

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Infrastructure Working Group Meeting Notes – May 13, 2020 (Held via Zoom)

Attendees: Chair Ted Semaan (Redondo Beach); Marnell Gibson (Hermosa Beach); Prem Kumar & Erik Zandvliet (Manhattan Beach); Charles Eder (Rancho Palos Verdes); Andy Winje (Redondo Beach); Beth Overstreet & Art Reyes (Torrance); Sergio Carvajal (Caltrans); John Ickis, William Johnson & Samantha Miller (LA County DPW); Isidro Panuco, Ed Alegre & Mark Dierking (Metro); Jacki Bacharach, Steve Lantz & David Leger (SBCCOG); Connie Turner (SCE); Asia Powell (CPUC); Jim Hannon & Steve Takemoto (South Bay Bicycle Coalition); Alan Clelland (Applied Information); Anissa Voyiatzes (Arduzza); Steven Anderson (DEA); Rawad Hani (Gentex Solutions); Natasha DeBenon (Ghirardelli); Tami Podesta (HNTB); Brian Calvert & Jeff Markwardt (ICF); Alek Hovsepian (Iteris); Jonai Johnson (MarkThomas); Margaret Novak & Ray Wang (Michael Baker) Janna McKhann (NexTech); Lauren Weiss (PMCS); Juanita Martinez & Shahnawaz Ahmad (SA Assoc) Diego Cadena (WKE); Claudette Moody (WSP)

- I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of March 11, 2020 IWG Meeting Notes** – Chair Ted Semaan called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. The March 11, 2020 meeting notes were approved without objection.

- II. **Agency & Other Update Reports**
 - A. SBCCOG: Ms. Bacharach reported that the SBCCOG Board will be voting on nominees to fill 4 vacancies on the Metro South Bay Service Council. The SBCCOG is also working on a teleworking curriculum to provide city departments and staff on best practices. Construction is complete on the new SBCCOG offices and there has been some thinking surrounding utilizing that space as a demonstration area for new technologies (such as 3D printing, etc.). The South Bay Fiber Network was also awarded an additional \$2.5M by the Metro Board to complete construction and connect additional sites.

 - B. South Bay Traffic Forum (LACDPW): Mr. Ickis reported that the contract documents are still being worked on for the County’s CENTRACS project. Construction has been completed pending software setup for the Gardena/Carson Arterial Performance Measurement Project. A new project was added, called the South Bay Arterial ITS Congestion Relief Project (Cities of Hawthorne, Gardena, and Torrance). This project would provide advanced video detection as well as pedestrian mobile applications for the designated intersections. The project is in design and should be built in late summer 2020. The System Detection Analysis project is in design and the County will be reaching out to cities for collaboration on that project. Minor changes were made to the County’s TSSP projects. All updates are available on the report here:
http://southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/infrastructure/HANDOUT_May%202020%20South%20Bay%20Traffic%20Forum%20report.pdf

 - C. Caltrans District 7: Mr. Carvajal noted that he was attending on behalf of Jimmy Shih and offered to take back any questions. Chair Semaan asked for the status of the PCH CAPM project and if there are any schedule changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Carvajal will work with Mr. Shih to provide an update. Mr. Panuco offered the following updates on Caltrans Measure R projects. **I-405 Crenshaw/182nd**: Design is expected to be done by July 2020. There were STIP funds awarded from the State for construction. **I-405 Aux Lanes from El Segundo Blvd to Artesia**: Final environmental documents are expected in June. **I-405 Aux Lanes from Wilmington Ave to I-110**: PSR is expected to be completed in June.

 - D. LA Metro
 - 1) SBCCOG Metro Budget Request Update: Mr. Panuco reported that the Measure R budget request is likely to be considered by the Metro Board in June for approval as it was mostly “cost to complete” current projects. The Measure M Budget Request will likely be before the Metro Board in August (July is dark). Most projects look okay but need more detail. Phone meetings are being set up between Metro and City staff to discuss additional info needed.
 - 2) LA Metro Board: Mr. Panuco reported that the Metro Board will be receiving a report on impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on sales tax revenues/impacts to Metro budget. Staff is identifying projects that could be deferred or delayed to help address cashflow issues that will arise from lack of expected sales tax revenues. Mr. Lantz added that CEO Phil Washington will likely be going to the Metro Board in June with a “recovery plan”.
 - 3) Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee: No TAC update. Mr. Zandvliet reported that there have been no March or April Streets & Freeways meetings but reported that Caltrans has pushed back deadlines for Cycle 5 ATP grants. “Quick build” project applications are due July 15 and will be awarded in December 2020. Non

“quick build” project applications will be due September 15th and awarded in March 2021. Non-awarded projects will be sent to Metropolitan Planning Organizations for potential awarding of funds.

III. COVID-19 Transportation Project Impacts, Response Challenges, Lessons Learned

Chair Semaan shared that Redondo Beach has made adjustments to administration and operations staff schedules and work policies to enable more work-from-home. Most projects underway were already in process pre-pandemic and have not been delayed. It has also made some slurry seal projects less impactful on businesses/residents as they are home and not experiencing lanes closures, etc. Manhattan Beach and Hermosa Beach echoed similar steps being taken but noted that some projects have been delayed because they would require residents to move vehicles. LA County DPW noted that most individuals are working from home successfully, but added that for some projects, such as TSSP projects requiring installation in a transportation control office, are experiencing delays. Private Sector reps noted that business is being done almost exclusively via Zoom or other online programs.

Ms. Bacharach asked if there was consideration by the attendees for future telework plans and if working from home would still be available post-pandemic. Agencies tended to agree that it is too early to say (no direction has been provided from their leadership) but felt that the pandemic has forced agencies to adapt quickly and may prove that work-from-home is a realistic option in some capacity.

IV. SBCCOG Appointments to Metro Technical Advisory Committee

Mr. Lantz reported that there has been a request by Carson reps to identify new South Bay representatives to Metro’s TAC. Interested individuals should contact Mr. Leger.

V. Crenshaw/LAX Rail Project Cost Over-Run Funding

Mr. Lantz explained that the line is experiencing a \$90M cost over-run and the SBCCOG was asked to pay for its share of the cost from Measure M Subregional Equity Program funds. Ms. Bacharach clarified that there is a Metro policy that states that after other cost and scope reductions have been considered, Metro can request subregional funding to pay for cost over-runs such as this. SBCCOG staff calculated 37% of the line as being in the SBCCOG subregion and the SBCCOG Board agreed to use approx. \$33.3M of Measure M Sub-Regional Equity Program funds to cover its share of the costs. (Subsequent to the IWG meeting, it was noted that Measure M funds could not be used to cover Measure R project costs. In addition, the SBCCOG subregional share of allocated cost could be reduced to approximately \$22 million by the use of \$33 million in CMAQ.) There are further discussions expected surrounding this specific issue as Metro determines how to fund the project shortfall.

VI. Measure R Decennial Transfer Policy Update

Mr. Lantz provided a brief update on the county-wide decennial Measure R Transfer Policy and the SBHP Transfer Program. The Metro Board is expected to vote on the policy by June and would give staff approximately six months to return with administrative guidelines. It is likely that any transit capital projects would not receive funding until after the completion of the guidelines and completion of a required one-year notice to the state legislature of the proposed change in the Measure R ordinance that is required before the changes can be adopted by the Metro Board.

VII. Monthly Project Progress Report

Mr. Leger announced that a quarterly update of the Annual Performance Evaluation was posted to the SBCCOG website. Certain projects have not yet been updated. Mr. Leger requested updates to the projects and noted that meetings will be scheduled with city staff in early July to set new milestones for FY 2020-21. The report is available online here:

http://southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/infrastructure/HANDOUT_April%202020%20SBHP%20APE%20Report.pdf

VIII. Three-Month Look Ahead – Received and filed.

IX. Announcements & Adjournment

Mr. Takemoto, of the South Bay Bicycle Coalition announced that he has applied for grants via ATP Cycle 5 and SCAG’s GoHuman. SCAG is offering assistance with grant writing to cities interested in applying for bicycle safety internships and implementation of parts of the South Bay Bicycle Masterplan. Mr. Takemoto also offered assistance to cities as he has significant grant writing experience.

Chair Semaan adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m. until June 10, 2020 (public meeting). To include an item on the agenda, please email Steve Lantz (lantzsh10@gmail.com) by May 29, 2020.