

# South Bay Cities Council of Governments

## Transit Operators Working Group

October 13, 2022 Meeting Notes

Attendees: Dana Pynn (GTrans); Joyce Rooney, Leslie Scott, Diane Amaya (Beach Cities Transit); Scott Greene (Metro); Steve Lantz & Aaron Baum (SBCCOG)

### **1. Self-Introductions & Acceptance of the September 1, 2022 Meeting Notes**

The virtual meeting was called to order by Ms. Pynn at 2:03 p.m. Meeting notes were accepted as presented.

### **2. Transit Operator Issues and Concerns Including COVID-19 Impacts**

Mr. Greene shared that at the Aviation Station, Metro buses serving as the C-Line & K-Line link occasionally use the Beach Cities Transit (BCT) bay. However, after the October 23<sup>rd</sup> service shakeup, there will be instructions for Metro operators to not occupy that bay and to take their layover in the common area. Ms. Rooney thanked Mr. Greene and shared that as long as the BCT buses aren't there at the same time, it shouldn't be a problem. She also asked if Metro was going to be advertising the bus link because there hasn't much public notice provided.

Mr. Lantz asked Mr. Greene about K Line ridership, sharing that he heard that ridership was about 3,000 per day after the free rides ended. Mr. Greene confirmed that ridership is about 3,000 currently.

Ms. Rooney shared that the transit center work continues. There are some delays on the fencing and other punch list items. She will be asking for at least 30 days' notice prior to the opening so notices can be provided to riders and other bus operators using the location. She also asked for bus stop signs from the other operators so they can be installed. Fare collection also resumed in October.

Ms. Pynn reported that the city (both municipal and residents) has been having issues with the GTRANS phone system for the last month, so the customer service line has not been working. A new temporary line has been provided for customer service.

Mr. Baum asked Ms. Pynn for an update on the CEC MOEV grant. An order for the buses was submitted in March, and they should arrive by September 2023. Edison and Charge Ready are working on the charger equipment. MOEV applied for the grant, GTrans is the host site. MOEV is working to develop smart-grid/AI technology that helps create a more sustainable and efficient EV bus fleet.

### **3. Measure R South Bay Transit Investment Program Lead Agency Meetings**

Mr. Lantz announced that SBCCOG staff will be scheduling a meeting with each SBTIP lead agency to review current project progress and discuss potential needs for additional funding. The SBCCOG is looking for needs for additional funding over the next year, delays, etc. No new Measure R projects will be considered this year because there are significant cost increases and priority is given to finishing projects already approved.

#### **4. Updates on Metro Issues, Initiatives & Studies**

**-K Line (Crenshaw-LAX) Opening:** Mr. Lantz shared that the K Line (Crenshaw-LAX) recently opened.

**-Fare Capping Update:** Fare structures are being consolidated to be simpler. Fare capping creates a total daily or monthly total cost limit, so there wouldn't be a discount on each ride, the discount comes with increased number of rides. Ms. Rooney asked if Metro intends for all operators to adopt the same capping structure. Mr. Lantz said that it's likely that is the long-term goal, but that is not being discussed at the moment. Ms. Scott noted that at a recent meeting, Metro indicated that the fare restructuring is needed in order to work through the fare capping policy and eliminate fare differentials for equity purposes, essentially a simpler fare system-wide on Metro.

**-Green Line Extension to Torrance:** Mr. Lantz reported that the draft EIR is being prepared and should be released in January/February with a 45-day comment period.

**5. Transportation Update Covering September 2022:** Item was received and filed.

**6. Three Month Look-Ahead:** Item was received and filed.

#### **7. Announcements / Adjournment**

Mr. Baum provided a brief overview of the SBCCOG's Local Travel Network project and shared the wayfinding signage design options with the group. He asked for their responses to the signage survey.

Ms. Scott asked about the LTN routes on Hermosa Avenue and noted that BCT has a route on that street. There have been some comments from bus operators about the safety issues that e-bike riders pose. Mr. Baum explained that SBCCOG staff is going to each city to further refine LTN routes and will organize meetings with the operators to further review the routes under consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m. to November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.