

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Infrastructure Working Group September 28, 2011 – Meeting Notes

Attendees: Rob Beste, Chair (Torrance); Maryam Jonas (El Segundo); Mike Duran & John Felix (Gardena); Alan Leung & Akbur Farokhi & Alan Leung (Hawthorne); Frank Senteno (Hermosa Beach); Emilio Murga (Inglewood); Earl Schwartz (Lawndale); Jim Arndt & Steve Finton (Manhattan Beach); Allan Rigg & Floriza Rivera (Palos Verdes Estates); Steve Huang & John Mate (Redondo Beach); Greg Grammer (Rolling Hills Estates); Craig Bilezerian & Ted Semaan (Torrance); Anthony Cole (CALTRANS); Paul Choy (LA County DWP); Fulgene Asuncion & Lan Saadatnejadi (Metro); Mike Bohlke (Representing Metro Director, Pam O'Connor); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Jon Ziegler & Alex Geyer (Breen Engineering); Claudette Moody (Parsons Brinckerhoff Inc.); Ken Berkman (Psomas); Gary Miller & Carlos Ortiz (RBF Consulting).

Chair Beste called IWG meeting to order at 12:09pm.

- I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of Minutes** – Minutes were approved as presented. Chair Beste acknowledged Frank Senteno's new title of Director of Public Works for the City of Hermosa Beach.
- II. **South Bay Measure R Hwy Implementation Plan Conceptual Cooperative Agreement** – Mr. Lantz described a conceptual cooperative agreement approach to managing the Measure R South Bay Highway Program. He presented the same PowerPoint slide show that will be presented to the SBCCOG Board at its September 29, 2011 meeting. Each city that has a project will sign a funding agreement directly with Metro (congratulations to John Felix from the City of Gardena for completing the first one!) Mr. Lantz explained that a cooperative agreement/hybrid management model is being developed to replace the current grant funding agreement arrangement with a cooperative agreement partnership between the SBCCOG and Metro. The request for the authorization to work with Metro to develop this cooperative agreement under the direction of the SBCCOG's Measure R Oversight Committee will be an action item on the SBCCOG Board meeting agenda on September 29, 2011. The request to amend the SBCCOG's existing agreement with Metro to immediately release the retention is part of the same action item. Chair Beste said that the Oversight Committee recognizes that it has a large amount of local control, and regular reviews will be conducted. Lan Saadatnejadi of Metro thanked Mr. Lantz for the presentation and plans to respond at the September 29 SBCCOG Board meeting.
- III. **Metro CMP: Nexus Status** – Item was carried over at the request of Robert Calix, of Metro, who will attend the October IWG meeting.
- IV. **Integrated Regional Water Management Plan: Status** - Rob Beste, IWG Chair- Nothing to report.
- V. **MS4 Permit: Status** -Rob Beste, IWG Chair – Nothing to report.
- VI. **Agency & Other Reports:**
 - SBCCOG – Steve Lantz reported (on behalf of Kim Fuentes) that, because Kim will be working more closely with the Environmental Services Center, Marcy Hiratzka of the SBCCOG would be assuming IWG meeting support responsibilities. Steve Lantz announced the next General Assembly will be held February 24, 2012. Funding will be partly derived from funds raised by non-profit organization, Green Technology, and its public outreach initiative called Only You Can Save Energy. Steve reported that Phase I of the Measure R Implementation Program has been completed and that Phase II will consist of Iteris and the SBCCOG tracking orders. Contracts will be directly executed between the SBCCOG and Iteris, and others between the SBCCOG and each of the subcontractors. Oversight responsibilities will be assigned to non-conflicted subcontractors.
 - **SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County Dept. of PW** – Paul Choy of the Traffic and Lighting Division of the LA County Department of Public Works distributed a South Bay Traffic Forum Status Report for September 2011 on behalf of Jane White. The report listed tasks in progress for the South Bay ITS Project, El Segundo Area ITS Project, and Traffic Signal Synchronization projects.
 - **Metro-** Fulgene Asuncion reported that the Metro 2011 Call for Projects was approved by the Metro Board at its September 22, 2011 meeting. A Call for Projects Successful Applicant Workshop will be held at 9:30 am on Oct. 13, 2011 in the Metro Board Room, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles CA 90012. Project sponsors will receive their project fund assignment(s) along with instructions for the Call for Projects requirements. Ms. Asuncion also reported that the Metro Board certified the Final EIR for the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor Project on Sep. 22, 2011. The FTA is expected to issue its Record of Decision in Oct. 2011.
 - **Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee** – Steve Huang had nothing to report.

- **Caltrans**- Tony Cole reported that the FHWA announced that they plan to increase their presence in their Los Angeles office. Mr. Cole also mentioned that there are new regulations related to utility relocations and that Cooperative Agreements will be due in June 2012.

VII. **New Storm Drain Fee** -- Phil Doudar of the Watershed Management Division of the LA County Public Works Department gave a presentation and responded to many questions and concerns expressed by IWG attendees on the proposed water quality funding & flood control parcel fee. The following talking points are from his presentation:

- There are 2.3 million parcels in LA County. The County's research (phone surveys from 4,500 registered voters/business owners) indicates general public acceptance and support of the proposed \$54 Clean Water parcel-related fee. Actual parcel fees will be based on projects, and not based on a flat rate. There will be different tiers based on size, within each category.
- Benefits from this ordinance would include: protection and increase of clean drinking water, education of children and adults, creation of long-term local green jobs, and the requirement of funds being allocated locally. This program will help cities comply with different requirements.
- All types of parcels (residential, commercial, government, and industrial) would be required to pay the fee.
- Ineligible expenditures for use of parcel fee funding would include: litigation, fines and violations, and non-water quality components of projects.
- AB2554 sets the framework and legal foundation for the ordinance drafted for this program.
- 9 regional Watershed Area Groups (WAG) would be created to develop and implement regional projects and improvement plans, and would consist of municipalities within the WAG boundaries. WAGs receive 50% of a return for regional fixes, while a city receives 40% for local fixes.
- An Oversight Board will review improvement plans, make certification recommendations to the LA County Board of Supervisors, and review city projects over \$1 million.
- The next steps are to draft an ordinance for public comment (which will close by October 18, 2011), create an Engineer's Report for fee calculation and justification, and subject the ordinance to legal review and approval from the County Board of Supervisors.
- Cities are required to submit an annual expense report and budget for the following year.

Adjournment – Next meeting is Wed., Oct. 26, 2011. If you want to add an item to the agenda please e-mail Marcy@sbesc.com before Mon., Oct. 10, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm.