

Attachment A

South Bay Cities Council of Governments Infrastructure Working Group January 16, 2013 – Meeting Notes

Attendees: Rob Beste, Chair (Torrance); Farrokh Abolfathi (Carson); Frank Bigdeli (Gardena); Alan Leung (Hawthorne); Louis Atwell & Keith Lockard (Inglewood); Nasser Abbaszadeh & Miguel Alvarez (Lawndale); Elaine Jeng, & John Mate (Redondo Beach); Beth Overstreet (Torrance); Allen Chen & Peter Lin (Caltrans); Fulgene Asuncion & Hansel Corsa (Metro); Andres Narvaez (LA County DWP); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Mir Fattahi (AMN Management); Tod Short (Base Architecture); Alex Geyer (Breen Engineering); Elliot Hubbard & Dan Lukasik (Delcan Corp); Beverly Voran (Hard Hat Communities); Alan Clelland, Vigen Davidian & Alek Hovsepian (Iteris, Inc.); James Hoyt (Jacobs Engineering); Teresa Price (McKissack McKissack); Issac Segovia (Morgner Construction Management); Tracy Bartlett (Nichols Consulting Engineers); Sam Ekrami & Claudette Moody (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Joe Mulvihill (Psonas)

Chair Beste called IWG meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of Minutes** – Minutes were approved as presented.

II. **Agencies & Other Reports:**

- **SBCCOG** – Program update - Steve Lantz, SBCCOG - The SBCCOG's 14th Annual General Assembly will be held on February 22, 2013 at the Carson Community Center from 9am-3pm. This year's theme is "At What Cost- Unintended Consequences of Declining Revenues". This is a free event and everyone is welcome.
- **SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County Dept. of PW** – Status – Andres Narvaez distributed the South Bay Traffic Forum Status Report for January 2013, featuring the implementation of local agency traffic control centers within the South Bay ITS Project, as well as the PPP ITS project in El Segundo. Iteris is working with the City and the LA County Dept. of Public Works on an Advanced Traveler Information System called "BlueCommute," which Alan Clelland reported now has a Facebook page. <http://www.facebook.com/BlueCommute>
- **Caltrans** – Allen Chen and Peter Lin had nothing to report.
- **Metro** – PMIS Update, Board Update- Fulgene Asuncion reported that she will be on maternity leave starting in April and introduced Hansel Corsa, who will be filling in for her in the interim. Metro will address the following recommendation, agendized on its January 2013 Metro Planning and Programming Committee and **Metro** Board agendas The Metro item reads as follow:

RECOMMENDATION- Approve the proposed updates and new projects listed in Attachment A, for the Measure R Highway Operational Improvement funding for Interstate 405, I-110, I-105, and SR-91 Ramp and Interchange Improvements (South Bay). The SBCCOG Board approved [the Metro Budget Request and recommended that the Metro Board approve] the updated project list with the associated FY14-19 funding for SBHP program development and project oversight to the Metro Board. The proposed updates to the project list do not exceed the \$176.4 million previously programmed for the South Bay Subregion over the initial five-year period of FY 12 through FY 16. The new projects identified by the SBCCOG and its member jurisdictions for the 2013 Call for Projects allows the potential to leverage Measure R dollars with other fund sources. If any of the candidate projects are successful in receiving Call funds, only the required minimum local match amounts in the modal categories for which cities are applying for would be funded with Measure R Highway Subfunds. [Metro Staff] will return to the Board after the Call for Projects grant awards are adopted for any reprogramming of Measure R dollars to reflect the Call for Projects funding commitments. The total programming allocation for the South Bay Subregion does not exceed the \$237 million forecasted to be available over the first ten year period of the program from FY 11 to FY 19. [Metro staff is] recommending that the Board approve the updated project list and the addition of new projects. Included in this recommendation is the approval of programming approximately \$2.1 million in Measure R funds from FY 17 – FY 19 to the SBCCOG for program development, oversight, and administration. The existing Cooperative Agreement between [Metro]and the SBCCOG to implement the Measure R South Bay Highway Program is consistent with this recommendation. In addition, at its June 2011 meeting, the Board previously approved Program Development & Oversight and Program Administration funds to the SBCCOG, totaling approximately \$2.2 million. These amounts are reflected in Attachment A under Metro's ID number, MR312.01 for the SBCCOG. **FINANCIAL IMPACT**–The funding of \$17.5 million is available for the South Bay Subregion in the FY13 budget for Project 460312 (South Bay Ramp and Interchange Improvements). These three programs are all under Cost

Center 0442 in Account 54001 (Subsidies to Others). Since this is a multi-year agreement, the cost center manager and the Executive Director Highway Program will be responsible for budgeting the costs in future years.

Steve Lantz clarified that Metro will no longer allow COGs to allocate Measure R Subfunds by population; only by need.

- **Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee** – Update – Chair Beste reported that the following items were on the January 2nd TAC agenda: Changes to Measure R Local Return Guidelines, Measure R Highway Operational Improvements Project Lists (South Bay subregion included), LACMTA Green Construction Policy, 2013 CFP Update on TA Funding, Sepulveda Pass Corridor Systems Planning Study, LAX - Metro Connector, and ExpressLanes Update. Elaine Jeng, a member of the Streets and Freeways Subcommittee, reported that the group was dark in December 2012. The first meeting of 2013 is tomorrow, so her updates at the IWG meetings will now be a month old.

III. **South Bay COG boundaries Reconsideration Request (Attachment B)** – Steve Lantz described the SBCCOG Boundary Reconsideration Request from the City of Los Angeles that is being brought before the SBCCOG Board on January 24. He noted that at the SBCCOG October Board meeting, the addition of the West Athens/Westmont communities of Los Angeles County unincorporated area to the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) service area was discussed as it was believed that this part of the Supervisor’s district was not included within the SBCCOG. The office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas performed an analysis of all the unincorporated areas in their district and found that the Athens/Westmont area, which is adjacent to Inglewood, is the only unincorporated area in their district that they believed was not in a Council of Governments (COG). Documentation was found that confirmed the population of the West Athens / Westmont area had been included in the original determination of the appropriate SBCCOG dues for LA County. With this information, the boundaries were administratively adjusted to incorporate West Athens / Westmont.

At the same time, L.A. Councilman Joe Buscaino’s office requested that the northern boundary of the LA City ‘strip’ area of District 15 parallel to I-110 be extended from its current boundary on Alondra Blvd. to a more northerly boundary at the I-105 freeway. The City of Los Angeles’ request for extending the area of District 15 (which is in the SBCCOG) to the I-105 freeway, is therefore, the only matter for the SBCCOG Board’s consideration.

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

SBHP Project Progress Chart (Attachment C)- Mr. Clelland explained that a new indicator was added to the Gantt chart- projected project completion dates (PC). The new “PC” box shows the lead agency’s estimated CONSTRUCTION completion date (unrelated to funding agreement status.) (Lead Agencies whose projects lack the “PC” box need to let Iteris know of the projected construction completion dates.) Additionally, Marcy Hiratzka is collecting the projected ground-breaking and ribbon cutting dates for each project. At the Measure R Oversight Committee meeting on January 14, it was decided that Iteris would display two columns- one for DESIGN completion and one for CONSTRUCTION completion (in order to accommodate both projects that only have a design phase funding agreements and no construction and projects that have both phases.) Caltrans project funding agreements are not complete yet.

Refined Metro Call for Projects Applications (Attachment D)- Steve Lantz explained that the final refined 2013 CFP list of projects that are using Measure R money as matching funds has been updated to incorporate the SBCCOG December 2012 commitments and the refined matching funds requested as of January 2013 (after PSRE/PSRs were completed). The SBCCOG Steering Committee approved this list on January 14, 2013. The SBCCOG will be happy to write letters of support for CFP projects that are not using Measure R money as matching funds, so agencies applying for the Call and who would like a letter of support from the SBCCOG should let Steve Lantz know as soon as possible, as the CFP submittal deadline is January 18.

Three-Month Look Ahead (Attachment E)- The IWG Executive Committee will meet in February to discuss the Implementation Plan and its policy issues.

SBHP Implementation Plan Update Calendar (Attachment F)- Viggen Davidian of Iteris reported that there are 131 items to be considered for the Implementation plan update. Drafts of the plan will be distributed to all IWG members for feedback from before the end of February, and a final draft will be presented to the IWG in March.

V. **Post Measure J Project Acceleration Options**- Steve Lantz listed the strategies that Metro staff will be recommending to the Metro Board in March, regarding project acceleration options, as Measure J fell short by 16,000 votes. The Metro Board can instruct the staff to continue to explore acceleration through some or all of the following strategy options, or it could decide to suspend these efforts:

- Creation of a Federal America Fast Forward Transportation Bonds Program
- Focus on Future Federal Transportation Authorization
- Further Exploration of P3 Opportunities

- Combination of Borrowing from Propositions A and C with Long-Term Bonds- Controversial issue.
- Further Discussions with Sovereign Wealth Funds
- Pursue Various Actions with the State of California- Most sought-after and viable strategy.
Create Another Acceleration Measure for a Future County Ballot

VI. Measure R SBHP Project Spotlight - Caltrans Dynamic Corridor Congestion Management (DCCM) Measure R project

Dan Lukasik and Elliot Hubbard of Delcan Corporation gave a presentation on Caltrans' selection process for an ITS corridor study within the South Bay that will allow freeway ramp metering system coordination with the State's and Cities' arterial traffic signal system to achieve congestion relief. Potential South Bay corridors are the I-405, I-105, SR-91, and I-110. This is Caltrans' first SB Measure R project. Caltrans is trying to identify as many corridors as possible, but funding for the project is limited. Caltrans will choose one corridor as a pilot deployment, as a blueprint for future projects. Currently, all South Bay cities are potential project stakeholder agencies. Performance measure areas include: lost productivity, vehicle miles and hours traveled, freeway and arterial speeds, ramp queues, volume of traffic flow, annual travel time savings, reduction in travel-time variance, fuel saved annually, and tons of mobile emissions saved annually. The system evaluation's projected completion is around June of 2014. Caltrans' next steps are to prepare the draft stakeholder list and conduct stakeholder meetings once the corridor is selected.

Steve Lantz explained that the SBCCOG's updating of the SBHP Implementation Plan (SBHP-IP) can be coordinated with this project. Iteris needs to discuss with Caltrans ITS and STE strategies the SBCCOG has agreed on, so efforts do not start from scratch. Allen Chen of Caltrans agreed to incorporate the final draft of the SBCCOG's updated IP plan into Caltrans' effort for this project. Mr. Lantz asked if there are funds in the study for cities' participation, and Mr. Chen said that cities do have to cover the costs of their participation. Caltrans' does not wish to exclude cities from this project, (even though this is a freeway project) but to work with the cities. This will be a project of transparent operations, with a free exchange of information between Caltrans and lead agencies. Keith Lockard of Inglewood asked what the criteria are for the length of the ideal corridor. Mr. Chen said that it would need to be a 10 mile segment, at least. Chair Beste asked if Caltrans is considering the County's software compatibility. Mr. Chen said that Caltrans will use established technology, rather than build a new system.

VII. Possible I-405 Studies Workshop for Public Works Directors – Steve Lantz announced that the SBCCOG has a Measure R obligation to address the 405 via corridor studies (Crenshaw-LAX, Green Line S.B. Extension, Auxiliary Lanes, LAX Connector); other sub-regions adjacent to the I-405 (from Santa Monica to the 605) may not be subject to the same measure R requirements in the same way, but it would be beneficial for everyone to know of each other's' initiatives. Steve Lantz asked the IWG if the SBCCOG should take the lead and host this event, and he was met with unanimous support. More info to follow soon, but the event will take place in late march/April at the SBCCOG office in Torrance.

VIII. Metro 2013 Call for Projects Application Process – Lessons Learned – Steve Lantz summarized that the SBCCOG and lead agencies should have started the project development process earlier than 3 months before the January 18 deadline. The PSR/PSRE process was too short, and as a result, the SBCCOG Board was forced to act on too many versions of the matching funds commitment chart. The Metro 2013 CFP workshop on October 24, 2012 did not focus on project development and how the COG can help; it only focused on the eight modal categories. This has not been a well-understood process, and cities do not know what regional significance is. Scope revisions on projects were inevitable. The Implementation Plan update will lay out this process in much more detail. The preparation for a CFP is a 2-year process, not a 3 month process. Lessons learned cannot be finalized until MTA makes their decision on which projects are approved. Chair Beste emphasized that matching funds were not allowed in the CFP before this year, so it had not been addressed in the Implementation Plan. How to leverage Measure R funds over time must also be analyzed (the SB is only 50% funded for the current list of projects.) Steve Lantz is collecting feedback on this process from cities for the Measure R Oversight Committee.

IX. Other Business- Chair Beste gave the following announcements:

- The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles held a public hearing on January 15, 2013 to consider a Clean Water, Clean Beaches Measure proposed by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to establish an annual clean water fee, which would be collected with the property taxes beginning on the 2013-2014 County of Los Angeles property tax roll. The IWG has been presented with this initiative several times over the years by LA County. County Supervisors decided to defer action.
- The SBCCOG held a project management course for city staff over the course of 5 weeks in 2012. The SBCCOG plans to reconvene those participants sometime during the next 6 months (as cities are completing MR projects) to bring the topic full circle, evaluate if the participants are applying what they learned, and obtain input for future course content.

X. Adjournment — There being no further business, Chair Beste adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm until *February 20, 2013. If you'd like to include an item in the agenda, please send an e-mail to: Marcy@southbaycities.org by February 10, 2013.*