

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Infrastructure Working Group August 21, 2013 – Meeting Notes

Attendees: Rob Beste, Chair (Torrance); Massoud Ghiam (Carson); Don Krause & Alan Leung (Hawthorne); Keith Lockhard (Inglewood); Nasser Abbaszadeh & Miguel Alvarez (Lawndale); Ken Husting (Los Angeles); Jim Goodhart (Palos Verdes Estates); Wisam Altowaji & John Mate (Redondo Beach); Craig Bilezerian & Ted Semaan (Torrance); Allen Chen & Peter Lin (Caltrans); Fulgene Asuncion & Isidro Panuco (Metro); Bassam Al-Beitawi & Pamela Manning (LA County DWP); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Elliot Hubbard (Delcan Corp); Fong-Ping Lee (FPL & Assoc.); Danielle Buzas (GPA Consulting); Jeff Cooper (Gafcon); Beverly Voran (Hard Hat Communities); Viggen Davidian & Alek Hovsepian (Iteris, Inc.); James Hoyt & Frank Lara (Jacobs Engineering); Ken Burkman (McKissack & McKissack); Tracy Bartlett (Nichols Consulting Engineers); Claudette Moody (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Anissa Voyiatzes (Psomas); John Dreher & Jennifer Haddow (Rincon Consulting)

Chair Beste called IWG meeting to order at 12:04 pm.

I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of July 17, 2013 Meeting Notes** (Attachment A) – Meeting notes were approved as presented.

II. **Agencies & Other Reports-**

- **SBCCOG** – Program update – Steve Lantz had nothing to report.
- **SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County Dept. of PW** – Status – Bassam Al-Beitawi distributed the August 2013 South Bay Traffic Forum Report. Highlights included: Regarding the South Bay ITS Project, the County has finalized its report for the design of Gardena’s Traffic Management Center, and this will be sent to interested A/V vendors; the County is continuing installation of Phase II of its Wireless Communication System (164 intersections have been installed throughout 4 cities and unincorporated areas.)
- **Caltrans** – Update – Peter Lin and Allen Chen had nothing to report. Steve Lantz asked them to pass the message along to Ali Zaghari and Aziz Elattar that the SBCCOG is trying to schedule Caltrans’ and Metro’s annual Measure R review.
- **Metro** – Isidro Panuco reported that the PSRA system is still not user-friendly to all cities but cities are still required to submit their monthly and quarterly reports, manually, if need be. Fulgene Asuncion said that the MTA Board will be dark this month, but mentioned items of interest on the September Board agenda. Steve Lantz announced that, just prior to this meeting, in the same location, Metro and the CA Air Resources Board held a Green Construction Equipment Awareness Training for elected officials and city staff. Topics included: Metro’s Green Construction Policy, California Air Quality Overview and Health Impacts, ARB Enforcement Programs, Engine Standards and Diesel Emission Control Strategies, On and Off-Road Vehicle Regulation Requirements, Diesel Vehicle Regulation Overview for Public Agencies & Utilities, Portable Equipment Registration Program, Fugitive Dust Rules and Regulations
- **Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee** – Update – Chair Beste talked about the 2013 CFP appeal process, including protocol, schedule, project evaluation criteria; and also discussed the approval of the 2013 Recertification and Deobligation Recommendations presented to the MTA Board.

III. **Measure R Updates** – Steve Lantz

- **Three-Month Look Ahead** (Attachment B) - Steve Lantz announced that the Measure R Oversight Committee dates/times will most likely be changing, once the SBCCOG Board Members and appropriate city staff are polled.
- **SBHP Annual Update Calendar** (Attachment C) – Steve Lantz explained that at this time, FY 13-14 funding agreements between lead agencies and MTA are being executed. The review of cost adjustments and programming will continue throughout September and October 2013.
- **SBHP Project Progress Reporting / Gantt chart** (Attachment D) - Steve Lantz explained that this Gantt chart shows the progress of each project’s different phases, according to the terms of the original funding agreement. The project’s actual status is reflected in black, under the colored bars.
- **SBHP FY 14-15 Metro Budget Request Process Update** - Steve Lantz announced that the SBCCOG will be moving project funding around and adding new projects onto the existing schedule. The input process will be completed by the end of the month, and then a recommendation will go to the SBCCOG Board in November and to the MTA Board in December.
- **SBHP Quarterly Contract Status Report** (Attachment E) – Steve Lantz said that the SBCCOG sends this report to Metro with invoices each quarter.
- **SBHP Technical Consultant Bench Update** (Attachment F)- Steve Lantz explained the recommendation for Board approval of the firms to be included in the SBHP Technical Services Bench as shown in Exhibit 1. Authorization for the Board Chairman to execute task order contracts with the firms listed in the exhibit will be brought before the SBCCOG Board on August 22.

- IV. **Draft SBHP Deobligation Policy** (Attachment G) – Steve Lantz said that the early-action program funding is for five years and the program is currently in its third year. If a project is not delivered by the end of the funding agreement, this is the policy that will dictate what happens to the money. This policy will be added to the next Implementation Plan update. It is designed to help lead agencies avoid deobligation and to help cities deliver projects on time. Lead Agency staff that have comments need to let the SBCCOG know before this item is taken to the SBCCOG Board at the end of September.
- V. **Draft South Bay Response to Potential 2014 Sales Tax Measure** (Attachment H) – Steve Lantz stated that (former MTA Board Chair) Supervisor Antonovich requested that the COGs of LA County submit their transportation priorities for a possible new sales tax in 2014. This is a bottom-up approach instead of a top-down approach. Mr. Lantz also said that Mayor Garcetti recently held a summit for the mayors in LA County, and the same issue was discussed there. Lakewood Mayor and new MTA Board Chair, Diane DuBois, is expected to send a letter to city mayors asking for their local priorities and extending the due date for the letter from September 4 to October 4. The SBCCOG is asking that South Bay cities share their lists with the SBCCOG so that we can coordinate and remain consistent with their responses. An additional attachment NOT included in this Board packet was Diane DuBois’ letter to the mayors, and Metro’s list of eligible uses of various funds. The Board packet DID contain the SBCCOG’s draft initial response, and the list of the SBCCOG’s priorities for a potential transportation sales tax as well as Supervisor Antonovich’s letter to the COGs. Steve Lantz said that this new sales tax does not have to be a continuation of Measure R or J; it can have completely different rules. This list will be redrafted to include cities’ input, should a time extension be granted.
- VI. **Project Spotlight – Caltrans South Bay Dynamic Corridor Congestion Management (DCCM) Project** – Elliot Hubbard of Delcan and Allen Chen of Caltrans gave a presentation on Caltrans’ Dynamic Corridor Congestion Management Project, which uses an Integrated Corridor Management Approach and Integrated corridor-wide operations to optimize entire systems (as opposed to just individual networks.) Benefits of this project include: improved corridor throughput, reduced impact of incidents on freeways and arterials, enhanced performance measurement capability, improved information sharing, opportunity for regional stakeholders to participate in developing a model for automated operations, and better informed travelers. Caltrans is not getting the crucial participation from local agencies that it needs. There can be no coordination of freeway systems and arterial systems, and the congestion reduction goals of DCCM will not be achieved, if cities are not interested in sharing their data. The goal is to allow cities and the freeways to share with each other, exchange communications, and upgrade existing communication systems. Caltrans is still identifying a pilot corridor and is almost ready to submit a recommendation. The 91, **110**, 105, and 405 are being considered, but no matter which is chosen, all candidate corridors will benefit from this. This is a concept of operations that can be replicated in the other corridors. The SBCCOG is not willing to spend money on capital equipment if the cities are not interested. Over the next few weeks, Caltrans will begin an outreach effort to the cities in the pilot region, in order to understand local needs and help determine how the system should respond. Caltrans’ timeline for this project is as follows: Identify a **pilot corridor** on which to deploy a DCCM freeway-arterial coordination system (Aug 2013); Develop a **concept of operations** to guide implementation (Sep-Dec 2013); Develop Memorandums of Understanding (**MOUs**) among all involved stakeholders (Jan-Jun 2014); Conduct a before/after **system evaluation** for the initial pilot project (2014-2015).
- VII. **Other Business-** None
- V. **Adjournment - Chair Beste adjourned the meeting at 12:48pm until September 18, 2013. If you’d like to include an item in the agenda, please send an e-mail to: Marcy@southbaycities.org by September 8, 2013.**