

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Infrastructure Working Group July 16 2014 – Meeting Notes

Attachment A

Attendees: Rob Beste (Torrance); Frank Bigdeli (Gardena); Akbar Farohki & Alan Leung (Hawthorne); Nasser Abbaszadeh & Miguel Alvarez (Lawndale); Ed Kao (Manhattan Beach); Elaine Jeng (Redondo Beach); Craig Bilezerian & Ted Semaan (Torrance); Yunus Ghausi, Sameer Haddadeen, Mary Payyappilly & Nancy Pe (Caltrans); Greg Kelly, Pamela Manning, Andres Narvaez & Van Truong (LA County DPW); Isidro Panuco (Metro); Marcy Hiratzka, Lena Luna, Amanda Maki & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Steve Forster (APA Engineering); Dan Freeman (Athalye Consulting Engineering Services); Irene Lee Wyatt & Alex Zupanski (FPL & Assoc); Danielle Buzas (GPA Consulting); Tapas Dutta (Harris & Assoc); Alan Clelland & Sandra Lennin (Iteris); Kamran Saber (JMDiaz); Frank Hoffmann (Kimley-Horn); Sherif Morcos (Morcos Group); Tracy Bartlett (Nichols Consulting Engineers); Marc Porter (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Jeff Cooper (Penco Engineering); Anissa Voyiatzes (Psomas), Ty Carter (Siemens)

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

I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of June 18, 2014 Minutes** (Attachment A) – Minutes were approved as presented.

II. **Agencies & Other Reports-**

- **SBCCOG** – Program update – Steve Lantz announced that the SBCCOG is beginning a three-year effort with the South Bay Cities with the Strategic Growth Council grant funds that were recently awarded to the SBCCOG; Carson and Lawndale received their Enterprise Energy Management Information System (EEMIS) saving reports; Jacki Bacharach has been giving SBCCOG Overview presentations to South Bay City Councils; the SBCCOG has arranged for a private tour of the SpaceX facility for elected officials and city staff scheduled for August 20; Barry Wallerstein of AQMD will be speaking at the July 24 SBCCOG Board meeting on the 2016 Air Quality Management Plan, and there will be a 4:00pm SBCCOG primer on regional agencies on the same day for new city council members.
- **SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County DPW** – Status – Andres Narvaez distributed the July 2014 South Bay Traffic Forum Status Report. Highlights included: the cooperative agreement and resolution for the City of Gardena’s Traffic Management Center; the construction documents for advertising the South Bay Fiber Interconnect are scheduled to be considered by the L. A. County Board of Supervisors on August 12; Metro recommended that the County be awarded an ExpressLanes Net Toll Revenue Reinvestment Grant for a South Bay Arterial Performance Measurement project, which will deploy vehicle detection systems on major arterials that are parallel to the I-110 freeway.
- **Caltrans** – Nancy Pe reported that the PAED on the I-110 auxiliary lane from SR-91 to Torrance Blvd (MR312.24) is still on schedule, and Metro gave an additional \$8 million+ in order to incorporate Alternative 2. The PAED on the I-405 at 182nd St/Crenshaw Blvd (MR312.25) is on schedule as well. Caltrans is seeking approval for ITS improvements on PCH as well. Yunus Ghausi, of Caltrans Operations, expressed concerns about safety and operations at PCH/Aviation Blvd. This affects existing Hermosa Beach project MR312.05, which Steve Lantz would like to present as a project spotlight at a future IWG meeting.
- **Metro** - Isidro Panuco reported that lead agencies may set their own baseline for projects with pre-approved funds. The 14-15 Fiscal Year began two weeks ago and the semi-annual Metro Budget Request Update needs to be prepared for the SBCCOG Board’s consideration in the fall. Aziz Elattar and Gregg Magaziner, both formerly with Caltrans District 7, have hired as Metro’s new Executive Officers of Metro Highway Programs.
- **Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee** – Update – Chair Beste reported that, on July 2, the Metro TAC discussed Metro’s 2014 Short Range Transportation Plan, which will be considered for adoption by the Metro Board on July 24. Upon Board adoption of the Plan, a Final Plan will be prepared and will be available for public distribution in September. Individual projects will return to the Board for further action at key milestones in the planning, environmental, and project development process. Also discussed at the July 2 TAC meeting was a potential 2016 sales tax initiative. Working groups to develop the tax initiative will be created by Metro. Chair Beste will take part in the selection of the consultant for the South Bay’s Sub-Regional Mobility Matrix. Chair Beste also reported that the TAC has been discussing Metro’s Complete Streets policy update and suggested that the IWG be given a presentation, as this may affect 2015 Call for Project application scores. The TAC will be dark for the month of August.
- **Metro Streets & Freeways Subcommittee** - Reporting on the June 19 Streets & Freeways Subcommittee, Elaine Jeng said that one of the items discussed was “hot spot” intersections on the I-605. Metro had conducted a feasibility study that identified 40 intersections for improvements, west of the I-605 and north of the I-105 (bundled into three packages; the Whittier package, consisting of three intersections, La Mirada/Cerritos package consisting of four intersections and the Long Beach/Bellflower package consisting of three intersections.) Metro released RFPs for the environmental and preliminary engineering services to address these projects, which will be funded through Measure R funds (it was unclear whether these projects were funded with Gateway Council of Governments sub-regional funds or Metro regional funds. Ms. Jeng commented that funding these analyses with regional funding may be unfair to

other sub-regions and that she will inquire as to the source of the funding and whether or not this funding for these improvements is meant to be ongoing.

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

- **SBHP Technical Consultant Bench Use / SBHP Funding Process (Attachment B) / List of Projects to be Funded (Exhibit B-1) / Sample SBHP / Metro 2015 CFP Assistance Agreement (Exhibit B-2)** – Six cities have requested SBHP funding for technical assistance and/or local matching funds required for their 2015 Metro Call for Projects applications. Several of these cities have requested the SBCCOG’s assistance for multiple projects. The five cities that requested technical assistance may or may not be sending Task Order RFPs to the SBCCOG’s Technical Services Consulting Bench; they may use a consultant of their own choosing instead.
- **SBHP Project Deferral / SBHP Funding Deobligation / SBHP Funds for 2015 Metro CFP Applications (Attachment C) / Draft Project Deferral / Funding Deobligation Spreadsheet (Exhibit C-1)** – There are nine projects being considered for deobligation and deferral (almost \$37 million total; \$31 million is due to Funding Agreements between lead agencies and Metro that are past due for execution.) The SBCCOG and Metro are concerned about the lack of cashflow and progress that these nine projects have made. If a lead agency is moving a project beyond the expiration date in their current funding agreement, the Funding Agreement may need to be amended. If a project is moved out but stays within the original Funding Agreement’s completion deadline, no amendment is needed. Lead Agencies on this list are required to submit their deliverables by the respective dates of July 23 and/or Aug 15 in order to avoid project deobligation. Lead agencies that have project funding allocated for FY14-15 have until next June to execute their Funding Agreements. Once the SBCCOG Board recommends final project deobligation to Metro, it is not yet known how Metro will proceed. Metro is currently exploring different options of what to do (suspend or terminate funds.)
- **Three-Month Look Ahead (Attachment D)** – On July 24, the SBCCOG Board will consider SBHP project deobligations, recommended by SBCCOG staff. The next SBHP Implementation Plan update, which occurs every two years, is approaching, and any suggestions regarding SBHP oversight are welcome.

IV. **Project Spotlight: New Pavement Rehabilitation Materials** – As the result of last month’s presentation on LA County’s solid waste management strategies in response to the increasing generation of waste, a request was made to have a presentation on the County’s Sustainable Pavement Approach. Van Truong and Greg Kelley explained how the County assesses the condition of pavement in unincorporated areas and predicts pavement performance over time. The County maintains the roads that are in good condition first, uses recycled materials in pavement treatments, and reutilizes existing material in-place. They explained several methods of pavement preservation, reclamation, and treatment. Benefits of using in-place materials include: reduction in GNG emissions, reduction in construction truck traffic and impacts to the public, cost savings of up to 50% compared to traditional methods. Specific examples throughout the county were cited.

V. **Announcements / Adjournment** - Chair Beste adjourned the meeting at 1:14pm until August 20, 2014. Those who wish to include an item in the agenda must e-mail Marcy@southbaycities.org by August 12, 2014.