

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Infrastructure Working Group January 25, 2012 – Meeting Notes

Attendees: Rob Beste, Chair (Torrance); Farrokh Abolfathi (Carson); Stephanie Katsouleas (El Segundo); Frank Bigdeli & John Felix (Gardena); Emilio M. Murga (Inglewood); Marlene Miyoshi (Lawndale); Greg McPherron (Lomita); Ken Husting (LADOT); Jim Goodhart (Palos Verdes Estates); Steve Huang & John Mate (Redondo Beach); Craig Bilezerian & Ted Semaan (Torrance); Jane White (LA County DWP); Fulgene Asuncion, Fanny Pan, & Lan Saadatnejadi (Metro); Mike Bohlke (Representing Metro Director, Pam O'Connor); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Dr. Ramon Grijalva (Addison Burnet Group, Inc.); Mark Chang (CH2M Hill); Sarah Curran & Alex Geyer (Breen Engineering); Robert Delgado (Ghiradelli Associates); Polly Ann Walton (Overland Pacific & Cutler, Inc.); Ken Berkman (Psomas); Kevin Higgins, Gary Miller, & Carlos Ortiz (RBF Consulting); Rajesh Soneja (Simplex Construction Management, Inc.)

Chair Beste called IWG meeting to order at 12:02pm.

- I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of Minutes** – Minutes were approved as presented.
- II. **South Bay Measure R Updates** – Steve Lantz said the updates would be covered in various updates throughout agenda
- III. **Metro Measure R Sub-Regional Funds** “Equity Alignment” Motion– Mike Bohlke reported that a motion was presented to the Metro Planning and Programming Committee that would allow Measure R Subfunds (such as those used for the South Bay Highway Program) to be used as local match in the Metro Call For Projects. There was general confusion by members of committee on what Subfunds are used for so staff is re-writing the motion to make clearer. The revised motion will be brought back to the committee and Metro Board in February. Assignment of Subfunds to Call for Projects applications will need to be approved by the SBCCOG and Metro prior to submittal of applications. Although Mr. Lantz noted that most Caltrans project funding is provided by Metro outside the Call for Projects process, Caltrans’ ITS and street improvements can qualify for Metro’s Call for Projects. Caltrans and local lead agencies will be able to leverage matching funds, since the Measure R Subfunds will only provide about half of the money needed for identified projects during the next 30 years.
- IV. **SBCCOG SBHP Funding Agreement Tracking Sheet** – Steve Lantz introduced the tracking sheet, which is reviewed monthly by the Oversight Committee. Since the IWG does not see this very often, Mr. Lantz asked the cities to look at their sections and let him know if there are revisions. A yellow box indicates new information.
- V. **Redevelopment Agency Eliminations and Measure R / Call for Projects matching funds** – Steve Lantz reported that the Oversight Committee had not expected to deal with the potential loss of redevelopment funding until Carson asked at the Oversight Committee if Measure R Subfunds could backfill on a big project if their Redevelopment Agency funding fell through. The SBCCOG and Metro are determining if, and with what conditions, this substitution could be considered. In example, for Fully Funded projects in the SBHP, it might be possible to substitute Measure R Subfunds for Redevelopment funding that was lost through no fault of the city. However, the city would have a fiduciary responsibility to exhaust all administrative remedies to keep the previously-committed redevelopment funding for their project. Mr. Lantz asked for lead agencies to let him know if there are any other fully-funded projects that have redevelopment funds at risk, to let him know as soon as possible since in July, the SBCCOG will start updating the implementation plan and project list, and matching requirements for existing projects. Rob Beste summarized: if you lose funding, the Oversight Committee can look at the situation and perhaps provide help to avoid project downsizing and delays.
- VI. **SBHP Implementation Plan Update schedule (Attachment D)** – Steve Lantz announced that this must be done on an annual basis. In July, the IWG and Oversight Committee will review the status of projects in the current program. In the fall, the committees will consider and change any of the projects and add new projects within constraints of available funds. We will know what Metro has been able to budget by July, so that by November, we’ll turn in the annual update and budget requests for FY 2013-14 to Metro. We will also update the SBHP policies and projects by the end of November. Rob Beste noted that the IWG and Oversight Committee will need to develop criteria for new projects to see if they’re eligible for Measure R funding.
- VII. **Metro Communication Materials /Signage Examples (Attachment E)** - Steve Lantz referred to the signage images in the meeting packet for a last look. Metro would like to use the graphic of the construction workers. The SBCCOG and city logos may be positioned on the bottom of the graphic next to the Metro logo (the COG logo was also provided in the packet). There will be 3 sign sizes to choose from. Fulgene Asuncion will send the camera-ready image files to everyone so she will not have to be bombarded with phone calls. There is no specific Metro requirement for the number or location of signage at each site. Please use your city’s standard.
- VIII. **Iteris Task Orders for ITS Master Plan & SB Concept of Operations (Attachment F)** – Steve Lantz announced that the Board approved 2 new task orders for the Iteris Team:

The first task order is to create an ITS master plan for the South Bay regional network. Mr. Lantz noted that the initial scope was not approved by the Oversight Committee since it was viewed as too prescriptive. The scope was revised so that the Iteris team will work with an IWG taskforce to develop recommendations and bring to IWG, Oversight. One of the first tasks is to come up with a concept of Operations since the Measure R Subfunds can only be used for capital projects and are not eligible for operations of the network.

The second task order is for a South Bay Concept of Operations for highway and street systems as they improve operations of the freeway and State highways. Lan Saadatnejadi noted that more than \$1 billion in Measure R is going to be spent over the next 30 years to improve South Bay transportation networks, and the Concept of Operations will determine how the benefits will be demonstrated to the public to get funds extended for future generations. Mr. Lantz noted that Tom Choe of System Metrics will lead the task order effort.

- IX. **Green Construction Update** – Chair Beste reported that there was another meeting (task force) on January 24 and Metro wanted to better understand the effects on bidders and specs. The first project subject to Metro’s new policy was not representative of what we are trying to do (preservation of old building.) Director O’Connor is helping contain the policy to Metro construction projects. CARB will announce new Green Construction guidelines in 2015 for contractors; Mr. Lantz reiterated his belief that Metro should not be leading the guideline process, as it affects other lead agencies. He reported that the task force told Metro, “Please reiterate our position: It is a CARB function.” Mr. Bohlke said he had been assured that the Metro outreach to cities would focus on how to prepare for 2015 guidelines.
- X. **PUC Regulations on Street Lighting Update** – Chair Beste reviewed recent meetings on the issue. City Managers have seen this presentation. The current strategy is to tie into the current SCE 3 year rate case. Some local cities do not like the street light rate assessment. Torrance and Moreno Valley, Corona, Downey, etc. will be allowed to intervene in the rate case. First submittal will be in 2 weeks. Mr. Beste will be submitting our testimony in coordination with the other cities soon. If other City Managers are interested in signing onto coalition, please let Mr. Beste know. The CPUC has not looked at street lights in a long time. Mr. Beste has all contacts, so contact him if your city is interested.
- XI. **Measure R Project Spotlight – Hawthorne Boulevard in Hawthorne** – In the absence of Hawthorne, Stephanie Katsaouleas described the renovation of Maple Ave. Maple parallels Imperial Bl. so that it creates a secondary nexus to improve operations on the I-105 freeway and Imperial ramps. RFP for design work came in last week. Design includes revamping street and creating an aesthetic look, and improving drainage problems. Mr. Lantz noted that Caltrans is considering an ITS project in El Segundo for a pilot so there may be some synergy. Stephanie also noted that the city also is redoing Aviation Boulevard. Jane White volunteered to provide a summary of the County South Bay ITS projects as the next spotlight for February.
- XII. **Agency & Other Reports –**
- **SBCCOG** – Program update – Mr. Lantz promoted the General Assembly and post-meeting workshop for elected officials on responding to emergencies.
 - **General Assembly – Feb. 24, Carson Community Center (Attachment G)**
 - **NEW SBCCOG / SBESC Offices – 20285 Western Ave., Ste.100, Torrance, CA 90501-** Steve Lantz gave new tentative move date of February 18.
 - **SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County Dept. of PW** – Status – Jane White passed out her January 2012 update. County-maintained cities: switched operations to all-day long (7-lunch-530 from M-Th.) Currently in final review of an ITS project to provide fibrotic connection between County’s TMC and the El Segundo Employment area. In another ITS project, the County is putting in 3rd party software and sensors into Crenshaw Boulevard to track arterial travel times, volume, occupancy and speed. Although the County is intending to expand the software County-wide, the pilot is in the South Bay. 3 TSSP projects were awarded. Mr. Lantz also noted that in February, the IWG will invite DDL Traffic to discuss its current signal preemption program in the South Bay.
 - **Caltrans** – Update - Nothing to report. Tony Cole’s replacement has not been determined yet.
- XIII. **Other Business** – Rob Beste, IWG Chair- no other business
- XIV. **Adjournment** – Chair Beste adjourned the meeting at 12:50pm until February 22. If you would like to add an item to the agenda please e-mail Marcy@southbaycities.org before Mon., February 10, 2012.