

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Transportation Committee
May 10, 2021
Meeting Minutes
(Held virtually via Zoom)

COMMITTEE CHAIR HORVATH CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:31 A.M.

I. Welcome / Self-Introductions

In attendance were the following voting SBCCOG Board Members:

Christian Horvath, Chair (Redondo Beach)	James Butts (Inglewood) (10:49am arrival)
Chris Pimentel (El Segundo)	Luke Klipp (Supervisor Hahn's Office)
Olivia Valentine (Hawthorne)	

Non-Voting Representatives

James Lee, TOWG (Torrance Transit)	Don Szerlip (Metro South Bay Service Council)
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Also in attendance:

Leslie Scott (Beach Cities Transit)	Maryam Adhami (LA County DPW)
Jason Jo (Carson)	Andrew Ross (LA County DPW)
Elias Sassoon (El Segundo)	Patrick Chandler (Metro)
Von Norris (Hawthorne)	Roger Martin (Metro)
Julian Lee (Lawndale)	Mark Dierking (Metro)
Ramzi Awwad (Rancho Palos Verdes)	Mike Bohlke (Metro Deputy to James Butts)
Shin Furukawa (Torrance)	Jamie Hwang (Supervisor Hahn's Office)
Art Reyes (Torrance)	Lilly O'Brien (Supervisor Mitchell's Office)
Joey Garcia (Torrance)	Jacki Bacharach (SBCCOG)
Jill Crump (Torrance)	Steve Lantz (SBCCOG)
Jimmy Shih (Caltrans)	David Leger (SBCCOG)

II. Public Comment – no public comments received.

III. Consent Calendar

A. April 12, 2021 Transportation Committee Minutes - APPROVED

B. May 2021 Transportation Update – RECEIVED AND FILED

MOTION by Committee Member Valentine, seconded by Committee Member Pimentel, to **APPROVE** the consent calendar. Approved without objection.

IV. SBCCOG Transportation Working Group Updates

A. Infrastructure Working Group Update – no update given

B. Transit Operators Working Group Update

Mr. Lee reported that the TOWG met on May 6th and discussed ongoing COVID-19 impacts on operations and service recovery efforts. The group also heard a presentation from Caltrans on their District 7 Active Transportation Plan.

C. Metro Service Council

Mr. Szerlip noted that there was a briefing on the budget at the May 14th meeting. Phil Washington also participated in his last meeting with the Service Council as CEO.

V. Caltrans District 7 South Bay Projects Update

Mr. Shih provided an update on various Caltrans projects taking place in the South Bay. His report with detailed project updates is available here:

VI. Updates on Metro Projects, Programs, and Initiatives

A. Metro Fare Policy Changes: Fare Capping / Fareless System Initiative

Mr. Lantz reported that the Metro Board is considering a motion that would provide fareless service for select groups such as K-14 students as a pilot project. The Metro Board previously approved a fare capping strategy that will be implemented in the next 9-12 months as the TAP software is updated.

B. Traffic Reduction / Congestion Pricing Study Update

Mr. Lantz reported the Metro is currently considering congestion pricing models in four study areas within the County that would charge a fee for either entering a cordoned area or driving within a specific corridor that is experiencing congestion. The fee would be a disincentive to travel in the zone or corridor and would be used to improve transit options in the zone. Metro currently has a 2025 start date forecast for the project, but Mr. Lantz noted that, with the change in CEO and Board Chair at Metro, priorities for future initiatives could change.

VII. “EV Charging Innovations: Creating New Revenues and Resources” – presentation rescheduled to July

VIII. Metro Presentation on Crenshaw North Extension Study

Mr. Martin presented a Metro staff update on the Crenshaw North Extension Study which is looking into possible routes to extend the Crenshaw/LAX line from its current terminus at the Exposition Line north to Hollywood (or perhaps the Hollywood Bowl). He explained that Metro just completed three public scoping meetings that had around 500 participants. Although Metro currently forecasts a 2041 groundbreaking, the agency is moving forward with the EIR now so that should acceleration opportunities arise, the project will be strategically positioned for acceleration. Mr. Martin reviewed the alignment options, capital costs, peak travel time comparisons, and projected ridership. Mr. Martin’s full presentation is available online here:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/transportation_committee/PRESENTATION_Crenshaw%20North%20Extension%20Project.pdf

IX. Three Month Look-Ahead – Received and Filed

X. Announcements / Adjournment

Mr. Lantz reported that staff is proposing to go dark in June and meet next on July 12th. There was no objection from the committee members.

Committee Chair Horvath adjourned the meeting at 11:19 a.m. to July 12, 2021 at 10:30 a. m.