

## South Bay Cities Council of Governments

### Transit Operators' Working Group

November 12, 2020

### Meeting Notes

Attendees: Joyce Rooney, Leslie Scott & Diane Amaya (Beach Cities Transit); Jason Jo (Carson Circuit); Dana Pynn (GTrans); Martin Gombert (PVPTA); Scott Greene (Metro); Steve Lantz, Wally Siembab & David Leger (SBCCOG)

#### 1) Self-Introductions & Acceptance of the November 12, 2020 Meeting Notes

The virtual meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. Meeting notes were accepted as presented.

Mr. Siembab introduced himself and explained that he is hoping to get transit trip data from the operators that solely focuses on trips within the South Bay. The operators discussed the availability of this data. Mr. Greene noted that he will coordinate with Mr. Siembab to try and get him the data he needs from Metro TAP data.

#### 2) Transit Operator Issues and Concerns Including COVID-19 Impacts

Mr. Lantz opened discussion for the agencies to share pandemic and general issues and concerns.

Ms. Pynn reported that not much has changed at GTrans since the last meeting regarding COVID-19.

Ms. Rooney shared that Beach Cities Transit is also operating relatively similar to last month. Line 109 will revert back to a weekday service after operating on a weekend schedule since the pandemic started.

Mr. Gombert reported that ridership is slowly coming back but is still about 1/3 of what it was a year ago. The PVPUSD is considering opening some campuses later in November which will require additional service.

Mr. Greene announced that Metro ridership on both rail and bus remain below normal. Ridership is approximately 50% of pre-pandemic levels.

#### 3) Measure R SBHP Decennial Transfer Update & Metro Budget Request Update

##### - City of Torrance Request for Additional Funds Using Measure M Sub-Regional Funds

Mr. Lantz explained that this item is an information item regarding Torrance's request for additional funding for the Park and Ride facility on Crenshaw Blvd.

Mr. Lantz then noted that the Metro Budget Request process is underway. SBCCOG and Metro staff are working with lead agency staff to discuss project statuses, potential project funding shortfalls, and new project requests. Due to the current financial constraints of the Measure R SBHP and Measure M MSPs, priority will be given to projects in or entering the construction phase. Following that, priority will be given to projects in design and environmental phases. Third priority will be given to new project requests.

#### 4) Updates on Metro Issues, Initiatives & Studies

##### - NextGen Bus Plan Implementation: Overview of December 2020 South Bay service changes

Mr. Greene provided a brief presentation on the first round of NextGen Bus Plan service changes. The changes begin December 13<sup>th</sup> and will consolidate 8 Metro Rapid Lines with partner local lines; add capacity by increasing weekday and weekend service; replace some lines with Metro Microtransit; and discontinue low use lines. For more specific details, the presentation is available online here:

[https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/transit\\_operators/meeting/PRESENTATION\\_NextGen%20Phase%201%20implementation%20.pdf](https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/transit_operators/meeting/PRESENTATION_NextGen%20Phase%201%20implementation%20.pdf)

##### - Metro Free-Fare Service Initiative

Mr. Greene explained that Metro staff is still looking into options. He cautioned that fare elimination would require an additional \$300M in annual operating subsidy funding identified to replace the lost farebox revenue. Mr. Lantz added that staff is considering a fare capping structure instead of complete fare elimination.

#### 5) Inglewood Special Event Service Coordination Update: No updates were given.

**6) November 2020 Transportation Update:** Item was received and filed.

**7) Announcements/Adjournment – Next Transit Operators Working Group meeting**  
The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m. to January 7, 2021 at 3 p.m.