

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Transportation Committee

March 14, 2022

Meeting Minutes

(Held in-person and via Zoom)

COMMITTEE CHAIR PIMENTEL CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:30 A.M.

I. Welcome / Self-Introductions

In attendance were the following voting SBCCOG Board Members:

Chris Pimentel (El Segundo)

Olivia Valentine (Hawthorne)

John Cruikshank (Rancho Palos Verdes)

Viviana Gomez (Supervisor Hahn's Office)

Lilly O'Brien (Supervisor Mitchell's Office)

Non-Voting Representatives

Dana Pynn, TOWG (GTrans)

Ted Semaan, IWG (Redondo Beach)

Don Szerlip, Metro SB Service Council

Also in attendance:

Elias Sassoon (El Segundo)

Erick Lee (Manhattan Beach)

Helen Shi (Manhattan Beach)

Shin Furukawa (Torrance)

Jill Crump (Torrance)

Mindy Flores (Torrance)

Art Reyes (Torrance)

Sergio Carvajal (Caltrans)

Maggie Cheung (LA County DPW)

Mark Dierking (Metro)

Mike Bohlke (Metro Deputy to James Butts)

Jacki Bacharach (SBCCOG)

Steve Lantz (SBCCOG)

David Leger (SBCCOG)

Amina Karwa (SBCCOG)

Jenelle Saunders (Berg CM)

Vikas Manocha (Econolite)

II. Public Comment – no public comment received.

III. Consent Calendar

A. February 14, 2022 Transportation Committee Minutes – APPROVED

B. March 2022 Transportation Update – RECEIVED AND FILED

Committee Member Cruikshank asked that the minutes be revised to state that the Rancho Palos Verdes City Council voted to have Caltrans work with city staff.

MOTION by Committee Member Cruikshank, seconded by Committee Member Valentine, to **APPROVE** the consent calendar as revised. Approved without objection.

IV. SBCCOG Transportation Working Group Updates

A. Infrastructure Working Group Update

Mr. Semaan reported that IWG now has a member for the Metro TAC, Mr. Sassoon. Mr. Semaan also

briefed the committee on IWG's March presentation by ParkNav which provides intelligent parking solutions to cities.

B. Transit Operators Working Group Update

Ms. Pynn reported that the group received updates for Measure R and Measure M Metro Budget Requests this month. The group also discussed the need to begin planning transportation projects for the 2028 Olympics. The group continued to discuss COVID updates and driver shortages and the collective effect the driver shortage is having on their systems.

C. Metro Service Council

Mr. Szerlip shared that the Service Council received an extensive report on Metro's contract transit services and received a much-delayed station evaluation program in which Metro evaluates every rail station and bus stop within Metro's network. The Council was asked to submit letters of support once again for the capital program for electric buses as well as funding to improve the stations along the C line that currently have the capacity to handle two-car trains rather than the standard three-car platforms. Metro conducted four different walking tours to get people familiar with the potential routes that would extend the C (Green) Line from its current terminus in El Segundo to Torrance. The public had the opportunity to ask their questions about the extensions within the Redondo Beach and Lawndale areas.

V. Caltrans District 7 South Bay Projects Update

Mr. Carvajal did not report any new project updates. He reminded the committee that the 2022 SHOPP will be adopted at the March CTC meeting as well as the STIPP projects. Mr. Carvajal will distribute the adoption lists for both funding programs once they are approved by CTC.

VI. Measure R And Measure M Metro Budget Request Update

Mr. Lantz reported that SBCCOG has submitted the Measure R and Measure M budget requests to the Metro planning and highway departments which will work on Measure R projects first, followed by the Measure M projects. Mr. Lantz expects Metro will have funds available for Measure R after the new fiscal year begins in July, and the Measure M program in September. SBCCOG has asked the cities with those projects to carefully track the status of approval of those projects by Metro Board because they may start funding agreements immediately after approval.

VII. Crenshaw/LAX Line Operating Plan Update

This item was removed from the agenda to be brought back at the April meeting.

VIII. Metro Construction Market Analysis – Construction Cost Increase Index

Mr. Lantz explained to the Committee that it is an assessment of what construction projects Metro can reasonably complete without facing new budget shortfalls. He noted that Metro has experienced significant cost overruns on all capital projects. Ms. Bacharach added that the SBCCOG has been asking Metro to evaluate its ability to not only fund the capital projects but fund the operation of those lines once opened.

Mr. Szerlip asked if Metro is still pursuing a free-fare policy. Mr. Lantz explained that they are. Ms. O'Brien noted that the Metro Board has taken action to not use operations funding for the free-fare program and that funding must come from other sources, so it's not impacting the operating cost overrun issue.

Committee Chair Pimentel asked Mr. Lantz if this issue impacts any South Bay projects or priorities. Mr. Lantz shared that it is too early to tell.

IX. Metro I-405 CMCP Projects List

Mr. Lantz reported that Metro is developing a comprehensive multi-modal corridor plan so that Metro can apply for state congestion relief program funding. Mr. Lantz and Mr. Leger sent out the list of South Bay multi-modal

projects to IWG and TOWG members and asked them to review and provide updates before March 11 so the SBCCOG can submit their comments to Metro by the March 15th deadline.

Committee Member Cruikshank asked if there was a way to visualize the South Bay's projects as opposed to just a list. He clarified that it could help build regional support for projects. Mr. Carvajal shared an online map from Caltrans that includes Caltrans projects as well as some Measure R/M projects. He will work with Caltrans staff to determine if this map can be made publicly available for the SBCCOG.

X. Metro Updates

No updates.

XI. Three Month Look-Ahead – RECEIVED AND FILED

XII. Announcements / Adjournment

Committee Chair Pimentel adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m. to April 11, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

Next Transportation Committee meeting – Monday, April 11, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

To propose an item for the agenda, e-mail to: DavidL@southbaycities.org by April 1, 2022.