



**Measure R South Bay Highway  
Program Oversight Committee Meeting Notes-  
May 7, 2014**

**Attendees:** Jim Dear (Carson); Dan Medina (Gardena); Ralph Franklin (Inglewood); Tom Brewer (Torrance); Massoud Ghiam (Carson); Stephanie Katsouleas (El Segundo); Dan Ojeda (Hermosa Beach); Keith Lockhard (Inglewood); Lance Grindle (LA County DPW); Joe Parco (Manhattan Beach); Rob Beste (Torrance); Yunus Ghausi & Sameer Haddadeen (Caltrans); Fulgene Asuncion & Lan Saadatnejadi (Metro); Christine Furusawa (Port of LA); Jacki Bacharach, Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Beth George (Converse Consultants); Alek Hovsepian (Iteris); Larry Fisher (Torrance resident)

- I. **CALL TO ORDER / Introductions-** Vice Chair Franklin started the discussion at 3:10 pm. The meeting was called to order with the arrival of Mayor Dear at 3:43 pm. Prior to achieving a quorum, Items IV, VI and VII were discussed without taking action.
- II. **REPORT OF POSTING OF THE AGENDA** – Received and Filed
- III. **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA** – None
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Larry Fisher, a resident of south Torrance, expressed his concern over the selection process for Measure R projects, particularly as related to the PCH Corridor (Hawthorne/PCH and Crenshaw/PCH.) He provided a map of the PCH corridor from 190<sup>th</sup> St to I-110, showing that there are three lanes between the I-110 and Anza that exist on east and west bound PCH, except at Crenshaw. He said that the infrastructure at Crenshaw has not been upgraded to accommodate the growing economic development and traffic there, and contended that residents living on the Palos Verdes Peninsula specifically avoid using Crenshaw, which further congests Hawthorne Blvd. He said that this demonstrates how the Measure R project selection in Torrance is not consistent with the needs of the community. Mr. Fisher also asked if the City of Torrance plans to complete MR312.10 (PCH/Hawthorne Improvements) on time, and wanted to know about the scope of MR312.23 (Torrance Transit Center / Park and Ride facility) and how much of it is being funded with public money. Steve Lantz said he would respond to Mr. Fisher via email subsequent to the meeting.
- V. **CONSENT CALENDAR- Meeting Minutes for April 2 2014 Measure R Oversight Committee** (Attachment A) - **Approved** – Mayor Dear moved; Councilman Medina seconded; no objection.
- VI. **METRO UPDATES** – Metro staff
  - A. **Mobility Matrix - APPROVED** – Fulgene Asuncion from Metro explained that Metro is creating a Mobility Matrix for 5 sub-regions in LA County, and the consultant contract scopes of work for all but the South Bay's have been released. This program will develop a performance evaluation tool to identify projects and will provide a framework to determine which projects may be delivered over a short or long-range period of time. The draft South Bay Mobility Matrix, which is still being finalized between Metro and the SBCCOG, was distributed at the meeting. Metro has begun the procurement process of hiring a consultant from the Metro planning bench, with plans to complete the project by February 2015. Jacki Bacharach added that Rob Beste and Stephanie Katsouleas will sit on the evaluation panel for the selection of the consultant. Rob Beste said that there is less and less local return money for maintenance and that the peninsula and beach cities do not receive as much consideration, since they do not meet the highway nexus for the SBHP Measure R funds. Jacki Bacharach was not satisfied with the language of the first line on page ten of the draft. She objected to language in the document that calls “for the SBCCOG Board to approve” the “needs assessment and strategic document”. She asked that the item language be changed to “for consideration by the SBCCOG Board.” She emphasized that the language would require that the SBCCOG Board approve the South Bay Mobility Matrix,

which cannot be assumed or required. In addition, Ms. Bacharach was concerned that approval might be misconstrued as the Board approving a sales tax measure which might be developed based on this list of projects.

**Councilman Medina moved, Councilman Brewer seconded a motion to APPROVE the authorization to Metro to release the Draft South Bay Mobility Matrix proposal scope of work with the one change of language requested by Ms. Bacharach on page 10. Motion was approved without objection.**

- B. Updates on Caltrans Measure R projects** – Lan Saadatnejadi reported that a Metro RFP for a Metro-funded SB Cities Arterial Performance Measure Baseline Condition Analysis was issued in April, with plans to award in July. The scope will establish arterial baseline conditions that will be used to monitor the performance of future projects that will be developed and implemented. Ms. Saadatnejadi also reported on MR312.24 and MR312.25; PAED kick-off meetings have occurred for both projects, with plans to complete the environmental requirements in one year. Ms. Saadatnejadi also reported on Metro's General Sub-Regional Program Update, the semi-annual list of projects to be funded by Measure R. The Board will consider that item in September. Finally, Ms. Saadatnejadi mentioned Metro's I-405 HOT Lane Conversion Feasibility Study, and said that of the four alternatives, Alternative 3 (I-605 (single) and I-105 (dual) HOT Lanes without Direct Connectors at NB I-605/WB I-105) was deemed the most preferable by stakeholders and Metro staff. Steve Lantz added that the I-405/105 HOV conversion lane should not be limited to freeways that have HOVs already. The I-110 HOV stops short of the I-405 but Metro would not even consider a modification to Alternative 1, which would close that gap by building a HOT lane that extends the I-110 to the I-405 and then connects to the I-405. Both the Gateway COG and South Bay Cities COG staff are discouraged by Metro's misinterpretation of the Board's instruction as to what should be considered. Staff of both sub-regions would be interested in further study of a potential HOT lane from Orange County up the I-405 to the I-110, and then from the I-110 to the I-105, and both sub-regions must decide if this is an issue that they'd like to take to the Metro Board for further study, before permanently precluding it as an alternative for consideration. Jacki Bacharach requested that Metro present on this issue at the June 4 Measure R Oversight Committee meeting.

- VII. SBHP PROJECT MONITORING, REPORTING, NEW SBHP PROJECT SELECTION AND PROCESS FOR REQUEST FOR 2015 METRO CALL FOR PROJECTS APPLICATIONS** – (Attachment B) - **Approved** – Steve Lantz reintroduced this memo from last month, which explains the status of the SBCCOG oversight and monitoring process for the South Bay Highway Program. The SBCCOG is very concerned about the lack of project delivery and/or executed Funding Agreements. Also covered in this memo is Metro's 2015 Call for Projects application process. The SBCCOG had originally requested (in early April) that cities who planned to use the SBCCOG's technical consulting bench or Measure R funds for program development or a local match for the Call submit a resolution signed by the City Council. However, there was not time to create and distribute the resolution template and have City Councils approve it, so the SBCCOG is requesting that a lead agency's City Manager submit a letter of commitment by May 30. Joe Parco from Manhattan Beach asked for clarification on #5 of the scheduled requirements (PSR/PSREs are completed for the project no later than October 31, 2014.) He wondered if a city would have to have Caltrans' approval by October 31 as well. Steve Lantz clarified that a city's PSR/PSRE does have to be *submitted* to Caltrans by then, but not approved.

**Councilman Franklin moved, Mayor Dear seconded a motion to APPROVE the recommendation of these revised policies and procedures for initiating project selection and the specific schedule for the 2015 Call for Projects applications (with the understanding that for this year only, council resolutions will not be required but will be replaced by a letter from the City Manager) to the SBCCOG Board.**

- VIII. REQUEST FOR ALLOCATION INCREASE – PCH IMPROVEMENTS FROM ANITA ST. TO ARTESIA BLVD. IN HERMOSA BEACH** – (Attachment C) – **ITEM TABLED** – At the April 2<sup>nd</sup> Measure R Oversight Committee meeting, the City of Hermosa Beach had provided a detailed update of this project, and at the end of their presentation, it was announced that the City would like to change the scope of work and request additional funds. As the request had not been formally agendaized, the City was asked to make the request at the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Dan Ojeda returned in May with an official letter from the City requesting additional funds for this project. He had added that Caltrans requested a concept report in order to approve the changes, and Stantec (the consultant) was already working on it. Although the City's request had been submitted in writing, and the reasons for the increase (change in scope/schedule/cost) that were explained in April were deemed valid, Steve Lantz pointed out that the City's letter request did not specify an actual amount or scope change. Mr. Lantz stated that a lead agency does not need the SBCCOG's permission to *research* a cost/scope change; it needs the SBCCOG's approval once the new amount has been determined by the lead agency. As the Committee could not move forward with this item without a specific amount requested in the letter, this item was tabled.

- IX. CONSULTANT SELECTION FOR SBHP TASK ORDER #2014-1 - DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUTER BIKEWAY DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS FOR FOUR (4) STREETS LOCATED IN THE CITY OF EL SEGUNDO – (Attachment D) -** Steve Lantz reported that the City of El Segundo's request to execute a Funding Agreement with Metro on this project study was denied because the SBHP's project studies are not specified on Metro's approved Measure R Highway Operational Improvements Project List (even though aggregate funding for South Bay project studies was approved in the budget request submitted to and approved by the Metro Board.)

**Councilman Franklin moved, Mayor Dear seconded a motion to APPROVE the recommendation to the Board, contingent on the format of the funding agreement being resolved by respective legal counsel. Motion passed without objection.**

- X. SBHP PROJECT STATUS –** Steve Lantz made the following reports:
- A. SBHP Technical Consultant Bench Task Orders –** Received and filed
  - B. SBHP May 2014 Project Progress Report (Attachment E) –** Received & filed
  - C. Risk Report – (Attachment F) -** Received & filed – The Committee must vote upon a policy for when a city has *ONLY* a *schedule* change, not in cost or scope. Jacki Bacharach suggested informing the city's City Manager, Board Delegate, and Alternate when a project is added to the Risk Report. Councilman Franklin added that he would also like the City Manager to be notified via the Risk Report (that city only.) Stephanie Katsouleas said that there is a difference between a project that is 6 months behind but making progress, and a project that is 6 months behind and making no process at all. She suggested not labeling cities with projects that are technically behind their original schedule, but still making process, as "at-risk."
  - D. SBHP 3-MONTH LOOK AHEAD (Attachment G) –** Received & filed – Jacki Bacharach said that May and July were updated to reflect Attachment B's new schedule or requirements for cities that want the SBCCOG's assistance in the Call for Projects. She also recommended that the quarterly report no longer goes before the Board, only the Measure R Oversight Committee should see it as it is very detailed. Councilman Medina thought that the Board should still see it, and Mayor Dear added that it is helpful to his department heads even though there is little time for him to read it. Councilman Brewer was in favor of removing it from the Board materials.

**Councilman Brewer moved, Councilman Medina seconded a motion to APPROVE the replacement of the Quarterly Project Progress Report with a Risk Report to be reported to the Measure R Oversight Committee monthly and forwarded to the Board quarterly. Motion passed without objection.**

- E. SBHP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN UPDATE CALENDAR (Attachment H) –** Received & filed
- F. SBHP Quarterly Report (1/1/14 – 3/31/14) (Attachment I) –** Received and Filed
- G. At-Risk Project Review -** Widening of Sepulveda Blvd from Alameda St to ICTF Driveway – Carson – This project is 21 months late, according to the schedule in the Funding Agreement. Massoud Ghiam reported that a consultant was selected and plans and specs are 95% complete. These documents will be sent electronically on Monday to Metro and the SBCCOG and the City of Carson will forward them to the County as well. Mr. Ghiam also reported that the City is still completing its NEPA documents with Caltrans, which will take another 2 months. Eight months are needed to prepare for construction, and the City plans to advertise in February 2015 and begin building the channel in April. Steve Lantz reiterated the importance of amending Funding Agreements when a city knows that progress will be held up for so long. The SBCCOG has been sitting on \$1 million since 2013, while another Measure R project that was ready to go could have used the funding by now. The City has *never* submitted one monthly or quarterly

report for this project, either. Mayor Dear announced that Nelson Hernandez is new City Manager of Carson, as of 5/6/14.

At the end of this item, Jacki Bacharach asked if any lead agencies present planned to apply for Metro's ExpressLanes Net Toll Revenue Grants. None of the lead agencies present had anything to share. Ms. Bacharach reminded city staff that if the South Bay jurisdictions do not claim the funds that they are entitled to, others will. A reminder will be sent to the Board and City Managers.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT** – Vice Chair Franklin adjourned the meeting at 4:39pm until June 4, 2014, at 3:00 pm.