

# **South Bay Cities Council of Governments**

## **South Bay Transit Operators Working Group**

### **AGENDA**

**Thursday, June 4, 2026**

**2:00 p. m. - 3:00 p. m.**

- 2:00 p.m. Self-Introductions & Approval of April 2, 2026 Meeting Notes (Attachment A)**
- 2:05 p.m. Transit Operator Updates**
- 2:20 p.m. Updates on Metro Issues, Initiatives & Studies**
  - ***Rider Inquiry: GTrans “PATH Service Study”***
- 2:35 p.m. SBCCOG Updates**
- 2:50 p.m. Transportation Report Covering May 2026 (Attachment B)**
- 2:55 p.m. Three Month Look-Ahead (Attachment C)**
- 3:00 p.m. Announcements / Adjournment**

*Next Transit Operators Working Group meeting date – Thursday, August 6th at 2pm*

*To propose agenda items, please contact [DavidL@southbaycities.org](mailto:DavidL@southbaycities.org).*

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**Transit Operators Working Group**

April 2, 2026 Meeting Notes

Attendees: Dana Pynn, David Mach, Matthew Lazo, Ryan Plumb, Paige Meyer, Brian Magumcia, Jacki Bacharach, Anne Tsai, Aaron Ruiz

**1. Self-Introductions & Acceptance of the March 5, 2026 Meeting Notes**

The virtual meeting was called to order by Ms. Pynn at 2:03 p.m. Meeting notes were accepted as presented.

**2. Transit Operator Updates –**

- Mr. Mach reported that the quarterly service change will occur on April 5, 2026 to improve run-time on Line 6 during peak times. Due to this Torrance Transit has hired additional drivers and plans to hire as needed moving forward.
- Ms. Pynn shared that GTrans recently welcomed 11 new drivers. Ms. Pynn also announced that the Gardena City Council approved the purchase of double-decker buses.
- Mr. Lazo reported that LA Metro has recently experienced a hacking issue, which gives context to any delays or issues that Metro or stakeholders may have experienced. He also shared that testing the shuttle service for the World Cup has commenced, with a pilot program for an app called Spare that displays directions and routes for drivers.
- Mr. Magumcia shared that they have made minor adjustments to the BCT routes.

**3. Updates on Metro Issues, Initiatives, Studies –**

- Mr. Lazo shared that there are no major updates as Metro prepares for the World Cup.

**4. SBCCOG Updates**

- **Measure R Transit Investment Program Updates:** Ms. Tsai brought forward the FY 26-27 Measure R South Bay Transit Investment Program funding recommendation. SBCCOG received one funding request from City of Carson, in collaboration with CSUDH, for \$4 million for the Victoria Transit Center. Ms. Tsai noted that SBCCOG files have previously labeled it as the “Fashion Outlet Transit Center,” while the true location is on the campus of California State University, Dominguez Hills. The City of Carson and CSUDH have been working collaboratively on the university’s mobility hub, of which the Victoria Transit Center is a component. The funds will add mobility hub elements to the scope of this project, to prepare for the 2028 Olympics. With the additional \$4 million, the City of Carson’s total Measure R transit funding would amount to \$15.477 million. Ms. Tsai asked for a recommendation to take to the Transportation Committee.
  - MOTION by Chair Pynn, seconded by Mr. Plumb, to recommend to the Transportation Committee approval of the 26/27 FY Measure R South Bay Transit Investment Program Funding Update. Approved without objections.
- Mr. Mach asked if the City of Carson project fell under the guidelines for the local match or if it was excluded from this policy. Ms. Tsai clarified that this project is exempt from local match, explaining that the SBCCOG funds 100% of projects up to \$20 million.

- Ms. Pynn requested an update on the status of the Inglewood project. Ms. Bacharach shared that the City of Inglewood is expected to provide an update in September as they pivot the project towards the revitalization of Market Street and mobility hubs. Ms. Tsai shared the following attachment with the group: [2025.11.03 ITC-Phase-1-Status-Update-for-SBCCOG.pdf](#)
- Ms. Bacharach stated that the IWG is recommending requirements for new funding on projects that are installing fiber to allow for conduit and access for the South Bay Fiber Network.
- Ms. Bacharach announced that SBCCOG will host a City Orientation Meeting on May 21, 2026.
- The Housing Trust Board meeting has moved its first meeting to April 30, 2026, with 10 cities already confirmed.
- Ms. Tsai shared that the Measure M program recommendation for approval is \$108.7 million in additional funds for this cycle.

**5. Transportation Report Covering March 2026:** Item was received and filed.

### **6. Three Month Look-Ahead:**

Ms. Bacharach asked if there is interest from GTrans and Torrance Transit to making presentations on their microtransit programs to the Senior Services Working Group.

- Ms. Pynn shared that they lead “Bolt powered by GTrans.” Ms. Pynn informed the group that they have purchased software to improve delivery of the service to appeal to potential on-demand riders to make the program more cost effective. They are continuing service of Bolt and have already completed the pilot phase of the program.
- Mr. Mach reported that Connect Torrance has had steady ridership increases with 27% from the senior population and the rest being the general public for on-demand service. Waits have also slowly increased, but Mr. Mach shared that Connect Torrance is shifting resources from off-peak times to address demands within other times. Four additional wheelchair accessible vehicles (Toyota Sienna Hybrid) have also been purchased through Measure R and will be added to the Connect Torrance fleet.

The Metro Board will not be meeting in June 2026. The Transit Operators Working Group decided not to meet in July 2026.

**7. Announcements / Adjournment:** Mr. Mach shared that a large Los Angeles Dodgers mural by Robert Vargas, “Samurai of the Diamonds,” has been unveiled at the DoubleTree Hotel in Torrance.

Ms. Pynn adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m. to May 7, 2026.

*Prepared by Aaron Ruiz, CivicSpark Fellow and Anne Tsai, Project Coordinator*



# MONTHLY SBCCOG TRANSPORTATION REPORT

A summary of recent federal, state, regional and local  
developments and trends in transportation

**COVERING MAY 2026**

Edited by Aaron Ruiz, CivicSpark Fellow

## Federal

### **U.S. Department of Transportation Coordinates Relief Efforts Following Spirit Airlines Shutdown**

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy announced a series of actions to support travelers and employees impacted by the shutdown of Spirit Airlines. The U.S. Department of Transportation moved quickly to coordinate relief by securing commitments from major U.S. carriers to address stranded passengers, stabilize fares, and connect former Spirit workers with new employment opportunities.

According to the Department, carriers like United, Delta, JetBlue, and Southwest agreed to capping ticket prices specifically for Spirit customers needing to rebook canceled flights, with travelers required to provide a Spirit flight confirmation number to access the special pricing. American Airlines and Delta are additionally offering reduced fares on high-volume Spirit routes, Allegiant has frozen fares on overlapping routes, and Frontier is offering up to 50 percent off base fares across its network through May 10.

For former and displaced Spirit employees, most major U.S. carriers are extending travel pass benefits to pilots, flight attendants, and other staff needing to return home, and have offered expedited employment interviews to Spirit team members. American Airlines and United Airlines have also created dedicated microsites for Spirit employees seeking to continue careers in aviation.

Federal officials said the response was intended to maintain route access, limit fare increases, and reduce disruptions to the broader aviation system. The Spirit Airlines closure is a notable development for the aviation sector, as the carrier had served as a low-cost option on many domestic routes, including those connecting Southern California travelers to destinations across the country. The DOT's coordinated response reflects the federal government's role in maintaining consumer protections and market stability when a major carrier exits the market.

Source: [Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Secures Relief for Spirit Airlines' Flyers and Employees | US Department of Transportation](#)

### **U.S. Department of Transportation Proposes New Rule Restricting Drone Operations Near Critical Infrastructure**

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy announced a proposed federal rule that would establish no-fly restrictions for drones around critical infrastructure sites nationwide, marking a

significant step in the administration's effort to address aerial security threats to sensitive facilities.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued a proposed rule that would allow specific categories of critical infrastructure sites to apply restrictions on drone operations around their facilities, with approvals processed through a new web portal based on safety or security criteria. Sixteen sectors would be eligible for restrictions, including energy production, transportation systems, chemical facilities, water treatment plants, and defense industrial complexes.

The rule establishes two types of restrictions with the first being a Standard Unmanned Aircraft Flight Restriction, which would bar drone operations within a defined boundary except for operators who have previously met rigorous safety and security standards. The second, a Special Unmanned Aircraft Flight Restriction, is a more severe designation that bars all drone operations within a boundary unless the operator has received express prior approval from both the FAA and the sponsoring agency.

Restricted areas would have clearly defined horizontal and vertical boundaries, and site operators would be authorized to contact law enforcement if a drone entered a restricted zone. Authorities could then use Remote ID technology to locate the control station or operator, with violators potentially facing license suspensions, revocations, fines, and criminal charges.

As drone technology becomes more accessible and incidents near airports and sensitive facilities continue to draw federal attention, the proposed framework offers local agencies and facility operators a formal pathway to seek airspace protections.

Source: [Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveils New Rule to Protect Critical Infrastructure from Drone Threats | US Department of Transportation](#)

## State

### **Caltrans Explores High-Speed Bus Concept to Connect San Francisco and Los Angeles**

Caltrans is exploring a high-speed bus system that could travel between San Francisco and Los Angeles as an alternative to flying and other intercity travel options, adding a new dimension to the state's long-running efforts to improve connectivity between its two largest metropolitan regions.

The concept, which remains in its early stages, envisions buses traveling at speeds of up to 140 miles per hour on state freeways. Caltrans officials describe the proposal as part of a broader effort to examine what it calls high-speed buses, with potential routes pointing to freeways such as the Harbor Freeway and the San Bernardino Freeway as possible starting points. Experts caution that the proposal would face significant challenges in congested corridors, noting that dedicated bus lanes would need to be additional lanes and could not come at the expense of existing travel lanes that are already heavily used. The proposal also arrives against the backdrop of California's ongoing high-speed rail challenges, with the state having spent more than \$14 billion on a rail project intended to connect San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Caltrans has not provided cost estimates for the concept. A preliminary report noted that if the 140-mile-per-hour target proves infeasible due to cost, infrastructure, or safety limitations, a reduced speed of 80 to 100 miles per hour could serve as a practical alternative. In a statement, Caltrans emphasized that the concept is exploratory, focused on understanding safe vehicle design requirements, freeway infrastructure modifications, and operational feasibility before any decision is made on testing or implementation. The agency also noted that as part of the state's broader effort to enhance transit connectivity, express bus facilities are being planned in San Diego and Contra Costa counties, with additional locations expected.

For Southern California commuters, the proposal reflects the state's continued search for scalable, lower-cost solutions as demand for travel between major urban centers continues to grow.

Source: [Caltrans considering high-speed bus that would take passengers from San Francisco to Los Angeles on state freeways: Here's a look - ABC7 Los Angeles](#)

## Region

### **LA Metro Celebrates Opening of D Line Extension for Section 1**

LA Metro marked a major regional transit milestone with the grand opening of Section 1 of the D Line Subway Extension, delivering the only new subway opening in the United States this year and transforming transit access along one of Los Angeles' most iconic corridors. Riders can now travel from Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles to La Cienega in Beverly Hills in approximately 21 minutes, with three new underground stations including Wilshire/La Brea, Wilshire/Fairfax, and Wilshire/La Cienega.

Wilshire/Fairfax provides riders with direct access to LACMA, the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, the Petersen Automotive Museum, and the La Brea Tar Pits, as well as the Farmers Market and The Grove. Wilshire/La Cienega serves as the gateway to Beverly Hills and is also in

proximity to Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and the Beverly Center. Each station features large-scale artworks commissioned through Metro's Art program in collaboration with curators from prominent Los Angeles cultural institutions.

The project was funded primarily through Metro's 2008 Measure R transportation sales tax. Sections 2 and 3 of the D Line Extension, which will extend service to Century City and Westwood, are on track to open in 2027. The full extension will also serve as a critical link for the 2028 Olympic Games, with its terminus near the UCLA athlete village.

For South Bay and regional riders, the D Line Extension strengthens the broader Metro rail network, adding a reliable, fast connection to major employment, healthcare, and cultural destinations on the Westside, reducing car trips and reinforcing the case for transit as a viable daily travel option across Los Angeles County.

Source(s): [Less Time Driving, More Time Living: Where Discovery, Diversity, Delight Meet on Metro's D Line - LA Metro](#)

[D Line Extension - LA Metro](#)

## Trends

### LA's World Cup Strategy Sets a National Standard

As the 2026 FIFA World Cup approaches, Los Angeles is emerging as a national model for how transit agencies can use mega-events as an opportunity to reshape transportation behavior, while other host cities struggle with sticker shock and public backlash over rising transportation costs.

Across the eleven U.S. host cities, fans have encountered an increasing range of transportation expenses. NJ Transit is charging \$150 for a round-trip ticket from Manhattan to the Meadowlands for the World Cup final, compared to a regular fare of \$12.60. The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority is charging \$80 for express train services to Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, more than three times the normal price. For parking in Kansas City, prices are running as high as \$900 per game depending on the lot.

For Los Angeles, fans can reach SoFi Stadium from as far away as Claremont and Simi Valley on a combination of buses and trains for just \$1.75, the same fare riders pay on any other day. That commitment to keeping the system accessible reflects a deliberate strategy by LA Metro to leverage the World Cup not just as a logistical challenge to manage, but as a platform to introduce new riders to public transit. The agency is adding approximately 300 buses, with 200

being loaned, to its regular fleet to handle increased demand and shuttles servicing nine direct routes to SoFi Stadium and various fan zones.

Metro has also expanded park-and-ride options across the region, with reserved parking locations in Anaheim, Culver City, Newport Beach, Santa Monica, Torrance, and near LAX, with early-bird pricing ranging from \$55 to \$95 including round-trip bus service to the stadium. The agency is also partnering with Access Services to ensure riders with disabilities and mobility challenges can navigate World Cup transportation, reflecting a commitment to an inclusive fan experience.

The broader trend here extends well beyond 2026 as the Los Angeles region is hosting the 2027 Super Bowl and the 2028 Olympic Games. This allows the region's transit network to be tested and built in real time, with each major event serving as a stress test and a proof of concept. This is intended to demonstrate to millions of visitors and residents that public transit can be affordable and reliable even under extraordinary demand. For Southern California commuters, LA Metro's performance this summer may be among the most consequential arguments for making transit the region's default transportation choice.

Source: [Amid backlash over World Cup parking, LA Metro offers a solution - Los Angeles Times](#)

**Updated 6/01/26**

June 2026	July 2026	August 2026	September 2026
<p>1. Metro South Bay Service Council</p> <p>4. Transit Operators Working Group</p> <p>8. SBCCOG Transportation Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I-105 ExpressLanes Update</li> <li>• I-405 Wilmington Ave to Main St Improvements Project EIR</li> <li>• Metro Board Composition recommendation</li> </ul> <p>8. SBCCOG Steering Committee</p> <p>10. Infrastructure Working Group</p> <p>25. SBCCOG Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SBCCOG FY26-27 Budget adoption</li> <li>• Election of Officers</li> <li>• Metro Board Composition approval</li> </ul> <p>Metro Board - DARK</p>	<p>Transit Operators Working Group - DARK</p> <p>Metro South Bay Service Council - DARK</p> <p>Infrastructure Working Group – Tentatively DARK</p> <p>SBCCOG Transportation Committee - DARK</p> <p>13. SBCCOG Steering Committee</p> <p>23. Metro Board</p> <p>23. SBCCOG Board</p>	<p>6. Transit Operators Working Group</p> <p>10. SBCCOG Transportation Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Measure M MSP &amp; Measure R Policies</li> <li>• LAX Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP)</li> </ul> <p>10. SBCCOG Steering Committee</p> <p>12. Infrastructure Working Group</p> <p>Metro Board - DARK</p> <p>27. SBCCOG Board</p> <p>31. Metro South Bay Service Council (Serves as September Meeting)</p>	<p>3. Transit Operators Working Group</p> <p>9. Infrastructure Working Group</p> <p>14. SBCCOG Transportation Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Metro C Line (Green) Midlife Rebuild</li> <li>• World Cup Recap</li> </ul> <p>14. SBCCOG Steering Committee</p> <p>24. Metro Board</p> <p>24. SBCCOG Board</p>

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