

**South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
Infrastructure Working Group Meeting Notes – February 9, 2022 (Held via Zoom)**

Attendees: Chair Ted Semaan (Redondo Beach); Kevin Kwak (Gardena); Doug Krauss (Hermosa Beach); Julian Lee (Lawndale); Mariam Adhami, Charles Spears, John Ickis & Maggie Cheung (LACDPW); Erick Lee, Katie Doherty, Helen Shi & Erik Zandvliet (Manhattan Beach); Kerry Cartwright (Port of LA); Mindy Flores (Torrance); Jacki Bacharach, Steve Lantz, Aaron Baum, David Leger & Amina Karwa (SBCCOG); Sergio Carvajal (Caltrans); Constance Turner (SCE); Glenn Acosta & Bryan Langpap (LACSD); Carlos Ortiz (Advantec); Marie Marston (Civil Works Engineers); Seth Contreras (Fehr & Peers); Rawad Hani (Gentecsol); Wayne Richardson & Diego Cadena (HDR); Jonai Johnson & Paul Martin (Mark Thomas); Marc Violett (Michael Baker); Greg Jaquez (MNS Engineers);

**I. Self-Introductions and Approval of January 9, 2022 IWG Meeting Notes** – Mr. Lantz called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm. The January 9, 2022 meeting notes were approved without objection. Mr. Lantz requested volunteers to serve as IWG Vice-Chair. Mr. Ickis agreed to be the new Vice-Chair for the group.

**II. Agency & Other Update Reports**

**A. SBCCOG Program Update**

Ms. Bacharach informed the group that SBCCOG is entering a regional contract with Alert South Bay and each city will work with SBCCOG on their individual participation. Not much will change except for the administration which will be now under SBCCOG. Ms. Bacharach informed the group that SBCCOG is planning to have meetings about the transfer.

Ms. Bacharach reported that SBCCOG continues to coordinate homeless services and asked the group to report any homeless people seen on the street so they can be connected with service providers.

Ms. Bacharach informed the group that there will be a speaker from Heal the Bay at the February Board meeting speaking about future opportunities and possibilities, including an LA County Clean Wate grant program.

Ms. Bacharach also announced a possible pilot program that SBCCOG will announce soon for a small group of businesses to be able to join the South Bay Fiber Network (SBFN). The pilot would use wireless technology to provide broadband level connections. If it works, SBCCOG will look into expansion opportunities for other parts of the South Bay. This would help develop competitive prices for those areas, especially underserved areas.

Ms. Bacharach reported that SBCCOG has been meeting with several cities to discuss the Local Travel Network. An RFP for wayfinding signage and other issues will be released to advance the project.

SBCCOG's in-person General Assembly is planned for March 24 at the Carson Community Center, 9:00am-2:00pm. There will be exhibits by the sponsors and other agencies. Ms. Bacharach invited the private-sector companies to contact her to become a sponsor.

Three seats are open for the Metro South Bay Service Council. Two incumbents are expected to re-apply. Applications are due mid-March and the appointment starts in July.

### **B. L.A. County DPW – South Bay Traffic Forum Update**

There were minor updates on the ITS projects including that the new Cobalt controllers for the County's Centracs system will be ordered in April instead of February as planned.

In regard to the TSSP Projects, there were only updates for Rosecrans East and Rosecrans West. For Rosecrans East, recommendations and estimates were sent to cities for review and those cities need to follow up by February 21. For Rosecrans West, the consultant is working on the second submittal Base plans and concurrence has been received from all cities. The full report is available online here: [https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/HANDOUT\\_ITS-TSSP-status-February-2022.pdf](https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/HANDOUT_ITS-TSSP-status-February-2022.pdf)

### **C. L.A. Metro Updates**

#### **1. L.A. Metro Board Actions:**

Mr. Lantz reported that the Board is still progressing to implement a service cut. They have a shortage of operators and are having difficulty recruiting and training enough drivers to keep up with new vacancies. So they will temporarily reduce their service levels starting February 20 until June or July when Metro hopes to catch up with recruiting. Metro is starting to put together its budget for the next year. Sales tax revenues will be up 3.7% and Metro will also enter labor negotiations this year. With rising operations costs, including materials and fuel, it will be challenging for Metro to produce a balanced budget. Mr. Lantz also reported that Metro's marketing the new reduced-fare program for low-income riders, known as the LIFE program.

#### **2. Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee Actions**

Mr. Zandvliet reported that Metro will be including eligible local alternative transportation improvements such as local streets into their highway project funding. It is a new eligibility of scope on the current highway program.

The Cycle 6 guidelines for the ATP program are available on the CTC website. The application period will be open March 17 through June 15. The large project threshold has been increased. There are disadvantaged community criteria as well as complete streets requirements. The CTC is offering a workshop on February 28 in the LA County area 12:30pm-2:30pm. Local agencies should have received an invitation to that workshop.

There is a set-aside for Olympics improvements with Metro's new federal infrastructure funding. Inglewood and other Olympics sites might be eligible for some transit, complete streets, and other transportation improvements.

### **D. Caltrans South Bay Projects Update**

Mr. Carvajal noted that not much has changed since the January meeting in terms of project progress. Mr. Carvajal reported that the Caltrans Director has been promoted to lead CalSTA starting March 1. Mr. Carvajal shared a forum by ITS UC Davis as a free resource to the group which includes webinars and

seminars. Mr. Carvajal's report on Caltrans South Bay projects is available online here:  
[https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/HANDOUT\\_Caltrans-projects-report.pdf](https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/HANDOUT_Caltrans-projects-report.pdf)

Mr. Carvajal recommended SBCCOG contact Metro in regards to the Metro projects on the I-110 Southbound lanes from PCH to Western and I-405 from Main Street to Western Ave. Metro is holding the funds and Caltrans is waiting for them to fund these projects.

Lastly, Mr. Carvajal explained that the I-405 El Segundo to Imperial Hwy project was not justified to move forward as a stand-alone operational improvement project. Ms. Bacharach asked to see the evaluation used to decide that there was no value to the project.

### **III. Measure R and Measure M Updates**

**-FY22-23 Measure R SBHP & SBTIP MBR Projects** Mr. Lantz explained to the group that Attachment B includes a memo that describes the new projects in Measure R, some are highway projects and some are transit. SBCCOG is recommending \$8.5 million dollars in supplemental funds for current highway projects and \$4 million dollars in additional funds for transit projects in the Measure R program.

**-FY22-23 Measure M MSP MBR Projects** Mr. Lantz explained that Attachment C describes the three MSP categories and SBCCOG is recommending \$39.862 million in additional funding for projects listed in the exhibits in Attachment C. Mr. Lantz asked the group to take a look at these projects as their last chance because they are going to the Transportation Committee and the Board by the end of the month.

### **IV. Spotlight Presentation: Hermosa Beach Lane Reduction Pilot & Data Collection Study**

Mr. Krauss and Mr. Contreras presented on Hermosa Beach's Lane Reduction Pilot/Data Collection Study. This pilot program serves as lesson- learned for other peer cities in the South Bay. The project involved repurposing an existing travel lane into a bike lane while providing additional space for on-street dining during COVID. The terms "lane reduction" and "road diet" can be concerning to residents, so the City explained this project to be a re-configuring or re-purposing of existing lanes. Mr. Krauss noted that there was some initial opposition by residents, but after reviewing the data collected and ongoing monitoring, resident and business support seems to have grown. Their full presentation is available online here:  
[https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION\\_Hermosa-Beach-Lane-Reduction-Pilot-and-Data-Collection.pdf](https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION_Hermosa-Beach-Lane-Reduction-Pilot-and-Data-Collection.pdf)

Ms. Bacharach noted that they did not show pre-pandemic data and it would have been useful to compare that data to this pilot.

### **V. Update on Clearwater Project**

Mr. Acosta presented on LACSD's Clearwater Project and explained how the tunnel was constructed and will be assembled. In regard to the construction schedule, the boring machine is still in their facilities lot and by the summer it will arrive under the Harbor Regional Park. By the end of the year, LACSD expects they will be at the southern end of the park. For more detail on the project, the presentation is available here: [https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION\\_Feb-2022-Clearwater-Update.pdf](https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION_Feb-2022-Clearwater-Update.pdf)

Mr. Langpap gave a presentation on the recent sewage spill in Carson and actions LACSD took to fix the

situation. After some investigation, they determined the cause of the spill was a sewer line collapse about a half a mile away. It was 60 years old, but they believed there was more useable life left. A new sewer to serve as its replacement is in construction nearby. They put temporary bypass piping to lift the sewage out to a manhole downstream. The spill completely stopped on January 1. The LACSD General Manager and the Mayor of Carson went door to door to talk to the 17 residents on 212th Street who were directly impacted by the spill and planned restoration efforts. LACSD started repairing the sewer on January 8 and the site was fully restored January 13. A particular focus was the smell from the spill so they will continue to test the water quality.

LACSD has hired an expert sewer consultant to forensically examine why this failure happened and critically review relevant plans and procedures so that LACSD can make improvements. They hope to have preliminary findings and the cause of the collapse by the end of this month and the full report in April. The full presentation is available here: [https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION\\_LACSD-update-on-12-30-21-sewer-spill-and-response.pdf](https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION_LACSD-update-on-12-30-21-sewer-spill-and-response.pdf)

**VI. February 2022 SBCCOG Transportation Update:** No verbal updates.

**VII. 3-Month Look Ahead:** No verbal updates.

**VIII. Announcements / Adjournment:** Mr. Lantz adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m. until March 9th, 2022. To propose an item for the agenda, please email David Leger (DavidL@southbaycities.org) by March 1, 2022.