob Beste (Torrance)	Natasha DeBenon (Ghirardelli Assoc.)

II. Consent Calendar - Approved Weideman/Butts

- A. Minutes of November 13, 2017 meeting
- B. December 2017 Transportation Update – received and filed.

MOTION by Committee Vice Chair Weideman, seconded by Committee Member Butts, to APPROVE the Consent Calendar. No objection. So ordered.

III. SBCCOG Transportation Working Group Updates

- A. Transit Operators Working Group Update – No report given.
- B. Infrastructure Working Group Update – No report given.
- C. Caltrans South Bay Highway Projects Update
Isidro Panuco reported that the I-405/Crenshaw Blvd project is currently in design. The ITS project on PCH/Western/Hawthorne is currently in construction and is expected to be completed by summer of 2018. Mr. Panuco also reported that Caltrans had amended the bid contract for the I-110 Auxiliary Lane project and that all bidders had not received the update, so Caltrans had to re-issue the bid. This delay means that construction should be awarded by April 2018.

IV. Measure R South Bay Highway Program Annual Performance Evaluation (APE) Report

Mr. Lantz reviewed the APE report with the Committee. There were some concerns from Committee Members that projects are being delayed due to issues with Caltrans. Mr. Lantz briefly explained the specific issues in question, particularly regarding Caltrans' desire to have bike lanes/bike refuges along PCH. The process required to get Caltrans' approval of a project that does not include these elements is often time consuming which has created several of the delays. Discussions for exemptions are ongoing with Caltrans, but seem to be making progress, particularly with the alternative bike paths laid out in the South Bay Bicycle Master Plan. The report is available online at:

http://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/transportation_committee/HANDOUT_November%202017%20APE%20Report.pdf

V. Measure M Guidelines Development and Metro Policy Advisory Council Updates

A. SBCCOG Multi-Year Sub-Regional Programs (SB MSP) Implementation Plan Development

Mr. Lantz reported that guidelines for the four South Bay MSPs will be developed over the coming three months and reviewed at a workshop to be scheduled immediately prior to the March SBCCOG Board meeting.

B. Draft Measure M MSP Administrative Procedures

Ms. Bacharach handed out a draft letter to Metro regarding the SBCCOG's comments on the Measure M MSP Administrative Guidelines. Ms. Bacharach noted that the PAC Chair had requested additional time to review the draft guidelines from Metro CEO Phil Washington due to an incredibly short window of time to submit comments and have them reviewed by the PAC. Mr. Washington granted the request, extending the time into January 2018. MSP Administrative Guidelines are now due to be certified by Mr. Washington in January 2018. The draft letter can be viewed online at: http://www.southbacycities.org/sites/default/files/transportation_committee/HANDOUT_DRAFT%20M%20Admin%20Guidelines%20Comments%20.pdf

Ms. Bacharach briefly reviewed the contents of the letter, particularly items such as: an explicit definition of corridor projects; the desire for a rolling five-year program (similar to the South Bay Highway Program); the suggestion to define projects as milestones/phases; and concerns on the 3% local contribution requirement for rail stations. Committee Vice Chair Weideman suggested adding a line in the introduction thanking Mr. Washington for extending the administrative deadline into January 2018.

MOTION by Committee Vice Chair Weideman, seconded by Committee Member Fuentes, to APPROVE the letter in concept with the suggested addition and recommend Steering Committee approval of the letter. No objection. So ordered.

C. **Twenty-Eight by '28, Metro's 2028 Olympics Transportation Infrastructure Acceleration Initiative**

The Committee briefly discussed the "Twenty-Eight by '28" initiative by Mayor Garcetti which aims to build 28 large infrastructure projects prior to the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles. There are two projects in the South Bay on the list: the Green Line Extension to Torrance and the I-405 South Bay Curve project. The Committee had some questions as to what the "South Bay Curve" project is exactly. Isidro Panuco explained that since the South Bay Curve project is undefined, meaning no Project Study Report has been completed to identify specifically needed improvements, the project would most likely consist of lane conversions, ITS projects, and auxiliary lanes. The boundaries of the project are currently considered to be from Florence to the I-110. Jimmy Shih (Caltrans) added that it would probably consider conversion of existing lanes to High Occupancy Toll lanes, particularly because expansion of the freeway is not possible by 2028. Committee Member Butts added that in the end, this is all part of a political vote by the Metro Board, noting that he intends to fight for South Bay projects.

D. **Metro's early Project Delivery Strategy (third policy draft, formerly Accelerators/Decelerators)**

Steve Lantz reviewed the checklist included in the agenda packet, explaining that if a project receives 67 points or higher on the checklist, it is automatically advanced to staff analysis and Board consideration of acceleration. If the project receives between 34 and 66 points, Metro staff will review the project and determine whether it will recommend that the Metro Board considers acceleration. If projects received fewer than 34 points, Metro staff will not recommend Board consideration. There is an exception for this points structure which states that if a project acceleration can unambiguously be demonstrated by an exceptional condition regardless of scoring (such as full funding from an outside source), acceleration will be considered.

E. Visionary Project Seed Funding Guidelines

Ms. Bacharach explained that the Visionary Project Seed Funding guidelines have laid out an annual amount of \$500,000 available, which will be leveraged to spark and develop innovative concepts to be tested in LA County. Metro will enter into a funding agreement with (a) consultant(s) to provide direct research and staff support to the grantee. Applicants will submit concepts and/or problem statements for consideration of the award. The consultants Metro will have available will consist of professionals from private companies, educational institutions, and/or non-profit organizations. A 20% local match by the grantee will be required as well.

- VI. Temporary Station / Street Closure / Bus Bridge for Green Line/Crenshaw LAX Tie-In
Ayda Safaei (Metro) presented on the Green Line Station closures due to the tie-in of the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project. From January 26, 2018 to April 7, 2018, Green Line station platforms will be closed to connect and integrate with the Crenshaw LAX/Transit Project infrastructure. The station platforms to be closed will be: Aviation/LAX, Mariposa, El Segundo, Douglas, and Redondo Beach. Metro will be operating free bus shuttles between the Hawthorne/Lennox Green Line Station and the Redondo Beach Station serving all closed stations to and from Redondo Beach. The shuttles will operate at the same frequency as the Green Line trains. Metro will also have customer service representatives on the ground to assist customers during the initial two weeks of the closure. For more information, the presentation is available online at:
http://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/transportation_committee/PRESENTATION_Crenshaw%20LAX%20Project%20Connection%20to%20Green%20Line%20.pdf
- VII. FY 2017-18 Metro Long Range Transportation Plan Update
Ms. Bacharach informed the Committee that there was nothing to comment on this month, noting that the PAC will be reviewing updates as they are provided by Metro.
- VIII. Metro Express Lane Surplus Revenue Allocation Update
Ms. Bacharach reminded the Committee that the SBCCOG is concerned about Metro's plan to "borrow" surplus revenues and allocate them to other regions to help build additional toll lanes. Committee Member Butts is working to set up a meeting with Metro Board Members Hahn and Ridley-Thomas to discuss the issue.
- IX. Announcements / Adjournment - The Next Transportation Committee is scheduled January 8, 2018 at 10:30am.

Committee Chair Horvath announced that Metro will be presenting an update on the Green Line at his December 16th community meeting.

Committee Member Osborne reported that he attended the Mayor's Roundtable and noted that Metro is creating a school in South Central Los Angeles aimed at being a transportation trade tech school.

Committee Member Fangary asked if there was an update or plan to discuss the lack of a one-seat transit service to the Expo Line when the Crenshaw/LAX line opens that a constituent alerted him to last month. Mr. Lantz explained that Metro has not done the analysis for this yet and it's too early to advocate for a particular operating plan that gives priority to a particular route. Operational planning is done within 6 months of a line opening.

MOTION by Committee Vice Chair Weideman, seconded by Committee Member Valentine, to AGENDIZE the issue to discuss and submit the constituent's comments to Metro. No objection. So ordered.

MOTION by Committee Vice Chair Weideman, seconded by Committee Member Osborne, to ADJOURN the December 11 meeting of the Transportation Committee. No objection. So ordered.

Committee Chair Horvath adjourned the meeting at 11:45 am.