

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Transportation Committee

January 10, 2022

Meeting Minutes

(Held virtually via Zoom)

COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIR VALENTINE CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:37 A.M.

I. Welcome / Self-Introductions

In attendance were the following voting SBCCOG Board Members:

Olivia Valentine (Hawthorne)

Luke Klipp (Supervisor Hahn's Office)

John Cruikshank (Rancho Palos Verdes)

Lilly O'Brien (Supervisor Mitchell's Office)

Non-Voting Representatives

Ted Semaan, IWG (Redondo Beach)

Also in attendance:

Elias Sassoon (El Segundo)

Maggie Cheung (LA County DPW)

Julian Lee (Lawndale)

Mark Dierking (Metro)

Erick Lee (Manhattan Beach)

Armineh Saint (Metro)

Shin Furukawa (Torrance)

Mike Bohlke (Metro Deputy to James Butts)

Jill Crump (Torrance)

Jacki Bacharach (SBCCOG)

Leslie Scott (Beach Cities Transit)

Steve Lantz (SBCCOG)

Kelly Lamare (Caltrans)

David Leger (SBCCOG)

Sergio Carvajal (Caltrans)

II. Public Comment – no public comment received.

III. Consent Calendar

A. November 8, 2021 Transportation Committee Minutes - APPROVED

B. January 2022 Transportation Update – RECEIVED AND FILED

C. South Bay Supervisorial District Map – RECEIVED AND FILED

MOTION by Committee Member Cruikshank, seconded by Committee Member O'Brien, to **APPROVE** the consent calendar. Approved without objection.

SBCCOG Transportation Working Group Updates

A. Infrastructure Working Group Update

Mr. Semaan noted the IWG did not meet in December, but will be meeting again later in the week.

B. Transit Operators Working Group Update

Mr. Lantz reported the TOWG met last week and discussed topics including Metro fare enforcement resumption, Super Bowl service, Metro's GoPass program and Torrance Transit's decision to participate in it.

C. Metro Service Council – No Update provided

IV. Caltrans District 7 South Bay Projects Update

Ms. Lamare reported that Jimmy Shih retired at the end of the year so she will be providing updates until they have identified a replacement for Mr. Shih.

Committee Member Cruikshank asked that Caltrans provide updates on the Western Avenue ADA project that is installing curb ramps at intersections throughout Rancho Palos Verdes.

V. Measure R and Measure M Metro Budget Request Update

Mr. Lantz reported that SBCCOG staff is reviewing project applications and will be bringing the recommended Metro Budget Request for Measure R and Measure M to the Committee in February. He also added that Metro is going to be approving the mid-year Measure R update and one South Bay Project is on that list. It is a Manhattan Beach project that had previously requested additional funding due to scope changes.

VI. Metro C Line (Green Line) 30-Year Maintenance scope, schedule, budget

Mr. Lantz briefly explained Metro's policy of updating/refurbishing rail lines every 25-30 years. Metro has started to work on the scope of the C Line (Green Line) upgrades. Mr. Lantz explained that platform extensions and enhancements to the power system were expected to be part of the upgrades to accommodate the increases in train frequencies. Staff will talk to Metro staff about these issues and prepare a letter to outline SBCCOG's concerns.

VII. Metro Golden Opportunity Letter: Request for SBCCOG Support – RECOMMENDED BOARD SUPPORT

Mr. Lantz explained that Metro has requested a significant amount of funding from the state budget surplus to help fund their projects. Metro is asking councils of governments to support their request by allowing Metro to add their logo to a joint support letter.

Committee Member Cruikshank asked Mr. Lantz if the letter covers all of the SBCCOG priority projects. Mr. Lantz explained that the letter covers Metro's large regional projects and does include the South Bay priority sub-regional projects.

Ms. Bacharach added that the SBCCOG may want to send a letter to Metro stating its support for the Golden Opportunity Letter but also stating its desire for funding support for non-rail priorities as well.

MOTION by Committee Member Cruikshank, seconded by Committee Member Valentine, to **RECOMMEND BOARD SUPPORT** for Metro's Golden Opportunity request and submit a letter requesting funding support for non-rail priorities. Approved without objection.

VIII. Presentation by Metro on LIFE Program

Ms. Saint provided the Committee an update on Metro's LIFE program and their resumption of fare enforcement. Metro will begin collecting fares again January 10th. Per a Board motion, passes are currently 50% off until June 2022.

Ms. Saint went on to explain Metro's LIFE program, which is a regional program that provides transit subsidies across 13 different transit operators for qualifying LA County residents. Metro has recently re-launched the program making it easier to access, easier to sign-up, and more affordable.

Improvements include website improvements, a self-certification feature and online portal, and a new free 3-month offer. For more detail, Ms. Saint's presentation is available online here:

https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION_Metro-LIFE.pdf

IX. Metro Updates

Mr. Dierking announced that Metro is postponing resumption of walking tours for the C Line extension to March because of the Omicron surge. The Draft EIR is expected to be circulated for public comment in the Fall.

X. Three Month Look-Ahead – RECEIVED AND FILED

XI. Announcements / Adjournment

Committee Vice-Chair Valentine adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m. to February 14, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.