

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Infrastructure Working Group October 26, 2011 – Meeting Notes

Attendees: Rob Beste, Chair (Torrance); Maryam Jonas & Stephanie Katsouleas (El Segundo); Frank Bigdeli & John Felix (Gardena); Akbur Farokhi & Alan Leung (Hawthorne); Earl Schwartz (Lawndale); Steve Huang & John Mate (Redondo Beach); Ted Semaan (Torrance); Josie Gutierrez, Pamela Manning, Andres Narvaez, and Jane White (LA County DWP); Fulgene Asuncion (Metro); Mike Bohlke (Representing Metro Director, Pam O'Connor); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Lynn Grijalva & Dr. Ramon Grijalva (Addison Burnet Group, Inc.); Sarah Curran & Alex Geyer (Breen Engineering); Vigen Davidian (Iteris, Inc.); Ken Berkman (Psomas); Gary Miller & Carlos Ortiz (RBF Consulting).

Chair Beste called IWG meeting to order at 12:15pm.

- I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of Minutes** – Minutes were approved as presented.
- II. **South Bay Measure R Updates** –
 - Measure R SBHP ITS Implementation Plan Scope of Work – Chair Beste talked about the ITS Master Plan (attachment) which will be taken to the SBCCOG Measure R Oversight Committee on November 1, 2011. Input is due as soon as possible.
 - Early Action Project Updates for SBCCOG FY 2012-13 SBHP Budget Request to Metro- Steve Lantz mentioned the need for cities to submit an Early Action Project Update one-page form for each project the budget request to MTA by December. Projects The request will include updates for FY 11-12 projects and FY 12-13 projects that will be receiving Measure R funds for the first time. Vigen Davidian, of Iteris, Inc., requested that Iteris also be informed even if a city has no changes to make. Steve also mentioned that construction signage must conform with the MTA Signage Policy.
 - Approving task 5: Task 5 in the Iteris contract is for project oversight and program development which occurs after the SBHP Implementation Plan is complete. Just sent out draft direct contracts for Iteris' sub-contractors; this will ensure that no contractor oversees their own work (conflict of interest.) Approximately 10-12 have been MOUs completed so far. Projects need to get moving; cities who have not yet started need to talk to Iteris.
- III. **Metro CMP: Nexus Study Results** –Robert Calix stated that Metro has been compiling regionally-significant transportation projects (by sub-region) to study their potential for reduction in congestion and cost. The Westside is invested in bicycling and walking but our sub-region's travel-demand does not reflect this need. Each sub-region's range will be available soon; only South Bay Cities, Westside Cities, and Arroyo Verdugo Cities have completed this nexus analysis so far. Gateway Cities, San Gabriel Valley Cities, North County Cities, and Las Virgenes-Malibu need a few more months to complete their nexus analysis. The next step is for Metro to develop the regional program using the nexus calculations. Calix did not have the final report today, but did distribute a list of key findings. Steve Lantz wondered if this would be implemented by city or by sub-region. Mr. Calix answered that there will not be one countywide fee- it will be sub-regional and cities within each sub-region will charge different fees. Perhaps there will be a flat minimal countywide fee and an additional fee, depending on a city's needs. This fee can be used as the local match to some of the Measure R projects. Steve recommended that cities talk to Iteris about reconciling the list of Implementation Plan projects that are fully funded with Robert Calix's list of unfunded projects. A fee ordinance will be implemented once Program Development is underway. Steve also asked if Metro will have to make a CMP-specific nexus for Measure R projects since these projects have already received their nexus determinations. Mr. Calix requested that Steve email him this question so he can find out from his supervisor. Mr. Calix also explained instances of land uses that may be exempt: low and very low income, high density areas near passenger rail stations, mixed use developments, etc. Mr. Calix stated that 50% reduced congestion can be achieved, based on the South Bay Cities' sub-regional data.
- IV. **Green Construction Update** – Chair Beste reported that he attended a focus group regarding this policy, and Mike Bohlke added that some Metro board members want to apply this measure to other funding sources besides Measure R. This was met with negative feedback. Mr. Bohlke is sure that a majority of the Board will oppose anything that will create an obstacle to funding sources. Chair Beste commented that the progression of this policy will be something to watch since it may be difficult for cities to find the necessary equipment.
- V. **PUC Regulations on Street Lighting** – Chair Beste wanted to collect feedback from cities regarding their street lighting projects. He reported that the City of Torrance Edison has been reserving funds to replace streetlights for 30 years but has yet to make the replacements. Stephanie Katsouleas from the City of El Segundo said that the City is anxious to replace

poles, LEDs, induction lighting, high-pressure sodium vapor, and rigs, but that Edison has not yet taken action on these upgrades. Steve Lantz wondered if we need to reach out to other COGs within Edison territory to rally support for the LED projects. Chair Beste said that it depends if a city owns their street lights, or if they are owned by Edison. Just to upgrade to LEDs, Edison will replace lighting in kind but will not actively pursue LED projects. As Steve Huang from the City of Redondo Beach pointed out, Edison charges a lot for improvements to street lighting and this is frustrating. He added that Edison has never relinquished a street light to any city, unlike PG & E has done. Chair Beste and other Southern California cities will meet to discuss this topic and will brief the IWG on their discussion.

VI. **Agencies & Other Reports:**

- South Bay Traffic Forum, LA County Dept. of PW – Jane White of the Traffic and Lighting Division of the LA County Department of Public Works, distributed a South Bay Traffic Forum Status Report for October 2011. The report listed tasks in progress for the South Bay: ITS Project, El Segundo Area ITS Project, and Traffic Signal Synchronization projects. Ms. White reported that three South Bay projects were funded in previous Calls for Projects. Ms. White, who also sits on the ITS California's Event Committee, and encouraged everyone to attend the 2011 Annual Intelligent Transportation Systems Annual Meeting and Exhibition, scheduled from November 13th-15th in Long Beach. The workshops and exhibits will showcase an array of top-notch keynote speakers and topical panelists.
- Metro- Fulgene Asuncion asked cities to contact Fanny Pan if they need to be reminded of their funding assignments.
- Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee – Steve Huang strongly opposed the Green Construction Measure because it is so expensive. The recommendation the City of Redondo Beach submitted was overlooked and that caused even more concern from the TAC subcommittee. November 2, 2011 will be another opportunity to give input.

VII. Chair Beste adjourned the meeting at 1:07pm until November 30, 2011. If you would like to add an item to the agenda please e-mail Marcy@southbaycities.org before Tuesday, November 22, 2011.