

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Transportation Committee

July 14, 2025

Meeting Notes

(Held at 357 Van Ness Way Suite 90, Torrance, CA 90501)

COMMITTEE CHAIR PIMENTEL CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:40 AM.

I. Welcome / Self-Introductions

In attendance were the following voting SBCCOG Board Members:

Chris Pimentel (El Segundo, Chair)

Rodney Tanaka (Gardena)

Alex Monteiro (Hawthorne)

Ray Jackson (Hermosa Beach)

Anne Yoon (LA County SD2)

Bubba Fish (LA County SD4)

Bill Uphoff (Lomita)

Nina Tarnay (Manhattan Beach)

Craig Quinn (Palos Verdes Estates)

Zein Obagi (Redondo Beach)

Britt Huff (Rolling Hills Estates)

Non-voting members:

Don Szerlip (Metro South Bay Service Council)

Also in attendance:

Noel Casil (Rancho Palos Verdes)

Elias Sassoon (El Segundo)

Elizabeth Garcia (LAPW)

Peter Puglese (Inglewood)

Jeannie Naughton (Rolling Hills Estates)

Kirsten Graham (Rolling Hills Estates)

Brandon Araujo (Hermosa Beach)

Andy Sywak (Metro)

Daniel Osztreicher (Trifiletti Consulting)

Michael Grossman (DR Consultants & Designers)

David Leger (SBCCOG)

Jacki Bacharach (SBCCOG)

Anne Tsai (SBCCOG)

Holly Osborne (Public)

Rod Kuhns (Public)

Brianna Egan (Public)

II. Public Comment

Public comment under Measure M updates.

III. Consent Calendar

A. May 12, 2025 Transportation Committee Minutes (Attachment A)

B. Transportation Report covering June 2025 (Attachment B)

MOTION by Committee Member Tanaka, seconded by Committee Member Uphoff, to **APPROVE** the consent calendar. Approved without objections.

IV. SBCCOG Transportation Working Group Updates

A. **Infrastructure Working Group Update** – Mr. Zandvliet reported that the IWG has spent several months working on Measure M policies (agenda item VI).

B. **Transit Operators Working Group Update** – Mr. Leger shared that the TOWG went dark in July.

C. **Metro Service Council** – Mr. Szerlip shared that the Service Council received updates on the state of the agency, Youth Council program, and TAP payment system modernization project.

Ms. Bacharach announced a tour of the LAX/Metro Transit Center on July 31 and asked participants to RSVP

to Ms. Tsai.

V. Caltrans District 7 South Bay Projects Update – No Caltrans representative was present. The June quarterly report is available [here](#).

VI. Measure M Updates

Ms. Egan provided public comment on behalf of South Bay Forward, which is available [here](#).

Mr. Kuhns provided public comment on behalf of the South Bay Bicycle Coalition, which is available [here](#).

The City of LA provided a written public comment on the MSP project selection criteria, which is available [here](#).

A. Measure M MSP Local Allocation Program Policies (Attachment C)

The Local Allocation Program (LAP) is funded through a 10% allocation of MSP funds available each year and allocated to each SBCCOG member agency per a formula. The LAP was established to allow cities with less ability or capacity to apply for projects through the competitive process to still access MSP funds for eligible city projects. Following the approval of a new LAP by the Transportation Committee in February, the Infrastructure Working Group developed written policies to govern the usage of LAP funds. The policies will cover project eligibility, fund retention limits, transferring and pooling funds, and evaluation of the program.

Ms. Bacharach clarified that the policies create a review committee that completes eligibility review of LAP-funded projects. Mr. Zandvliet explained that all LAP project eligibility requirements remain the same as the competitive program.

Committee Member Uphoff asked when the LAP will take effect if the Board approves the policies this month. Mr. Leger responded that LAP funds will begin accruing this fall when the SBCCOG receives its fifth year rolling window of funding (FY29-30). Project applications are due to SBCCOG staff in January 2026; however, it may take a few years for a city to accumulate enough funding to initiate a project.

MOTION by Committee Member Monteiro, seconded by Committee Member Uphoff, to **RECOMMEND** Board approval of the Local Allocation Program policies to the Board. Approved without objections.

B. Objective Measures for Measure M MSP Project Selection Criteria

Committee Member Yoon asked when and how the project selection criteria were developed. Mr. Leger explained that the criteria were established in 2018 but evaluated by the IWG over the last 18 months, and a revised project selection criteria document was approved in February. The SBCCOG received feedback from the Board in February to incorporate more objective measures to evaluate the criteria. Subsequently, the IWG added supplemental language to the project selection criteria (Attachment D).

Committee Member Yoon and Committee Member Fish asked if the Transportation Committee considered highlighting safety and VMT reduction further in the criteria, as noted in LA City's public comment. Mr. Zandvliet explained that the IWG did not focus on changing the criteria through this exercise but acknowledged opportunities to modernize the criteria in the near future.

Committee Chair Pimentel felt comfortable with the criteria as is, emphasized the importance of local agencies to determine and advocate for their priorities.

Committee Member Fish asked if points can be deducted for a project being unsafe, as safety is nested in the criteria. Mr. Zandvliet explained that the points system is a 0-100 system. If the project is unsafe, it would be compared to other project submissions. Committee Member Fish countered that an unsafe project could potentially earn points in other categories (i.e. eliminates highway deficiencies). Mr. Zandvliet and Committee Chair Pimentel felt that this would be improbable, as an unsafe project would not likely be eligible.

Committee Member Yoon noted that the Equity Focused Communities metric is nested under "reduces household transportation costs" and asked if there would be no extra advantage for a project located in an

Equity Focused Community (EFC) should that project receive an equal score to a project not located in an EFC. Mr. Zandvliet explained that the selection committee would award a project in an EFC with additional points in the environmental category, but there is no separate category for equity. Equity is also accounted for through the LAP.

Mr. Zandvliet added that the selection criteria provide the selection committee with the flexibility to elevate a project that may reduce VMT for the entire subregion. Committee Member Fish said that some of the qualifications that are important feel less critical by being nested within other criteria. Mr. Zandvliet expressed support for the idea of incorporating equity and VMT within the selection criteria.

Committee Member Uphoff asked if the Transportation Committee can approve the item with a request for a follow-up update. Mr. Leger responded that once the South Bay undergoes a true competitive process, the SBCCOG will request that the review committee submit a report to the Board evaluating the process..

Committee Member Obagi asked if the Metro Board will need to approve the revised selection criteria. Mr. Leger explained that the criteria do not need to be approved by the Metro Board.

MOTION by Committee Member Tanaka, seconded by Committee Member Tarnay, to **RECOMMEND** Board approval of the Measure M MSP Project Selection Criteria to the Board. Approved without objections.

VII. Local Travel Network Project Management & Technical Services Consultant Bench

As an increasing number of member jurisdictions implement the LTN, city staff have expressed challenges in capacity and have looked to the SBCCOG to provide support. To address this demand, the SBCCOG, in consultation with a subcommittee of city public works professionals, solicited a bench of consultants to provide project management and technical assistance to member jurisdictions for engineering, planning and design work to support the implementation of the LTN.

Ms. Tsai clarified that the SBCCOG will not hold a direct contract with the firms on the bench but that cities will form contracts with the firms. Ms. Bacharach noted that the SBCCOG and its member cities should monitor the usage of the bench.

Committee Member Monteiro asked if the projects and bench services will be funded through city general funds. Ms. Bacharach responded that the LTN is funded through Measure M MSP funds, not city funds.

Mr. Uphoff asked if there has been reluctance to use the bench. Ms. Bacharach said that the SBCCOG has implemented a bench in the past without use, but the RFQ was written in consultation with city staff to ensure maximum flexibility for cities.

Committee Member Obagi asked if hiring an outside contractor for the LTN will still create workload for city staff. Ms. Bacharach responded that city staff will still need to manage the consultants and provide input, but the bench is intended to alleviate as much workload for city staff as possible.

MOTION by Committee Member Monteiro, seconded by Committee Member Obagi, to **RECOMMEND** Board approval of the LTN Project Management and Technical Services bench of consulting firms for the corresponding disciplines that were submitted with recommendation for Fehr & Peers as the top-ranking firm. Approved without objections.

VIII. Three Month Look-Ahead

Mr. Szerlip reported that the South Bay Service Council has voted to go dark in August.

Mr. Sywak reported that the Metro Board will not convene in August.

The Transportation Committee members also discussed going dark in August.

MOTION by Committee Member Obagi, seconded by Committee Member Monteiro, to cancel the August Transportation Committee meeting. Approved without objections.

IX. Announcements

Committee Member Jackson asked if construction on the LAX People Mover is on schedule. Mr. Sywak reported that the projected opening date is still January 2026.

Ms. Egan announced that Assemblymember Muratsuchi's office will be holding the Julian Katz Memorial Bike Ride on Sunday, July 20. In addition, South Bay Forward will be hosting a Livable Communities Initiative and Parking Reform event on July 28 at St Cross Episcopal Church.

X. Adjournment: Committee Chair Pimentel adjourned the meeting at 11:44 p.m. to September 8.

Prepared by Anne Tsai, Transportation Project Coordinator