

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Infrastructure Working Group August 22, 2012 – Meeting Notes

Attendees: Rob Beste, Chair (Torrance); Farrokh Abolfathi (Carson); Stephanie Katsouleas (El Segundo); Frank Bigdeli (Gardena); Homayoun Benboodi (Hermosa Beach); Aaron Klem (Huntington Beach); Tom Shahbazi (Lomita); Crystal Killian (LADOT); Jim Arndt & Steve Finton (Manhattan Beach); Jim Goodhart & Floriza Rivera (Palos Verdes Estates); Steve Huang, Elaine Jeng, & John Mate (Redondo Beach); Craig Bilezerian & Ted Semaan (Torrance); Virgingia Maloles & Andres Narvaez (LA County DPW); Mike Bohlke (Representing Metro Director, Pam O'Connor); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Greg Stevens (GSE Solutions, LLC); Alex Geyer (Breen Engineering); Richard Mahoney (Group Delta Consultants); Alan Clelland, Alek Hovsepian, & Ramin Massoumi (Iteris, Inc.); Eric Sloan & Dr. Revlyn Williams (Manchester Community Technologies, Inc); Teresa Price (McKissack McKissack); Claudette Moody (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Anissa Voyiatzes (Psomas)

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

- I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of Minutes** – Minutes were approved as presented.
- II. **Agencies & Other Reports:**
 - **SBCCOG** – Program update – no report.
 - **SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County Dept. of PW** – Status – Andres Narvaez distributed the South Bay Traffic Forum Status Report for August 2012. Tasks in progress mentioned: construction has been completed for the City of Torrance Traffic Management Center, Gardena's Traffic Management Center is being set up, county and cities are reviewing the final submittal of the detailed design plans for the South Bay Fiber Interconnect project (along multiple streets.)
 - **Caltrans** – no report
 - **Metro** – Mandatory PMIS Training- Steve Lantz announced that Metro's PMIS training announcement will be released soon. It will most likely take place at MTA headquarters to accommodate the need for a computer lab. This training is MANDATORY for any cities or agencies with Measure R projects. Mike Bohlke reported that MTA is dark this month, so there was no update.
 - **Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee** – Update – Chair Beste reported that the upcoming call for projects was discussed, including the level of funding. He said that there were not many requirement changes in the application process.
 - **Metro's Sub-Regional 2013 Call for Projects Workshop** (Attachment F) – Steve Lantz pointed out the Call for Projects workshop flyer in the meeting packet. South Bay Cities' staff may attend at the Blue Water Grill in Redondo Beach on October 24 at 10am. Elaine Jeng, of Redondo Beach, reported that \$186 million is available.
- III. **Measure R Project Spotlight- South Bay Project Spotlight: Torrance's Del Amo Blvd. Extension Project** – Craig Bilezerian, who has been with the project for 12 years, reported that the project scope included: relocating utilities and BNSF spur rail, constructing a new storm drain system, mechanically stabilized earthen walls and roadway, a new bridge over active BNSF railway, and installing new traffic signals, landscape, and irrigation. The project cost \$34 million and benefits include: additional east-west route throughout Torrance, reduces traffic volumes on adjacent arterials, reduces vehicle delays, and decreases response times for emergencies. He announced that the ribbon-cutting ceremony for this project was scheduled for this afternoon.
- IV. **Clean Water, Clean Beaches Parcel Fee Measure – Update** – Hector Bordas, from the LA County Dept. of Public Works, gave a presentation on the County's Clean Water, Clean Beaches Measure. The new MS4 permit (a funding measure to clean storm water and put it back in the ground) is coming out in the fall of this year. The proposed fee will be determined by the amount of runoff properties generate, based on the size of each parcel and its use. The typical single-family residential fee would be \$54 annually; condos would be \$20 or less. November 27 is the tentative date for the protest hearing. The ballot election will occur in the spring of 2013. The draft ordinance is available for review. The County is still educating the public about this proposed new fee. Chair Beste clarified that the protest vote is first (if 50% of the property owners in LA County protest there won't be a ballot vote). The ballot vote comes second (approval needs a simple majority). Mr. Bordas' presentation will be uploaded to the SBCCOG's website.
- V. **City Ownership of Street Lights** – Aaron Klemm, Energy Project Manager at the City of Huntington Beach, gave an overview

of the results of the recent rate case and settlement agreement between Southern California Edison and the member cities of the Coalition for Affordable Streetlights. SCE initially proposed 5% annual increases for street lights over the next 3 years and is willing to sell street lights to cities. The Coalition's member cities acknowledge that city budgets are forcing the restructuring of services and believe that street lights should not be an exception. Huntington Beach believes that purchasing and contracting for service can improve branding and public safety, while providing near term and long-term costs savings. Mr. Klemm announced that it costs a city \$10,000 to join the Coalition, and that there will be a new rate case in 2016. Steve Lantz asked which sector (public or private) ends up owning the poles. Mr. Klemm said that the taxpayer and city owns the pole. Steve Huang asked if a city may mount lighting on Edison distribution poles. Mr. Klemm said that this is not allowed and that current street lights on power distribution poles are not included in the street light sale program. Homayoun Benboodi asked if this case settlement affects other SCE agreements. Mr. Klemm said no; the California Public Utilities Commission is the only jurisdiction that can settle this. Steve Finton asked if a risk analysis has been done and Mr. Klemm said no. Chair Beste noted that Mr. Klemm is especially progressive in this effort and extremely knowledgeable. In 2016, the Coalition plans to really push for a good rate (distribution poles). Mr. Klemm concluded by stating that the Coalition needs more members, because if it went to trial, its city resources would be depleted rapidly due to the lack of membership.

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

- **Draft SBHP Candidate Projects List** (Attachment B) Steve Lantz reported that this list is the result of the one-on-one meetings cities have had with the SBCCOG/Metro, and this does not yet include the City of Los Angeles. Nexus analysis must begin now to determine which projects are eligible to receive Measure R South Bay Highway funds.
- **SBHP Project Progress Chart** (Attachment C) Steve Lantz described the Progress Summary Chart that the Measure R Oversight Committee is using to monitor progress being made on SBHP Projects. The Oversight Committee will receive an update monthly and will determine what steps the SBCCOG can take to bring delayed projects back on schedule.
- **Measure R Subfund Match for Metro Call for Projects** (Attachment D) The SBCCOG and Metro need to create a policy about how South Bay Cities' subfunds will provide a portion of the local match for eligible Metro Call for Projects applications. The IWG Executive Committee will be convened by Chair Beste to develop recommended policies for the Oversight Committee to recommend to the SBCCOG Board. Metro is aware of this initiative.
- **Non-mandatory SBHP Project Management Course** (Attachment E) The SBCCOG will host a 5-session course on Project Development, facilitated by a third party. This is not mandatory, as the original email stated. There are requirements for registration; please refer to the attachment.

VII. **Other Business – Chair Beste said that IRWMP project applications must be in the IRWMP database by Aug 31.**

VIII. Chair Beste **adjourned the meeting at 1:26pm until September 26, 2012.** *If you want to include an item in the agenda, please send e-mail to: Marcy@southbaycities.org by Monday, Sept. 18, 2012.*