

**South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Infrastructure Working Group April 16, 2014 – Meeting Notes**

Attendees: Rob Beste (Torrance), Chair; Frank Bigdeli (Gardena); Akbar Farokhi & Alan Leung (Hawthorne); Daniel Ojeda (Hermosa Beach); Nasser Abbaszadeh & Miguel Alvarez (Lawndale); Edward Kao & Joe Parco (Manhattan Beach); Elaine Jeng, John Mate & Wisam Altowaji (Redondo Beach); Ted Semaan (Torrance); Pamela Manning & Andres Narvaez (LA County DWP); Robert Calix & David Lor (Metro); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Abdollah Ansari (CDM Smith); Liz Suh (CH2M Hill); Del Dorsey (Everfield Consulting); Danielle Buzas (GPA Consulting); Mitali Gupta (HDR); Alan Clelland (Iteris); Kamran Saber (JMDiaz, Inc.); Brian Marchetti (KOA Corp); Frank Hoffmann (Kimley-Horn); Carlos Morgner (Morgner Construction Management); Tracy Bartlett (Nichols Consulting Engineers); Sam Ekrami, Mark Porter & Danny Wu (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Jeff Cooper (Penco Engineering); Anissa Voyiatzes (Psomas); Sophie Haddad (Twining, Inc)

Chair Beste called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of March 19, 2014 IWG Meeting Minutes** (Attachment A) – Minutes were approved as presented.

II. **Agencies & Other Reports-**

- **SBCCOG** – Program update – Jacki Bacharach had prepared updates on the SBCCOG’s programs and projects for Steve Lantz to announce: Ms. Bacharach is giving the City Managers Association a presentation of the SBCCOG Work Program that will be repeated at the April 24 SBCCOG Board meeting. This presentation summarizes the successful collaborations and plans of 2014-2015. Manhattan Beach and Lawndale have reached the Platinum level of Edison’s Energy Leader Program. SCE has only 7 Platinum cities in its entire territory and 3 of them are in the South Bay. On April 30, a SBCCOG delegation will be attending a meeting with PUC commissioners in downtown Los Angeles to continue the discussion of utility infrastructure reliability. In preparation, Jacki Bacharach is collecting reports from individual city meetings with SCE regarding the reliability of Edison’s infrastructure and whether or not Edison is responsive to constituents’ concerns. May 14 is the SBCCOG’s next quarterly Legislative Briefing Breakfast; Jacki Bacharach is collecting suggestions from cities on issues they would like discussed so that she may ask the legislative staff attending to be prepared. On Thursday, June 12 @ 5 pm, starting at the Flight Museum in El Segundo, there will be a tour for South Bay Elected Officials and Staff of the LAX Airfield and Bradley Terminal. The invitation will be emailed. Larry Kosmont gave an interesting presentation on Post RDA Options for Cities at SCAG this month. The link is: <http://www.kosmont.com/kosmont-companies/presentations-interviews/>
- SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County Dept. of PW Update– Andres Narvaez reported the following: for the South Bay ITS Project: the City of Gardena is reviewing the submitted proposals from interested A/V wall vendors for the construction of the City’s Traffic Management Center (LA County is working with the City on the cooperative agreement between both agencies); for the EL Segundo ITS project, the City of El Segundo has verified the successful testing of BlueCommute traffic screens for the Community Access TV channels; the City of Hawthorne has re-engaged, due to the new architecture for delivering Cable TV images.)
- Caltrans – Not present
- **Metro** - Isidro Panuco sent his updates to Steve Lantz prior to the meeting, to be read in his absence: Metro’s last Highway Advisory Committee meeting was on April 10. Based on the actions from the meeting, up to 20% of the South Bay’s operational improvement dollars may be used for sound walls and bike lanes. Although that is the intention; Steve cautioned that the policy may not be official yet. The Metro Board approved the updated Project List for the Measure R Highway Sub-Regional Program on March 27th. The next Metro board update for the project list will be in SEPTEMBER. Thus, Mr. Panuco and the SBCCOG will need any updates/revisions to the project list by the first week of August. Additionally, during the September update, Metro is going to request a more cash flow-based project list. More details will be provided at a later date.
- **Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee** – Update – Ted Semaan talked about Metro’s Transit Oriented Development Round 4 grant application process. The application submission deadline is Tuesday, July 15, 2014. Staff expects to announce recommendations for awards in late August and seek Board approval in late 2014. Grant Agreements between Metro and Grantees are to be executed within two months following Board approval. Grantee may only start the project upon final agreement execution, and will have 36 months to complete the project. Metro will be hosting an application workshop on May 14 at 10am to discuss the Program guidelines, application process, and evaluation criteria, as well as answer questions on the Program. Mr. Semaan also reported that Call TAC Deobligation appeals will occur on May 7th. The Deobligation appeals process is occurring a month earlier than usual,

in order to receive and file the project time extensions with the Board prior to the project lapse date. Staff will report to the Board in June with the Recertification/Deobligation and Extension recommendations. South Bay Cities that are appealing include: Gardena, Lawndale, Manhattan Beach, and Redondo Beach. Finally, Mr. Semaan reported that TAC membership issues are still being negotiated between the Committee and the Board. Regarding the Streets & Freeways Subcommittee, Elaine Jeng gave an update on Metro's Active Transportation Program transition policy, which applies only to bicycle, pedestrian, and transportation enhancement modes. The policy sections regarding *FFY 2014 TA Funds Advanced* and *Assigning points to projects that are to be considered by SCAG for funding in the SCAG ATP competition* have been updated. South Bay Projects proposed for Grant Assistance for ATP Cycle 1 are in the Cities of Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, and Torrance. Ms. Jeng also mentioned the State Smart Transportation Initiative, which implies that if local jurisdictions continue to take over highway programs, it may lead to future sales taxes requiring maintenance fees so that Caltrans will have regional funding resources to repair the facilities that it owns.

III. **Measure R Updates** – Steve Lantz made the following reports:

- **Three-Month Look Ahead** - (Attachment B) – The SBCCOG Board will consider approval of semi-annual SBCCOG SBHP Metro budget request on June 26. Cities with new projects they wish to add to the budget request must do so in May.
- **SBHP Annual Update Calendar** - (Attachment C) – The Infrastructure Working Group may be dark in July 2014.
- **SBHP Project Progress Report** - (Attachment D) – Since January 2014, cities with a project 6 months behind their original schedule (in their Funding Agreement with Metro) have been required to give a live update at Measure R Oversight Committee meetings and explain plans for remediation. Chair Beste added that it is important to upload regular monthly and quarterly reports to the Metro FTP system, or at least email an update so that he may give a city's update on their behalf at the MRO meetings if a representative from that city is unable to attend.
- **SBHP Project Monitoring, Reporting, New SBHP Project Selection** - (Attachment E) - At the April 2 MRO meeting, a memo was distributed, regarding the various SBHP delivery challenges that the cities are facing. Too many projects are behind their original schedule or lack funding agreements and this puts SBHPO funds at risk if other sub-regions are noticing that projects in the South Bay are not being completed on time. For the next funding cycle, City Council resolutions requesting funds must be received by June 30, 2014 to ensure that project requests can be considered during preparation of the next Metro Budget Request which must begin in June 2014 in order to be ready be approved by the Metro Board in November 2014 to meet Metro's submittal deadline.
- **SBHP Technical Consultant Bench Update** - There has been legal difficulty with issuing Task Orders to the SBCCOG's technical consulting bench. The SBCCOG needs to be held harmless from project design liability since it does not have engineering authority. The City of El Segundo is the first (and currently only) lead agency to use the SBCCOG's technical consulting bench, and representatives from the City's and SBCCOG's legal counsels are in discussion to resolve this issue. Upon resolution of this issue, other cities will have a policy upon which to rely, when using the SBCCOG's technical consulting bench for project assistance.

IV. **Metro's 2014 Short-Range Transportation Plan** - Mr. Calix distributed the draft SRTP general and technical plans and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the program's status. The 2014 SRTP implements the next 10 years of the MTA Board-adopted 2009 Long-Range Transportation Plan by identifying transportation priorities within available resources, tracking progress of sustainability efforts, and maintaining Metro's systems in a state of good repair. The 3 main uses of the \$88 billion dollars allocated to this program through 2024 are: Highways/streets/roads/multimodal, bus capital & operations, and Rail/Transitway capital & operations. Six major transit corridor projects will be completed by 2024; specifically, Metro rail will expand by 32 miles of track, 110 stations, and over 120 miles of service. Unfortunately, the only direct benefit that the South Bay will see from this is a 2-mile extension of Metro's Green Line (from Marine to the Galleria.) Steve Lantz asked if Measure R funds will be increased, decreased, or kept consistent with the LRTP in the SRTP. Ted Semaan asked what the 10 year total projected for the CFP in the SRTP is. Mr. Calix said that he would obtain the answers from Metro staff and email his response to these individuals. Comments from the community need to be submitted to Metro by May 12.

V. **I-405 ExpressLane Conversion from HOV Lane** – Danny Wu, of Parsons Brinckerhoff, gave a presentation on the feasibility study of HOV to HOT Conversion on the I-405 freeway (OC Line to LAX.) An update of the study was given, as well as an overview of conceptual alternatives, traffic and revenue analysis results. This effort addresses MAP-21 HOV lane degradation and requires inter-county coordination with OCTA's I-405 improvement project, MTA, Caltrans, and the Gateway COG and South Bay COG. These agencies hope to improve mobility and choices for carpoolers, bus riders, and motorists willing to pay who travel between OC and LAX. The study has screened 4 conceptual HOT lane alternatives: Alt 1-405 Corridor Single HOT/Express Lane, Alt 2-I-405 Corridor Dual HOT/Express Lanes, Alt3-I-605 (single) and I-105 (dual) HOT Lanes without Direct Connectors at NB I-605/WB I-105, and Alt 4-I-605 (single) and I-105 (dual) HOT Lanes with Direct Connectors at NB I-605/WB I-105. No Build/Baseline Alternative: SCAG 2012 RTP Baseline (Only committed improvements with Full funding; Baseline would be updated if study were to continue and projects in the RTIP baseline changed.) Steve Lantz said that the SBHP has an I-405

project (led by Caltrans) that could be affected by this project. Ed Kao suggested having transit (rail) in the corridor (I-105 and I-405) but Mr. Wu said that that would need to be explored through a different study. Ted Semaan said that there is an oversubscription of HOV on the I-405 and this degrades General Purpose lanes. There is no sense in having a 1 for 1 conversion on the I-405, but it did work on the I-110. The study is not broad enough. Mr. Wu said that Alternative 2 has more benefits but it is more expensive and present bigger challenges. If one option is selected, it does not mean that the other alternatives are being eliminated. Steve Lantz added that the Gateway COG's input is needed since this project impacts that sub-region, no matter what alternative is chosen.

- VI. **Project Spotlight: Pedestrian Activated Signals @ PCH / Aviation** – Due to the shortage of time, Chair Beste announced that this item would be brought back to the agenda in May 2014.
- VII. **Metro ExpressLanes Net Toll Revenue Reinvestment Grant Application** – Steve Lantz reminded everyone that the deadline for Grant Submissions is May 30, 2014. The objective of the Grant Program is to advance Metro's Long Range Transportation Plan goals for a more sustainable countywide transportation system, through a series of integrated strategies (transit operations, transportation demand management, transportation systems management, active transportation, and capital investments) in the I-10 and I-110 corridors. To be eligible for funds, a city's project, program, or enhanced transit service must operate along or within three miles of either the I-110 Corridor (defined as Adams Boulevard to the north and the Harbor Gateway Transit Center to the south) or the I-10 Corridor (between Alameda Street to the west and the El Monte Transit Center to the east) or provide regionally significant improvements for the 110 or 10 Corridor. It must also provide direct operational benefits to the operation of the ExpressLanes and/or transit service within the corridors. A project will also be eligible if it can be determined that is regionally significant. Even if your city is outside the 3-mile radius you may be able to submit a regional application with a city that does fall within the 3-mile limit. Regional significance is defined as those projects that are multi-jurisdictional, and/or are included in, or consistent with, the Metro LRTP, the Metro Countywide Sustainability Policy and Implementation Plan, or other relevant sub-regional plan.
- VIII. **Metro 2015 Call for Projects / PSR deadline / Technical Assistance** – The SBCCOG may be able to provide Metro 2015 Call for Projects (CFP) funding and technical assistance to South Bay lead agencies (cities) for development and implementation of CFP project applications and required matching funds if the proposed project is eligible for SBCCOG South Bay Highway Program (SBHP) funding. Following the April 2nd Measure R Oversight (MRO) Committee meeting, the SBCCOG distributed a schedule of requirements obtaining assistance from the SBCCOG related to Metro's 2015 Call for Projects (CFP). The original schedule stated that City Council resolutions requesting financial or technical assistance must be received by June 30, 2014, since the SBCCOG will have to act in November 2014 to meet the anticipated January 2015 Metro Call for Projects application deadline. Since the original schedule was distributed, a REVISED schedule has been prepared to reflect a new requirement, in lieu of a resolution. A letter signed by the City Manager, requesting SBCCOG SBHP 2015 MTA CFP project development funding, the CFP required local match, and/or technical assistance from the SBHP technical bench, is now required NO LATER THAN MAY 30, 2014. The letter should include other current SBHP commitments, status of funding agreement(s), funding agreement deadline(s), and anticipated project completion dates for all existing commitments.
- IX. **Metro Mobility Matrices Update** - Steve Lantz reported that Metro will soon release the RFP to its planning technical consulting bench to help facilitate this initiative, which involves different types of transportation projects from what Measure R covers. The SBCCOG applied for a grant from the State's Strategic Growth Council, and if awarded the funds, the SBCCOG will be in a position to promote South Bay Cities' sustainable and active transportation priorities.
- X. **Announcements / Adjournment** – Pamela Manning announced an upcoming breakfast seminar on asset management, to be held on May 15, sponsored by the ASCE and APWA. Marcy Hiratzka said that she would email the flyer to the distribution list after the meeting. Chair Beste adjourned the meeting at 1:30pm until May 21, 2014. Those who wish to include an item in the agenda must e-mail Marcy@southbaycities.org by May 12, 2014.