

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Transportation Committee

September 13, 2021

Meeting Minutes

*(Held virtually via Zoom)*

**COMMITTEE CHAIR HORVATH CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:31 A.M. A QUORUM WAS ESTABLISHED AT 10:32 A.M.**

**I. Welcome / Self-Introductions**

**In attendance were the following voting SBCCOG Board Members:**

Christian Horvath, Chair (Redondo Beach)

Olivia Valentine (Hawthorne)

Chris Pimentel, Vice Chair (El Segundo)

Luke Klipp (Supervisor Hahn's Office)

**Non-Voting Representatives**

Zein Obagi Jr. (Redondo Beach)

Ted Semaan, IWG (Redondo Beach)

Dana Pynn, TOWG (GTrans)

**Also in attendance:**

Leslie Scott (Beach Cities Transit)

Jimmy Shih (Caltrans)

Elias Sassoon (El Segundo)

Maggie Cheung (LA County DPW)

Lifan Xu (El Segundo)

Devon Deming (Metro)

Julian Lee (Lawndale)

Mike Bohlke (Metro Deputy to James Butts)

Carla Dillon (Lomita)

Lilly O'Brien (Supervisor Mitchell's Office)

Erick Lee (Manhattan Beach)

Alan Clelland (DKS)

Ramzi Awwad (Rancho Palos Verdes)

Jacki Bacharach (SBCCOG)

Shin Furukawa (Torrance)

Steve Lantz (SBCCOG)

Jill Crump (Torrance)

David Leger (SBCCOG)

**II. Public Comment** – no public comments received.

**III. Consent Calendar**

**A. July 12, 2021 Transportation Committee Minutes - APPROVED**

**B. September 2021 Transportation Update – RECEIVED AND FILED**

**C. August-week 1 Metro South Bay Ridership Report – RECEIVED AND FILED**

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

Committee Chair Horvath asked the Committee if there was objection to adding one additional item to the agenda to name a Transportation Committee Vice Chair. The Committee did not object. Committee Chair Horvath explained that the Committee has been without a Vice Chair for some time and after speaking with Committee Member Pimentel, he has agreed to serve as Vice Chair if nominated and selected.

**MOTION** by Committee Chair Horvath, seconded by Committee Member Klipp, to **APPOINT CHRIS PIMENTEL TRANSPORTATION VICE CHAIR**. Approved without objection.

Committee Vice Chair Pimentel thanked the Committee.

#### **IV. SBCCOG Transportation Working Group Updates**

##### **A. Infrastructure Working Group Update**

Mr. Semaan shared that the IWG met last week and discussed several of the same items on the Committee's agenda including the Measure R and M Metro Budget Request process item and Mr. Clelland's presentation on connected vehicle travel data.

##### **B. Transit Operators Working Group Update**

Ms. Pynn reported that the TOWG met on September 2<sup>nd</sup> and discussed the South Bay Transit Investment Program, the Measure R and M Metro Budget Request process, and Metro's Fareless System Initiative.

Ms. Bacharach also shared that Torrance Transit informed the SBCCOG that they have written a letter to Long Beach Transit regarding concerns about the process by which Long Beach Transit is expanding service into the city. Mr. Lantz explained there are issues around duplication of service and not following prescribed protocols that have concerned Torrance. These issues are normally resolved between the operators. The SBCCOG does not have a formal role in the process but will continue to monitor the situation.

##### **C. Metro Service Council – no report**

#### **V. Caltrans District 7 South Bay Projects Update**

Mr. Shih provided an update on various Caltrans projects taking place in the South Bay. His report with detailed project updates is available here: [https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/HANDOUT\\_Caltrans-Report\\_091321.pdf](https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/HANDOUT_Caltrans-Report_091321.pdf)

#### **VI. Measure R and Measure M Update**

##### **A. Measure R South Bay Transit Investment Program approval by Metro**

Mr. Lantz reported that the Metro Board approved the transfer in July along with funding for the Inglewood Transit Connector Project. The Metro Board is expected to approve the remaining municipal operator projects at their September meeting.

##### **B. FY 22-23 Measure R & Measure M South Bay Metro Budget Request Process - APPROVED**

Mr. Lantz provided a brief update on funding available in both Measure R and Measure M. He explained that after the decennial transit transfer and funding reserved to complete current commitments, the Measure R program is almost entirely programmed through the end of the measure in 2039. At this time, SBCCOG staff is not recommending accepting new Measure R projects. Measure M projects will be accepted.

Ms. Bacharach added that SBCCOG staff has zeroed in on two corridors in the South Bay in which to first implement the Local Travel Network (LTN). The first corridor includes the cities of El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Redondo Beach. The second includes Lawndale, Hawthorne, and Gardena. The project would be eligible for Measure M funding and cities are encouraged to consider applying for funding to implement the LTN in their jurisdiction.

**MOTION** by Committee Vice Chair Pimentel, seconded by Committee Member Valentine, to **APPROVE** moving forward with the Measure R & Measure M Metro Budget Request process as recommended.

## **VII. Metro Updates**

### **A. I-405 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan**

Mr. Lantz explained that Metro is currently working on the I-405 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan that will position Metro and the region for SB1 Solutions for Congested Corridor Program funding. He went on to briefly explain Metro's I-405 Express Lane study currently underway.

### **B. I-405 ExpressLanes Update**

#### **- SBCCOG Letter to Metro re: I-405 ExpressLane Study Scope – APPROVED**

Mr. Lantz and Ms. Bacharach reviewed the main points of the proposed letter that urges Metro and Caltrans to: ensure the I-405 ExpressLane and I-405 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan studies adequately provide for robust transit service in the design and funding plan since the ExpressLanes were marketed as providing transit alternatives to the public; consider two dedicated standard width lanes in each direction to safely accommodate buses, vans, and commercial trucks that will choose to use the toll facility; and expansion of the project study area further south to ensure it captures Pacific Coast Highway because it serves as the best parallel route to the I-405 through the South Bay.

**MOTION** by Committee Vice Chair Pimentel, seconded by Committee Member Valentine, to **APPROVE** the letter. Approved without objection.

## **VIII. Presentation: Metro Fareless System Initiative**

Ms. Deming presented Metro's Fareless System Initiative (FSI) pilot which will provide free transit to K-12 and community college students during Phase 1. Ms. Deming provided a brief history of the FSI at Metro and background on Phase 1. She went on to explain the partnerships with participating school districts in which the district will contribute \$3/student/year to participate in the FSI. She also touched on Metro's efforts to work with municipal operators, of which 4 are ready to launch. Several others, including GTrans and Torrance Transit are interested but not yet committed. Ms. Deming concluded by reviewing Phase 1 costs and next steps. Her full presentation is available online here:

[https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/PRESENTATION\\_Metro-Fareless-System-Initiative.pdf](https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/PRESENTATION_Metro-Fareless-System-Initiative.pdf)

Committee Member Valentine asked what metrics Metro is using to determine if the pilot is a success. Ms. Deming explained that two main things contribute, the first being ridership numbers, and the second being student success.

## **IX. Presentation: Connected Travel Data Tool**

Mr. Clelland presented an innovative tool that allows cities to analyze connected vehicle travel data to identify issues in their signal networks in a cost effective, more thorough manner that does not require any infrastructure to be deployed. DKS and Moonshadow have developed a tool that allows traffic engineers to be proactive and respond to issues to ensure efficient intersection and arterial operations via improved timing. Mr. Clelland went on to give a demonstration of the tool and its potential uses using a real-world example in Orange County. For more detail, Mr. Clelland's full presentation is available online here: [https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/PRESENTATION\\_Connected-Vehicle-Data-and-Arterial-Insights\\_compressed.pdf](https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/PRESENTATION_Connected-Vehicle-Data-and-Arterial-Insights_compressed.pdf)

To see the demonstration of the tool, the video recording can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/hhV2fICtEMM?t=3540>

**X. Three Month Look-Ahead – RECEIVED AND FILED**

**XI. Announcements / Adjournment**

Committee Chair Horvath adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m. to October 11, 2021, at 10:30 a. m.