Measure R South Bay Highway
Program Oversight Committee Meeting Notes-
March 5, 2014

Attendees: Dan Medina (Gardena); Olivia Valentine (Hawthorne); Ralph Franklin (Inglewood); Tom Brewer (Torrance); Akbar Farokhi, Alan Leung & Arnold Shadbeh (Hawthorne); Tony Olmos (Manhattan Beach); Lance Grindle (LA County DPW); John Mate (Redondo Beach); Rob Beste (Torrance); Allen Chen, Yunus Ghausi & Sameer Hadaddeen (Caltrans); Jacki Bacharach, Marcy Hiratzka & Steve Lantz (SBCCOG); Alan Clelland (Iteris)

I. CALL TO ORDER / Introductions- In Chair Goodhart’s absence, Councilman Franklin began the meeting at 3:04 pm. The meeting was called to order once a quorum was obtained with the arrival of Mayor Pro Tem Medina at 3:08 pm.

II. REPORT OF POSTING OF THE AGENDA – Received and filed

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA – Jacki Bacharach announced that she and Steve Lantz wished to add the topic of ExpressLanes to Item IX (Metro Updates.)

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

V. CONSENT CALENDAR- Motion to APPROVE Consent Calendar made by Councilman Franklin, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Medina.
   A. Minutes of the January 8, 2014 meeting (Attachment A) – Approved

VI. SBHP ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT COST POLICY (Attachment B) – Approved – Steve Lantz remarked that this policy was brought to the Measure R Oversight Committee and Infrastructure Working Group during February and no revisions have been recommended.

   Motion, made by Councilman Franklin, seconded by Councilman Brewer, to APPROVE recommendation of SBHP Administrative and Support Cost Policy to the SBCCOG Board. Motion passed without objection.

VII. Transition and Simplification SBHP Project Monitoring & Reporting - (Attachment C) – Approved
   Steve Lantz reported that at the February IWG meeting city participants who were present were asked what their preference was between monthly or quarterly Measure R project reports. The consensus was to do away with monthly reports and submit quarterly reports only. Since it was determined at the March 2 Measure R Oversight Committee meeting that cities must amend their Funding Agreements with Metro to change their reporting requirements, the IWG recommended that cities be allowed to retain the current monthly reporting relationship or amend their Metro funding agreement. All new funding agreements would have a quarterly reporting requirement, if they wish to do away with monthly reports; otherwise, they must continue submitting monthly reports to Metro until the project has been deemed completed. Cities with projects near completion may not wish to amend their agreement, as this process takes several weeks and may not be worth the trouble. Councilman Franklin was concerned about the high number of projects that are delinquent and wondered if the Measure R Oversight Committee should require cities to continue to submit monthly reports. Rob Beste supported the staff recommendation, rather than augmenting the process and forcing cities to continue to report in a way that is not “one size fits all.” Steve Lantz added that the Committee cannot predict which cities will want to amend their Funding Agreements at this time.

   Motion to recommend to the SBCCOG Board that lead agencies may individually choose to amend their current Measure R project funding agreements made by Councilman Brewer, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Medina. Motion passed without objection.
VIII. **Hawthorne Blvd. Cost Increase- Request for Additional Funds** – (Attachment D) – Approved

Arnold Shadbehr made a formal request to the Committee for an additional $2,184,467 to offset the shortfall of $1,634,467 that the City of Hawthorne recently experienced after receiving bids for its Measure R project on Hawthorne Blvd. (MR312.44.) The original construction cost was estimated more than two years ago. Several factors (design changes, concrete and asphalt cost increases, parking loss during construction, dumping fees, labor cost increases) caused the shortfall. The shortfall occurred despite the fact that the City put its own funds into the project in addition to previously committed Measure R funds, and a MTA Call for Projects grant.

Rob Beste said that this will most likely happen to other cities’ projects, and the SBCCOG should not encourage cities to include a lot of contingency in their estimate, because doing so will decrease the opportunities for other Measure R projects to be funded in the year they are ready to proceed. Jacki Bacharach suggested that the City’s bid list be made public to the IWG, as a cautionary example, and the City agreed. Steve Lantz said that when a city discovers the need for a cost increase, the additional funds can only be awarded to the city if it can be proven that the shortfall was through no fault of the city’s. Councilman Franklin pointed out there was a difference of $550,000 between the amount being requested of the SBCCOG and the shortfall amount. He commented that, should motion be passed at this meeting to recommend approval to the SBCCOG Board, the SBCCOG receive a second letter from the City to explain the extra amount. The City agreed.

Motion to recommend to the SBCCOG Board that the City of Hawthorne receive an additional $2,184,467.00 from SBHP funds for Measure R Project MR312.44 made by Councilman Brewer, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Medina. Motion passed without objection.

IX. **METRO UPDATES** – Metro staff

A. **South Bay Mobility Matrix - Next Steps for potential Metro sales tax** – Received & filed

Steve Lantz said that a master list is being compiled of all the sub-regions’ priority project lists. This initiative will require SBCCOG to develop a list beyond its Measure R SBHP project list including active transportation, bikeway, pedestrian, and complete streets projects. Metro staff will bring a countywide list to the Metro Board in Fall 2015.

B. **SBCCOG/Metro I-405 – I-105 Operational Improvements Study (I-110 to LAX) Update** – Received & filed

Steve Lantz is reviewing a draft consultant scope of work for the Metro Study to ensure that it addresses the Mobility Matrix requirements.

C. **This item was added to the agenda. Jacki Bacharach and Steve Lantz met with Metro to discuss the future of the ExpressLanes pilot program that ended in February. They distributed copies of a map that captures a 3-mile radius around the sections of the I-110 and I-10 that have ExpressLanes on them. Within the limits of this map, Metro will create a Call for Projects application process to determine how surplus revenues generated during the pilot program will fund projects that benefit the ExpressLanes. The I-110 corridor will receive 60% of the funds generated from the I-110/I-10 ExpressLanes. For this call, Metro will also consider projects with regional significance that fall outside the 3-mile limit. Regional significance will be considered if a project has multiple applicants. A local match is preferred but not required. Currently, there is no maximum amount on any one project. The SBCCOG will be represented on the project selection committee and will not be a co-applicant in a city project application. On April 3 Metro is holding an ExpressLane project proposal workshop at the SBCCOG office.**

X. **Project Spotlight** – Caltrans Corridor Management Studies – Received & filed – (Attachment E)

Allen Chen described the three different intelligent transportation system studies that Caltrans is undertaking in the South Bay. Caltrans has defined the work (adapted traffic signal system, system detection, posting traveler time information on arterials to let drivers choose in real time to use or avoid the freeways or arterials). The analysis will be performed on PCH, Hawthorne, and Western. Caltrans also has hired a consultant to develop operational improvement concepts on the I-105 corridor. The agency plans to address the I-405 corridor in the future. Mr. Chen emphasized that although Caltrans is asking for cities’ feedback and participation in its endeavors, Caltrans is not trying to take over cities’ traffic systems. Steve Lantz reminded cities that they must engage with Caltrans in order for Caltrans’ Dynamic Corridor Congestion Management Program to move forward. All Caltrans traffic information is free for city systems. Mr. Chen reported that he had made a request with the ExpressLanes team at Metro to see if he could procure data that would help Caltrans efforts. However, the pilot program’s data is not to be shared at this time, and the system is closed to outside agencies. Metro may reconsider in
March. Amber alerts cause congestion because drivers slow down in order to read them, so Caltrans is trying to discourage too many updates on the digital signs on the ExpressLanes.

XI. SBHP PROJECT STATUS – Steve Lantz
   A. SBHP March 2014 Project Progress Report (Attachment F) – Received & filed
   B. Status of SBHP Bench Contracts / Task Orders – Received & filed
   C. Risk Report – (Attachment G) - Received & filed
   D. SBHP Quarterly Report – (Attachment H) – Received and filed
   E. At-Risk Project Reviews in Redondo Beach– John Mate provided the following project updates:
      • MR312.06 - PCH Arterial Improvements from Anita St to Palos Verdes Blvd (28 months behind Funding Agreement schedule) - City Council last reviewed this project on 12/3/13 and had no particular concerns or questions. Since then, staff is still waiting for executive direction on project scope. Project has been delayed due to lack of staff.
      • MR312.07 - PCH at Torrance Blvd Intersection Improvements (26 months behind Funding Agreement schedule) - The amended Funding Agreement with Metro has been approved with KOA. The additional funds are being provided by adjacent developers, not Measure SBHP funding. KOA was authorized to start work on December 19th on the design.
      • MR312.08 - PCH at Palos Verdes Blvd Intersection Improvements (28 months behind Funding Agreement schedule) - The consultant, CivilSource, was given the Notice to Proceed in January 2014. CivilSource is to be finished with the project design by the end of August 2014.
      • MR312.20 - Aviation Blvd at Artesia Blvd Intersection Improvements (28 months behind Funding Agreement schedule) - City Council last reviewed this project on 12/3/13 and had no particular concerns or questions. Staff met with the consultant in January 2014, to fully understand the process, before authorizing them to proceed with the ROW acquisition. Discussions continue with the ROW consultant on the project approach before design authorization is given.

Steve Lantz noted that he has told the cities that if they are lacking staff to manage Measure R projects, or continue to demonstrate that their Measure R projects are not being completed on time, funding for future projects will not be allocated as planned. A sunset policy has not yet been established by the Measure R Oversight Committee. Rob Beste reminded everyone of the Committee’s Deobligation Policy, which does not cancel projects, but puts them on hold until the necessary resources can be committed by the city. Councilman Franklin asked to see more concrete and detailed remedial steps on future Risk Reports.

XII. 3-MONTH LOOK AHEAD (Attachment I) – Received & filed

XIII. SBHP IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE CALENDAR (Attachment J) – Received & filed

XIV. ADJOURNMENT- Councilman Franklin adjourned the meeting at 4:28 pm until April 2, 2014 at 3:00 pm.