

**South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) - July 9, 2025**

Attendees: Erik Zandvliet (Chair, Manhattan Beach); Andy Winje (Vice-chair, Redondo Beach); Shin Furukawa, Caleb Cho (Torrance); Russ Bryden, David Copp, Totran Radke (Rancho Palos Verdes); Andres Gonzalez (Lomita); Cheryl Ebert (El Segundo); Tony Olmos (Inglewood); Gilbert Gamboa (Manhattan Beach); Kirsten Graham (Rolling Hills Estates); DJ Torado (Hawthorne); Nabi Sidiqi (Lawndale); William Mendoza (Gardena); Ryan Liu (Redondo Beach); Aksel Palacios, Rachel Junken (LA City); Elizabeth Garcia, Alvin Ly, Marty Amundson, Matt Suska (LAPW); Marta Polovin, Deborah Murphy, Winnie Fong, Mike Bohlke, Fulgene Asuncion (Metro); Constance Turner (SCE); Charles Gale (MWD); De Mai, Alex Zhu, Brian Chandler, Eric Shimizu (DKS); Natasha DeBenon (Ghirardelli); Charu Kukreja (Jacobs); Michael Grossman (DR Consultants & Designers); Peyvand Hajian (Iteris); Joanny Leva, Cynthia Guzman (Estolano Advisors); Patrick Troy De Guzman, Michael Ip, Tony Salas, Greg Jaquez (MNS); Min Zhou (HW Lochner); Jaime Buenos Marcos (NV5); Janna Mckhann (NexTech Systems); Rawad Hani (Gentecsol); Rani Narula-Woods (Excel in Innovation); Jacki Bacharach, David Leger, Jake Romoff, Anne Tsai (SBCCOG)

- I. **June 11, 2025 IWG Meeting Notes and June Transportation Report** – Mr. Zandvliet called the meeting to order at 12:04 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 relocating to 357 Van Ness Way Suite 110 (Suite 90 for meetings) starting July 1, 2025.
 - Metro South Bay Service Council: The South Bay Service Council currently has one vacancy. The SBCCOG is interested in identifying an individual to represent South Central LA.
 - LAX/Metro Transit Center Tour: The SBCCOG, in partnership with Metro, is hosting a K Line ride-along and tour of the new LAX/Metro Transit Center on July 31 at 10 am.

 - b) L.A. County Public Works – South Bay Traffic Forum Update:
Mr. Ly provided updates on South Bay traffic forum projects, which are available here: https://cdn.southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/09181239/HANDOUT_LACounty_TSSP_July_2025.pdf

Construction on El Segundo, Rosecrans, and Normandie are anticipated to begin early next year. Two new projects, Van Ness and Albertoni, will issue RFPs for design. Mr. Zandvliet suggested adding contact information for each project manager to the report.

 - c) L.A. Metro Updates –
 - 1) ITS Program: No representative was present.
 - 2) Metro Board Actions: Mr. Leger shared that the Metro Board approved the Measure R SBHP updates in June.

 - d) Metro TAC – Mr. Leger shared the following updates:
 - a. The CTC adopted the Cycle 7 ATP MPO projects. No projects awarded were located in the South Bay.
 - b. CTC staff anticipate a regular Cycle 8 with \$500 million in funding available over 4 years.
 - c. The draft EIR of the Sepulveda Transit Corridor project is open for public comments through the end of August.
 - d. Metro Micro has transitioned to a new software and operating model. Metro projects a 14% decrease in cost per trip, with each trip costing under \$25.

- e. The Metro TAC will be dark in August.
- e) Streets and Freeways Subcommittee: Mr. Zandvliet reported that the subcommittee did not meet in June.
- f) Opportunities to serve: Mr. Zandvliet invited IWG members to serve on the TAC and Streets and Freeways Subcommittee.
- g) Caltrans South Bay Projects Update: No Caltrans representatives were present. The next report will be available in September.

III. **Spotlight Presentation: Metro Urban Greening Grant Program**

Ms. Polovin presented a new competitive grant program for urban greening to advance a regional resilience network. The goals of the program are to advance equity and investment in communities impacted by extreme heat, improve transit rider customer experience, and develop an equitable and transparent streamlined application process. The grant program will be funded through Measure M (not subregional funding). Types of eligible projects may include tree canopies, transit shelters, hydration stations, cool pavement, and native plant landscaping. Metro is currently considering two conceptual grant categories: large projects (greater than \$500,000) and small infill projects (\$250-500,000). The program will be presented to Metro Board in Fall 2025 for feedback and guidance. The full presentation is available here: https://cdn.southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/21124756/Metro-Urban-Greening-Program_South-Bay-Cities-COG.pdf

Mr. Jacquez asked what will happen after Task 8 (Fall 2025 Program Evaluation)? Ms. Polovin responded that Metro plans to engage with grassroots organizations and continue to solidify the funding source. Metro anticipates that the grant program will release a call for projects in 1.5 to 2 years.

Mr. Zandvliet asked if there is a minimum period that the lead agency must keep a project in place. Ms. Kukreja responded that Metro has been studying best practices for similar programs and is considering a 10-year period. Ms. Murphy added that input from CBOs and public agencies will be helpful to find the right balance.

Mr. Zandvliet asked if there will be differences between the grant agreement for this program and other typical Metro grant agreements. Ms. Kukreja responded that the team has been building off of existing Metro grant agreement templates. Ms. Polovin added that there will be a few key differences to be protective of the live project elements.

Mr. Zandvliet asked if there will be an opportunity to apply for projects located on private property, noting that some private developments may be required to build publicly accessible spaces. Ms. Polovin responded that this is unlikely; the grant will focus on public spaces with a transit, walking, and biking nexus.

Ms. Leyva asked the group to suggest potential projects in the South Bay in the chat and to complete a survey that will be open until next Wednesday, July 16.

IV. **Measure M Updates**

- 1) Local Allocation Program Policies (Attachment C)
Mr. Leger shared a revised version of the Local Allocation Program (LAP) policies based on

agency feedback from a previous IWG meeting. The LAP will allocate 10% of MSP funds to SBCCOG member agencies each year per a formula beginning with FY29-30 MSP funds. Ms. Tsai explained that revisions that have been made to the LAP policy document since the last IWG discussion include: the process for determining centerline road miles has moved to a footnote; language governing tracking performance of the program has been removed and overall performance of the entire Measure M program will be monitored quarterly; clarification has been added to the five-year retention limit; clarification has been added to the definition of committing funds.

Ms. Junken asked to confirm that the LAP is funded through 10% of MSP funds. Mr. Leger confirmed. Ms. Junken asked if the project selection criteria apply to both the competitive program and LAP. Mr. Leger clarified that the project selection criteria applies only to the competitive program but that the types of eligible projects apply to both the LAP and competitive program.

Mr. Furukawa noted that this version of the LAP policy document establishes an awarding subcommittee chosen by the IWG chair and commented that the language may bestow too much power to the IWG chair. Mr. Leger stated that the awarding subcommittee is intended to evaluate both competitive and LAP project applications. Mr. Winje suggested changing the title to "reviewing subcommittee." The group suggested different ways to form the reviewing subcommittee. Ms. Bacharach suggested that the subcommittee be comprised of three to five IWG members (to offer flexibility depending on volume of project applications each year), one of whom is the IWG chair.

Mr. Olmos suggested that a summary of the LAP be written at the top of the policy document.

The IWG approved the discussed changes without objection.

2) Selection Criteria Scoring Rubric (Attachment D)

Ms. Tsai walked through the revised project selection criteria document, which combines the HEOI and TSMIP assessment criteria and adds optional metric examples that agencies may use to strengthen their application. A scoring rubric has been added to the document that will be used by the reviewing subcommittee to score each project. Once the policy document is approved by the Board, SBCCOG staff will develop a scoring rubric template for the subcommittee's usage. Mr. Zandvliet clarified that individual assessment criteria have remained unchanged; only that metric examples have been added to provide agencies with tools to demonstrate the objective benefits of their projects.

Ms. Junken asked if projects will be scored according to every measure in each assessment criterion (i.e. if a project is not related to goods movement, will it lose points?). Mr. Zandvliet explained that projects will be scored against the overarching assessment criterion (i.e. how does the project support environmental compatibility, sustainability, and quality of life?).

Ms. Junken asked if the SBCCOG will create an application form after the project selection criteria are approved. Mr. Leger responded that the SBCCOG currently uses the Attachment C – Scope of Work portion of the Metro funding agreement template as the application to streamline the application process.

Mr. Winje noted that this document can continue to be revised next year.

Ms. Bacharach asked Mr. Zandvliet to attend the July Transportation Committee meeting to field questions from Board members.

MOTION by Mr. Winje, seconded by Mr. Zandvliet, to recommend approval of the project selection criteria document by the Transportation Committee. Approved without objections.

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

The IWG will not meet in August. The Metro Board VMT policy discussion will be moved to September. SCAG will make a presentation on mobility hubs at the September Transportation Committee meeting.

Mr. Leger mentioned that the council of governments will be convening to discuss viewing parties and fan zone activities in relation to the Olympics.

VI. **Announcements/Adjournment:**

Mr. Zandvliet adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m. Next meeting September 10th in-person and online at the NEW SBCCOG office.

*To propose an item for the next meeting agenda, please e-mail DavidL@southbaycities.org
Meeting notes prepared by Anne Tsai, Transportation Project Coordinator*