

## South Bay Cities Council of Governments Infrastructure Working Group July 25, 2012 – Meeting Notes

**Attendees:** Rob Beste, Chair (Torrance); Andre Haghverdian & Stephanie Katsouleas (El Segundo); Frank Bigdeli & John Felix (Gardena); Keith Lockhard (Inglewood); Greg McPherron & Tom Shahbazi (Lomita); Jim Goodhart & Floriza Rivera (Palos Verdes Estates); Steve Huang & John Mate (Redondo Beach); Craig Bilezerian & Ted Semaan (Torrance); Paul Choy & Pamela Manning (LA County DPW); Fulgene Asuncion (Metro); Mike Bohlke (Representing Metro Director, Pam O'Connor); Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Alex Geyer (Breen Engineering); Delbara Dorsey (Everfield Consulting); Beverly Voran (Hard Hat Communications); Richard Mahoney (Group Delta Consultants); Alan Clelland & Alek Hovsepian (Iteris, Inc.); Frank Lara (Jacobs Engineering); Polly Ann Walton (Overland Pacific & Culter, Inc.); Eric Brown & Claudette Moody (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Ken Berkman & Anissa Voyiatzes (Psomas); Gary Miller (RBF Consulting)

Chair Beste called IWG meeting to order at 12:07 pm.

- I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of Minutes** – Minutes were approved as presented.
- II. **PUC Regulations on Street Lighting Update-** Chair Beste distributed the Coalition for Affordable Street Lights' (CASL) Settlement Achievements, which reflects their efforts against Edison. He also distributed a *California Current* article, which described the street light rate realignment and the success of the coalition. City Managers have received these documents as well. Chair Beste reported that the rate case is being negotiated by Moreno Valley on behalf of numerous disgruntled cities. The coalition got the rate decreased. SCE will have to keep books regarding street light data from now on, and produce an annual report. City funds no longer subsidize developer projects. If cities want to acquire the rest of their street lights, acquisitions of existing infrastructure will be available for the next several years. SCE has to cooperate. Aaron Klemm, Energy Project Manager for the City of Huntington Beach and coalition member, will present on this at next month's IWG meeting. The South Bay has to stay on top of every rate case. The case was in settlement up until this point, which is why Chair Beste was unable to report until now.
- III. **Agencies & Other Reports:**
  - **SBCCOG – Program update** - Steve Lantz announced that the SBCCOG invited Metro's ExpressLanes van that sells the new transponders which will soon be required on certain I-110 and I-10 segments as part of its HOT lane pilot program. The van will be selling transponders at the SBCCOG office at 5 pm, an hour before the SBCCOG Board meeting. AAA members can receive a discount by ordering online at the AAA website. Vanpools and carpools will still need transponders. The transponders have the ability to switch from 1-3 drivers which allows single occupant vehicles to be charged for use of the lane and 2 or more occupants to use the lane free of charge.
  - **SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County Dept. of PW – Status** –Paul Choy distributed the South Bay Traffic Forum Status Report for July 2012, which listed the TSSP and ITS projects that Jane White's group is working on. Alan Clelland of Iteris, a firm contracted to develop an Implementation Plan and provide Program/Project Management for the South Bay Measure R Highway Program, used this opportunity to explain the communication opportunity available for transportation agencies to provide traveler information via the city's community access TV channels. He explained that real time traffic reports can be accurately displayed on local cable stations, but only 3 of the 15 South Bay cities are taking advantage of this service that the County provides. Mr. Clelland offered to help cities move forward with this, as it is in Iteris' contract. The data is on arterial congestion and delay cannot be found online. It's a collaboration of agency and private data suppliers, along with Metro and Caltrans. Mr. Clelland encouraged cities to at least put this information online if they lack a cable station.
  - **Metro – PMIS Update, Board Update** - Fulgene Asuncion announced that Metro's new PMIS database is finally completed and is being put into place by Metro's IT Department. Between now and August 20, there will be a compilation of existing agreements into the new system. On September 5, the SBCCOG will receive PMIS training, and on September 10 lead agencies will receive training. Details coming soon.
  - **Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee** – Update – Chair Beste had nothing to report.
- IV. **South Bay Measure R Updates**
  - **Draft Summary of Early Action projects change requests and new projects-** Steve Lantz encouraged cities to submit any and all status reports in before it's too late. They were due in April but the SBCCOG, Iteris, and Metro are still willing to meet with cities individually to discuss existing and new projects.
  - **Measure R Extension Potential Ballot Measure Update-** Mike Bohlke was not sure of the status of this measure in

the Legislature. He said that the Fasana Motion will probably be approved by Metro on August 6, and will then go before voters in November. He clarified that Metro is seeking a 30 year, not indefinite, extension and that the Fasana motion would eliminate the current restriction to funding transit projects with Subfund highway dollars. The current measure restricts the swaps to once per decade with the first opportunity in 2019.

- **SBCCOG concurrence on scope, schedule & budget for Funding Agreements-** Steve Lantz remarked that this is a good cross-checking process. If a lead agency/city is negotiating a Funding Agreement, they need to make sure it's consistent with the original project funds committed.

V. **Measure R SBHP ITS Plan & Strategic Transportation Element updates (Attachment C)** – Alan Clelland gave a brief overview of two presentations that were given at a recent workshop at the SBCCOG office. Specifically, he spoke about the South Bay Strategic Transportation Element – a highway project evaluation tool and South Bay network monitoring program. The project will require a Highway Project Detection Plan and proposed monitoring network. Cities need to identify potential corridors, their technology approach, and develop implementation prioritization. He requested cities' comments as soon as possible.

VI. **Measure R Project Spotlight – Hawthorne Rosecrans Ave. Project (F11)** –Steve Lantz showed before and after pictures of this completed Measure R project. He reported that when he went in search of the construction sign (before this project was completed), he did not see the SBCCOG logo at the project site. He kindly reminded city staff to post the proper signage agreed upon in Funding Agreements with Metro, and to also invite the SBCCOG to ribbon-cutting and ground-breaking ceremonies.

VII. **Other Business-**

- 2013 IWG meeting calendar (Attachment D in July IWG packet) and menu change were announced. Next year, no ice cream, no price increase.
- Chair Beste reminded everyone that MS4 permit comments are due as soon as possible.
- Chair Beste reminded everyone that the IRWIMP database is being updated, and that projects will soon be considered for funding. Be ready with your applications!
- Ken Berkman of Psomas announced that he is now an American Council of Engineering Companies CA Los Angeles County Member and said he'd be happy to consider capital project nominations for the Engineering Achievement Award.
- At the August IWG meeting, Hector Bordas with the Public Works Dept at LA County will discuss the Board of Supervisors' approval of a recommendation to proceed with a protest vote/ hearing regarding the County's Water Quality Funding Initiative.
- Craig Bilezerian of Torrance reported on the Del Amo Blvd. Extension Construction Project and announced that the ribbon-cutting ceremony will occur on August 22 at 4:30 pm. Del Amo Boulevard is located in the central portion of the City of Torrance. The limits of the proposed project are between Crenshaw Boulevard and Madrona Avenue/Prairie Avenue. The project site is currently a vacant right-of-way, surrounded by industrial and manufacturing uses, including the Exxon-Mobil refinery to the north and Dow Chemical to the south. The proposed project would complete the missing segment of Del Amo Boulevard between Crenshaw Boulevard and Maple Avenue and it would widen the existing segment of Del Amo Boulevard between Maple Avenue and Prairie Avenue. When constructed, Del Amo Boulevard will be a four-lane divided roadway within the project limits and provide an additional east-west route throughout the City. Construction also includes a new bridge over the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks, drainage improvements and relocation of existing utilities. The City of Torrance certified the final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment EIR/EA in April 2004. The project's design plans were completed in December 2008. The project will be constructed in 2 phases. Phase 1 will provide for the rerouting of two water pipelines and 2 sewer pipelines. Phase 1 construction was completed in December, 2010. Phase 2 will construct the new 4-lane divided roadway, bridge over the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks, and other elements of the project. Construction of Phase 2 will be funded by \$7M from the federal Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP); \$3.1M from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Economic Stimulus funds); approximately \$6.7M of grant funding from METRO; \$2.6M from Proposition 1B and \$1M from Proposition C. Construction began on November, 2010, and will be ongoing for two (2) years. There is a Facebook page for this project, which can be found at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/City-of-Torrance-Del-Amo-Blvd-Extension-Construction-Project/198906423466892>

VIII. Chair Beste adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm until August 22, 2012. If you would like to add an item to the agenda please email Marcy Hiratzka at [marcy@southbaycities.org](mailto:marcy@southbaycities.org) before Monday, August 20, 2012.