

## South Bay Cities Council of Governments Infrastructure Working Group November 19, 2014 – Meeting Notes

**Attendees:** Stephanie Katsouleas (El Segundo); Eloy Castillo & Albert Mendoza (Inglewood); Nasser Abbaszadeh & Miguel Alvarez (Lawndale); Ed Kao (Manhattan Beach); Wisam Altowaji & Elaine Jeng (Redondo Beach); Ernie Crespo & Ted Semaan (Torrance); Nancy Pe (Caltrans); Pamela Manning & Andres Narvaez (LA County DPW); Mike Bohlke & Isidro Panuco (Metro); Marcy Hiratzka, Steve Lantz, Lena Luna & Amanda Maki (SBCCOG); Alan Clelland & Shaumik Pal (Iteris); John Cruickshank (JMC2); Frank Hoffmann (Kimley-Horn); Ken Berkman & Wayne Richardson (MARRS Corp); Claude Corvino (Nichols Consulting Engineers); Peter Puglese (McCain Inc); Sam Ekrami (Parsons Brinckerhoff); Michael Bruz (RBF Consulting); Jim Parker (V.A Consulting); Earl Schwartz (Vali Cooper & Assoc)

Vice-Chair Katsouleas called the meeting to order at 12:11 pm.

- I. **Self-Introductions and Approval of October 15, 2014 Minutes** (Attachment A) – Minutes were approved as presented.
- II. **Agencies & Other Reports-**
  - **SBCCOG** – Program update – Steve Lantz had nothing to report
  - **SOUTH BAY TRAFFIC FORUM, LA County DPW** – Andres Narvaez distributed the South Bay Traffic Forum Status Report for November 2014. Vice-Chair Katsouleas and Alan Clelland promoted Blue Commute.
  - **Caltrans** – Updates - Nancy Pe noted that Caltrans will be partnering with the City of Hermosa Beach to prepare a Call for Projects application for a complete street concept on PCH and Aviation.
  - **Metro** - Updates
    - **MTA Board Update - SB Boundary Reversion** (Attachment B & Exhibit 1) – Steve Lantz reported that, thanks to the efforts of Board Member O’Connor’s Deputy, Mike Bohlke, the motion to revert the South Bay boundary to Imperial Blvd. was officially adopted by the Metro Board. Westchester and LAX will no longer be part of the SBCCOG territory; Westchester is once again within the Westside COG boundary and LAX is now a regional zone, not belonging to either the Westside COG or the SBCCOG. As a result of this change at Metro, the South Bay Highway Program is no longer defined by boundaries of Metro’s Long-Range Transportation Plan.
    - **Metro TAC & Streets and Freeway Subcommittee** – Ted Semaan reported that the TAC had a presentation on the Union Station Master Plan Update and discussed extending the 2015 Call for Projects deadline by two weeks to January 30 at 3 pm. The decision will come to the TAC via email, as the TAC will not be meeting in December. Regarding the Streets & Freeway Subcommittee, Elaine Jeng reported that Caltrans’ Active Transportation Program cycle 2 guidelines will be adopted and released in March 2015. Comments on the guidelines are due by November 21.
- III. **Measure R Updates** – Steve Lantz made the following reports:
  - **Revised SBHP Measure R Metro Budget Request for SBHP Project Additions, Deletions, and Schedule / Scope/ Budget Changes** (Attachment C & Exhibit 1) – The South Bay Highway Program (SBHP) Metro Budget Request outlines the funding of out-year projects, and final changes are due by tomorrow, November 20. In the future, the SBHP may be refocused to monitor annual cash flow, rather than project allocation. Metro is worried about the low cash flow that reflects progress invoices the South Bay cities are billing. Since the beginning of the Measure R program, only 10% of the South Bay sub-region’s funds have been spent.
  - **SBHP Project Progress Risk Report** (Attachment D) – Received and filed
  - **Three-Month Look Ahead** (Attachment E) – the 2015 SBHP Implementation Plan will begin to be updated in January 2015 and the final draft will be due in June. Agency staff will be contacted to provide technical assistance in the plan revision. Recommendations will be reviewed by the SBCCOG Steering Committee and approved by the SBCCOG Board.
  - **Revised Call for Projects Measure R Matching Funds Requested & Metro Survey** (Attachment F & Exhibit 1) – Agency staff was asked to fill out a survey provided by Metro staff that evaluated the Call for Projects process. Surveys are due by December 19. The SBCCOG has been advocating elimination of the Call for Projects and allocation of funding currently awarded through the Call via a new process in which proportionate funds are allocated to each COG to allocate through a sub-regional project programming process. Mike Bohlke emphasized that agencies need to stress to Metro the need for radical change (a sub-regional subvention instead in the 25-year-old Call for Projects process. Metro staff will be very resistant to any significant changes in the current Call process.

- **Elimination of SBCCOG Measure R Oversight Committee** – The SBCCOG Measure R Oversight Committee was eliminated in October 2014. Items reviewed by this Committee will now be considered at the SBCCOG Steering Committee, which meets on the second Monday of each month. The SBCCOG Infrastructure Working Group will continue to act as technical support for transportation items including Measure R and provide formal input to the SBCCOG Steering Committee and Board of Directors as needed.
- IV. **Metro Mobility Matrix Update** (Attachment G & Exhibit 1) - Steve Lantz reported that Metro’s consultant hired to work on the South Bay Mobility Matrix finished the identification of the projects in the South Bay, and the next step is to evaluate the performance of those projects against the list of countywide and sub-regional goals which are to be created by Metro. Metro will be undertaking polling in 2015 concerning a potential sales tax measure.
- V. **California Cap and Trade Program** (Attachment H) – Steve Lantz said that there are many new opportunities in California Cap and Trade grants which have been identified as another revenue source that agencies can use for innovative transportation and land use initiatives. He believes that the South Bay Cities have projects that are eligible for the large amount of money that is to be allocated under this program, and he encouraged cities to identify which state agencies are overseeing the allocations and application processes. A significant portion of the funds are aimed at improving mobility and sustainability in low- income communities. The funds have been collected for the past year and grant applications may be submitted between 2014 and 2021 which is the policy deadline for initiating projects that will reduce emissions by the initial 2025 target date.
- VI. **2015 IWG Meeting Dates** – Discussion – Steve Lantz announced that the Executive IWG Committee decided that starting in 2015, consultants will be invited to attend every other month, and agency staff will meet on alternating months for working sessions to discuss project/planning issues. Vice-Chair Katsouleas added that the intent of the bi-monthly general meetings is to expand IWG meeting topics beyond transportation (IRWMP, storm water, legislative changes, cap/trade, and any suggested topics agency staff may provide.) The schedule will be distributed to consultants and agency staff as soon as it has been confirmed.
- VII. **Announcements / Adjournment** – Ed Kao announced that the City of Manhattan Beach is inviting agency staff to attend a “Risk-Based Invoicing” workshop with Caltrans on December 2. Flyers were distributed. Lena Luna announced that the California Energy Commission awarded the SBCCOG with a grant to study Electric Vehicle charging-stations at multi-family residences. Ken Berkman of MARRS Services announced that the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC-CaSOP) has been the lead for the “Become an Engineer” (BAE) campaign, which is in its 8<sup>th</sup> year. The BAE campaign is our industry’s opportunity to reach out to high school students and present a PowerPoint on our profession to get students excited about careers in engineering, in both the public and private sectors. It occurs during the National Engineers Week, which will start February 23, 2015. Ken encouraged all to participate and will bring sign-up forms to the next meeting, and look for social media articles concerning the program. Steve Lantz announced that CSU Long Beach’s Center for International Trade and Transportation was awarded a national three-year grant focusing on workforce development which will involve working with transportation departments, school districts, and other stakeholder groups to develop curriculum for tomorrow’s workforce.

Vice Chair Katsouleas adjourned the meeting at 12:54 pm until *January 21, 2015*. *Those who wish to include an item on the agenda must send an e-mail to: [Marcy@southbaycities.org](mailto:Marcy@southbaycities.org) by January 7, 2015.*