

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Transportation Committee

July 10, 2023

Meeting Minutes

(Held at 2355 Crenshaw Blvd., Suite 125, Torrance, CA 90501 & virtually via Zoom)

COMMITTEE CHAIR PIMENTEL CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:41AM.

I. Welcome / Self-Introductions

In attendance were the following voting SBCCOG Board Members:

Chris Pimentel, Chair (El Segundo)

Bill Uphoff (Lomita)

John Cruikshank (Rancho Palos Verdes)

Lilly O'Brien (LA County D-2)

Viviana Gomez (LA County D-4)

Non-Voting Representatives

James Butts (Inglewood – virtual)

Zein Obagi Jr. (Redondo Beach - virtual)

Also in attendance:

Elias Sassoon (El Segundo)

Katie Doherty (Manhattan Beach)

Helen Shi (Manhattan Beach)

Cathy Bui (Torrance)

Shin Furukawa (Torrance)

Jill Crump (Torrance)

Daniel Lim (Torrance)

David Mach (Torrance)

Hashaam Younis (Torrance)

Sergio Carvajal (Caltrans)

Maggie Cheung (LA County PW)

Mike Bohlke (Metro Deputy to Mayor Butts)

Steve Lantz (Metro Deputy to Mayor Butts)

Mark Dierking (Metro)

Matthew Marquez (Metro)

Jacki Bacharach (SBCCOG)

David Leger (SBCCOG)

Andrey Mulligan (SBCCOG)

Lara Gerges (SBCCOG)

Erik Rodriguez (SCAG)

Jimmy Gow (Asm. Muratsuchi)

Rajat Parashar (Kimley Horn)

Michael Peterson (IEEE)

Ray Hollar (Public)

Holly Osborne (Public)

GP Suddeth (Public)

Niki Negrete Mitchell (Public)

Robert Acherman (Public)

Madhu Chanani (Public)

Chelsea Schreiber (Public)

II. Public Comment

Chelsea Schreiber, Madhu Chanani, Robert Acherman, Niki Negrete Mitchell, Ray Hollar, and GP Suddeth provided public comments. Holly Osborne also provided public comments and provided a handout available here:

https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/PUBLIC-COMMENT-HANDOUT_Osborne-C-Line-comments.pdf

Full comments are available online here: <https://youtu.be/pAuDyPtOR-I?t=62>

III. Consent Calendar

A. June 12, 2023 Transportation Committee Minutes - APPROVED

B. Transportation Update Covering June 2023 – RECEIVED AND FILED

C. Quarterly Inglewood Transit Connector Project Update – RECEIVED AND FILED

MOTION by Committee Member Cruikshank, seconded by Committee Member O'Brien to **APPROVE** the consent calendar. Approved without objection.

IV. SBCCOG Transportation Working Group Updates

A. Infrastructure Working Group Update – no updates, IWG did not meet since last meeting

B. Transit Operators Working Group Update – no updates, TOWG did not meet since last meeting

C. Metro Service Council – no updates

V. Caltrans District 7 South Bay Projects Update

Mr. Carvajal announced that Caltrans staff is working to update its FY22 project portfolio so no new updates are available at this time. Updates will be available at the next meeting. Caltrans is currently finalizing the 2024 SHOPP project lists. Mr. Carvajal also shared the following links to items of interest from the June CTC meeting.
<https://catc.ca.gov/-/media/ctc-media/documents/ctc-meetings/2023/2023-06/21-4-7-a11y>
<https://catc.ca.gov/-/media/ctc-media/documents/ctc-meetings/2023/2023-06/16-4-4.pdf>
<https://catc.ca.gov/-/media/ctc-media/documents/ctc-meetings/2023/2023-06/17-4-5.pdf>
<https://catc.ca.gov/-/media/ctc-media/documents/ctc-meetings/2023/2023-06/19-4-9.pdf>

VI. Overview of Metro Regional Connector Project and A/E Line Changes

Mr. Marquez provided a brief overview of the new Regional Connector Project that opened on June 16th. The project allows for transfer free rides through the downtown core. Three new stations were built that allow for better access to downtown destinations. Over 100,000 people traversed the new stations on the opening weekend. This project facilitated a simpler system map, with the new A line running from Long Beach to Azusa and the new E Line connecting East Los Angeles and Santa Monica. This change eliminated the L Line (Gold Line). The full presentation can be viewed online here: <https://youtu.be/pAuDyPtOR-I?t=1594>

Committee Member Cruikshank mentioned that at a recent Metro event for city mayors, some Azusa representatives were concerned about the end of line policies, and asked Mr. Marquez if there are any changes being considered. Mr. Marquez explained that Metro has a multi-layer public safety approach that includes contracted officers, Metro ambassadors, and homeless outreach teams. He also cautioned that some homeless individuals are paying users, so it's not always a clean and simple issue. Mr. Dierking added that end of line policies continue to be a work in progress, and that as a transportation agency, Metro is having to learn more about homeless related issues and work with other service providers. Committee Member O'Brien also noted that individuals have to be removed from the trains at the end of the day to allow for the appropriate service to the vehicles, but that Metro is working to engage with these individuals further up stream so they have options prior to the end of the line. Committee Member Gomez also noted that Metro is increasing the number of crisis teams to address the issue.

VII. Three Month Look-Ahead – Received and Filed

VIII. Announcements

Committee Members discussed the need for an August meeting and elected to cancel it. The next meeting will be in September.

IX. Adjournment: Committee Chair Pimentel adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m. to September 11, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.