

**South Bay Cities Council of Governments**

**Infrastructure Working Group Meeting Notes – April 14, 2021 (Held via Zoom)**

**Attendees:** Ted Semaan, IWG Chair (Redondo Beach); William Mendoza & Turner Lott (Gardena); Julian Lee (Lawndale); Erik Zandvliet (Manhattan Beach); Art Reyes & Joey Garcia (Torrance); Jacki Bacharach, Steve Lantz, & David Leger (SBCCOG); Jimmy Shih, Kelly Lamare & Sergio Carvajal (Caltrans); William Johnson & John Ickis (LACDPW); Shay Roehm (Aescit); Anissa Voyiatzes (Arduzza); Marie Marston (Civil Works Engineering); Rawad Hani (Gentec Solutions); Richard Galvin (GPA); Wayne Richardson (HDR); Lan Saadatnejadi (LRS Program Delivery); Myriam Fruasto & Jonai Johnson (Mark Thomas); Sarmad Farjo (Michael Baker); Greg Jaquez (MNS Engineers); Janna McKhann (NexTechSystems); Diego Cadena (WKE); Claudette Moody (WSP)

- I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of March 10, 2021 IWG Meeting Notes** – Mr. Semaan called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm. The March 10, 2021 meeting notes were approved without objection.
  
- II. **Agency & Other Update Reports**
  - A. SBCCOG: Ms. Bacharach reported that SBFN deployment continues, with the additional sites being considered in Lomita, San Pedro (municipal building), and the Regional Communications Center; The SBCCOG is considering presenting a telework workshop that could provide best practices for a hybrid in-person/telework schedule; Submissions for Community Project Funding were made to each of the SBCCOG’s House representatives to fund SBFN-connected neighborhood centers and micromobility hubs; The Local Travel Network final report is due April 30<sup>th</sup>; Additional Measure H Innovation Funding will be provided to the SBCCOG next year; Presentations to the SBCCOG Board this month include an update by LACSD on the Clearwater Tunnel Project; a Regional Energy Network energy efficiency programs overview; and Local Control Over Housing and Zoning by Redondo Beach Mayor Bill Brand.
  
  - B. South Bay Traffic Forum (LACDPW): Mr. Ickis reported updates on the various County ITS and TSSP projects taking place in the South Bay. The detailed updates are included in a written report available here: [https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/infrastructure/HANDOUT\\_South%20Bay%20Traffic%20Forum%20Update%20April%202021%20Updates.pdf](https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/infrastructure/HANDOUT_South%20Bay%20Traffic%20Forum%20Update%20April%202021%20Updates.pdf)
  
  - C. Caltrans District 7: Mr. Shih provided the following updates: the I-405/I-110 project is expected to complete construction by the end of 2021; the PCH CAP M project is on schedule; the I-405/Crenshaw Blvd project opened for bids April 4<sup>th</sup> and is expected to be awarded in May, which construction being done in early 2025. More detail is available online here: [https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/infrastructure/HANDOUT\\_SBCCOG%20Caltrans%20project%20041221%20js.xls%20-%20-%20-%20Compatibility%20Mode.pdf](https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/infrastructure/HANDOUT_SBCCOG%20Caltrans%20project%20041221%20js.xls%20-%20-%20-%20Compatibility%20Mode.pdf)
  
  - D. LA Metro
    - 1) LA Metro Board: no update provided.
    - 2) Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee: No report for the Metro TAC. Mr. Zandvliet noted that the Streets and Freeways subcommittee meets tomorrow, so there is no update this month.
    - 3) Crenshaw North Extension scoping period: Mr. Lantz reported that the scoping process will be starting soon and would evaluate several alignment and profile alternatives for an extension of the Crenshaw Line north from the Expo Line to the Red Line in Hollywood. Although the project isn’t scheduled until 2047 in Metro’s Long Range Transportation Plan, the environmental analysis and documentation is being done today in hopes that once it is complete, Metro will be able to accelerate the project construction using new federal or state revenues.
    - 4) Traffic Reduction / Congestion Pricing Study Update: Mr. Lantz provided a brief overview of the concept and the pilot areas being discussed. Metro will be doing initial planning and environmental work, along with some transit improvements with a pricing structure potentially in place by 2025.
    - 5) Metro Fare Policy Changes: Fare Capping / Fareless System Initiative: Mr. Lantz shared that the Metro Board approved a fare capping strategy at their last meeting that is aimed at providing an opportunity for those who can’t afford a weekly or monthly pass upfront to pay as they ride. For example, once a rider has paid the cost of a weekly pass in per-boarding fares using a TAP card, they would not be charged for the rest of the week. Similarly, upon paying the cost of a monthly pass in daily boarding fees, they would no longer be charged for the remainder of the month. It will take Metro approximately one year to implement the fare capping program due to the TAP software changes that must be implemented. Metro is simultaneously considering a Fareless System Initiative pilot program that would eliminate fares for low-income and /or K-Community College

students, which combined make up approximately 75% of riders. Since Metro has not enforced fare payment during the pandemic, the pilots would provide a relatively “real world” sample of how free fare categories might work once Metro resumes fare enforcement. It will also mean that Metro must come up with between \$150-\$200 million annually to replace foregone fare revenues and cover increased operating costs of anticipated increased ridership. Metro staff often points to the Congestion Pricing fares as a potential funding source. The SBCCOG has prepared a series of questions that it feels should be addressed prior to Metro Board approval.

**III. Update on Measure R and Measure M Metro Budget Requests**

– Measure M Metro Budget Request Amendment

Mr. Lantz reported that the SBCCOG Board approved the two MSP budget requests in February, and they were subsequently transmitted to Metro staff for review and inclusion in the FY 2021-22 Metro Budget. SBCCOG staff subsequently completed the Local Travel Network route refinement study and wishes to amend the Measure M Metro Budget Request to include funding for development and installation of signage and sharrows that would mark the network. Amending the request now should not delay Metro Board action and would allow the Local Travel Network project to proceed without delay.

**IV. Spotlight Presentation: EV Charging Innovations: Creating New Revenues and Resources for EV Hosts and the Communities they Serve**

Mr. Semaan introduced Ms. Shay Roehm, Executive Vice President of Aescit Technologies. Ms. Roehm provided the group a presentation on an EV Charger + Digital Signage technology developed by the company that provide a way of not only charging EVs but also sharing dynamic wayfinding, PSA's, advertising, and more. As EV adoption grows, there will be more and more need for charging stations throughout the community. This EV charging kiosk provides cities an opportunity to create a revenue stream from ad space, cross-promotion, data collection, and energy consumption. For more detail, the presentation is available online here:

[https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/infrastructure/PRESENTATION\\_Aescit%20Unified%20EV%20Presentation\\_SBCOG%20FV%2018.pdf](https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/infrastructure/PRESENTATION_Aescit%20Unified%20EV%20Presentation_SBCOG%20FV%2018.pdf)

**V. COVID-19 Roundtable Discussion**

Mr. Semaan shared that Redondo Beach is working to open the public-facing counters by the first week of May for appointments only. The Library is opening with limitations as well.

**VI. April 2021 SBCCOG Transportation Update** – Received and filed.

**VII. Three-Month Look Ahead** – Received and filed.

**VIII. Announcements & Adjournment**

Mr. Semaan adjourned the meeting at 12:54 p.m. until May 12th, 2021 (public meeting). To include an item on the agenda, please email Steve Lantz ([lantzsh10@gmail.com](mailto:lantzsh10@gmail.com)) by May 4, 2021.