# South Bay Cities Council of Governments Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) - May 14, 2025

Attendees: Erik Zandvliet (Chair, Manhattan Beach); Andy Winje (Vice-chair, Redondo Beach); Shin Furukawa, Caleb Cho (Torrance); DJ Torado (Hawthorne); Cheryl Ebert (El Segundo); Gilbert Marquez (Carson); Kevin Kwak (Gardena); Rachel Junken (LA City); Pat Smith, Elizabeth Garcia, Marty Amundson (LACPW); Steven Anderson (Kimley Horn); Fong-Ping Lee (FPL and Associates); Lindsey Van Parys, Marco Anderson (GHD); De Mai, Brian Chandler (DKS Associates); Andrew Nickerson (PSOMAS); Aaron Edwards, Janna McKhann (NexTech Systems); Gene Kim (HDR); David Leger, Aaron Baum, Anne Tsai (SBCCOG)

I. April 9, 2025 IWG Meeting Notes and April Transportation Report—Mr. Zandvliet called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. The meeting notes and report were accepted as presented.

## II. Agency & Other Update Reports

- a) SBCCOG: Mr. Leger reported the following important dates:
  - SBCCOG Office Move: The SBCCOG will be moving to a new office location on 357 Van Ness Way in July 2025.
  - REAP 2.0 Commercial to Redevelopment: SBCCOG recommended a consultant selection to the Steering Committee on May 12.
  - Cool Roofs Feasibility Study: The SBCCOG was awarded funding that will study the feasibility of cool roof treatments on representative public buildings. The consultant selection was recommended to the Steering Committee on May 12.
  - Carson to the Sea: A contract was awarded to a consultant team to conduct an LTN gap analysis between Carson, Lomita, and San Pedro.
- b) L.A. County Public Works South Bay Traffic Forum Update:

Mr. Smith provided updates on South Bay traffic forum projects, which are available here: <a href="https://cdn.southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/14113316/HANDOUT\_LA-County\_TSSP\_May\_2025.pdf">https://cdn.southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/14113316/HANDOUT\_LA-County\_TSSP\_May\_2025.pdf</a>

Mr. Smith reported that grants have expired for seven projects in procurement and extensions have been requested. Mr. Zandvliet suggested that the update report be sorted by date.

- c) L.A. Metro Updates
  - 1) ITS Program: No representative was present.
  - 2) Metro Board Actions: No Metro representatives were present.
- d) Metro TAC Mr. Leger shared that Metro reported decreased local returns revenue compared to the previous year.
- e) Streets and Freeways Subcommittee: Mr. Zandvliet reported that the subcommittee did not meet last month but will meet tomorrow to receive an update on the Olympics Mobility Concept Plan. Mr. Zandvliet also reported that SS4A applications are due on June 27.
- f) Caltrans South Bay Projects Update: The next Caltrans South Bay project update report will be published in June.

Mr. Zandvliet shared that a recent fatal accident on Sepulveda Blvd near the Manhattan/Hermosa Beach border has become a high priority issue in the Manhattan Beach community. The accident is the third fatal collision on the segment of Sepulveda Blvd from Manhattan Beach Blvd to Artesia Blvd within five months. Manhattan Beach staff may be reaching out to neighboring beach cities to collaborate on a corridor study.

#### III. Presentation: Roundabouts

Ms. Van Parys presented an overview of roundabouts as an effective piece of infrastructure to improve safety for all roadway users. The full presentation is available here: <a href="https://cdn.southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/04093923/PRESENTATION">https://cdn.southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/04093923/PRESENTATION</a> Roundabouts GHD.pdf

Mr. Baum asked if bicycle accommodations at roundabouts are designed for cyclists to walk their bikes or to share an enhanced sidewalk with pedestrians. Ms. Van Parys responded that typically they are shared-use paths. Municipalities that have ordinances prohibiting shared-use paths will install signage directing cyclists to walk their bikes.

Mr. Baum asked if it is best practice to implement street calming measures in advance of roundabouts to slow down motorized vehicles. Ms. Van Parys responded that traffic calming measures are context sensitive and may be implemented on higher speed approaches to alert drivers to a changing roadway context.

Mr. Winje noted that the South Bay is built out and faces tight space constraints for building roundabouts and asked about oval or oblong-shaped roundabouts. Ms. Van Parys shared that non-circular shaped roundabouts (teardrop, bean, figure eight) work very well.

Mr. Baum asked why there are not more roundabouts. Ms. Van Parys theorized that roundabouts often experience political and community pushback and suggested that agencies conduct community outreach on roundabouts in general before revealing plans for specific intersections.

Mr. Baum asked if quick-build projects can help communities experience the infrastructure. Ms. Van Parys stated that it depends on if the quick-build is done correctly. Mr. Zandvliet added that if quick-builds or pilots are not designed successfully, they are less likely to be built on a permanent basis. Mr. Winje noted that the City of Redondo Beach had an ambition to install one roundabout in every council district. The city piloted a few temporary roundabouts, which were met with strong opposition because the infrastructure was not aesthetically pleasing and did not address pedestrian crossings. Then, the city tested three roundabouts in a row to address traffic issues, and they worked successfully, but the community did not like them. Mr. Winje recommended that agencies go all-in rather than implementing a test. Mr. Zandvliet noted that decision makers may be hesitant about the high cost of a roundabout project in comparison to a traffic signal. However, in the long term, roundabout maintenance costs will be much less than traffic signal maintenance costs. Ms. Van Parys provided a cautionary example of a city that built a roundabout without hiring a roundabout geometrician, which has resulted in several collisions.

Mr. Baum asked about best practices for community engagement. Ms. Van Parys shared an example in City of La Quinta to address concerns about safe crossings for children. GHD generated a cartoon character, video, and comic book to teach school-aged children how to walk and bike to school safely. GHD has also generated video renderings of approaching a roundabout from cyclist and driver perspectives. In addition, GHD has hosted community walkthroughs of roundabout models using small rubber modules as well as drive throughs in empty parking lots to familiarize roadway users. Ms. Van Parys emphasized that experiential engagement is much more effective than showing community members plan images.

### IV. Measure M Updates

#### 1) MSP Selection Criteria Follow-Up from Board of Directors (Attachment C)

Mr. Leger reminded the group that the Board approved the revised project selection criteria but has asked the IWG to identify ways to objectively measure the criteria. Ms. Tsai sent out a survey to solicit ideas from the group. Mr. Leger said that the SBCCOG does not intend to overly burden agencies but is interested in reasonable ways to measure some of the criteria. Alternatively, the IWG may determine that a diverse selection committee would address the Board's concerns as projects are scored. Mr. Zandvliet added that including these measures would be supplementary to a baseline funding application.

Mr. Winje suggested developing a qualitative spectrum of points to assess the subjective criteria. On the lower end, an agency might address a criterion in the application narrative; in the middle, an agency could submit an LOS study; on the higher end, an agency might submit a modeling exercise.

The group held a brainstorm session and pitched ideas for each selection criterion. The group agreed to assess the ideas again at a future meeting with the goal of making a recommendation to the Transportation Committee by September.

#### V. **3-Month Look Ahead:** Received and filed.

Mr. Leger reported that the Transportation Committee recommended that the SBCCOG not become the fiscally responsible agency for the I-405 Artesia/I-105 auxiliary lane project at the May meeting. The Transportation Committee also recommended approval of a scope of work modification for the Inglewood Transit Connector project.

# VI. Announcements/Adjournment:

Ms. Tsai announced that the SBCCOG released an RFQ to provide technical services to agencies implementing the Local Travel Network.

Ms. Tsai reminded agencies that submitted funding and programming requests to the FY25-26 Measure M MSP program update to submit their financial plan forms by tomorrow.

Mr. Zandvliet adjourned the meeting at 1:39 p.m. Next meeting June 11<sup>th</sup> in-person and online at the SBCCOG office.

To propose an item for the next meeting agenda, please e-mail <a href="mailto:DavidL@southbaycities.org">DavidL@southbaycities.org</a>
Meeting notes prepared by Anne Tsai, Transportation Project Coordinator