



SGVCOG Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: September 9, 2021
Time: 4:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
J. Pu called the meeting to order at 4:01pm.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
J. Hwang led the Transportation Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call
A quorum was in attendance.

Committee Members Present

Alhambra	Adele Andrade-Stadler
Claremont	Ed Reece
Diamond Bar	David Liu
Duarte	Tzeitel Paras-Caracci
Glendora	Steven Mateer
Industry	Cory Moss
La Cañada Flintridge	Keith Eich
Monterey Park	Peter Chan
Pasadena	Laura Cornejo
Pomona	Tim Sandoval
San Gabriel	Jason Pu
South El Monte	Gloria Olmos
L.A. County District #1	Martin Reyes
L.A. County District #4	Jamie Hwang
L.A. County District #5	Dave Perry

Absent

South Pasadena
Temple City
Walnut

Guests

Foothill Transit	Doran Barnes
Foothill Transit	Yoko Igawa
Metro	Abdollah Ansari
Metro	Androush Danielians
Metro	Bryan Pennington
Metro	Devon Deming
Metro	Eve Moir
Metro	Mary Lou Echternach
Metro	Tito Corona
Former Duarte Mayor	John Fasana
Office of Asm. Rubio	Cameron Griffin
Streetsblog LA	Joe Linton

SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter, Executive Director
E. Shen, Staff
P. Hubler, Staff
K. Ward, Staff
A. Fung, Staff
C. Serrato, Staff
V. Guerra, Staff
S. Hernandez, Staff
T. Egan, Lobbyist

4. Public Comment
There were no public comments at this meeting.
5. Changes to Agenda Order
There was a request to review Item 14, Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority Report, before reviewing the Consent Calendar.

CONSENT CALENDAR

6. Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – 08/12/2021
Action: Review and approve.
7. Appointment of SGVCOG Delegate to the Los Angeles International Airport Community Noise Roundtable
Action: Recommend the Governing Board to appoint La Cañada Flintridge Mayor Pro Tem Keith Eich to serve as the SGVCOG Delegate on the Los Angeles International Airport Community Noise Roundtable.

There was a motion to approve consent calendar items 6-7. (M/S: C. Moss/T. Paras-Caracci)

[Motion Passed]

AYES:	Alhambra, Claremont, Duarte, Industry, La Cañada Flintridge, Monterey Park, San Gabriel, South El Monte, L.A. County District #1, L.A. County District #4, L.A. County District #5
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	Glendora
NO VOTE RECORDED:	Diamond Bar, Pasadena, Pomona
ABSENT:	South Pasadena, Temple City, Walnut

UPDATE ITEM

8. Metro Fareless Systems Initiatives Updates
Metro Interim Fareless Systems Initiative Deputy Executive Officer, Devon Deming, provided updates on this item. The Metro Board of Directors previously approved proceeding with the development of a fareless pilot program to benefit students and low-income riders and determine whether fareless transit could be expanded to additional groups of riders. Metro is partnering with schools and districts across Los Angeles County to offer students unlimited riders on Metro buses and trains. This would allow students who attend participating schools the ability to ride Metro and other participating systems with no requirements on days or times for use. Metro is also collaborating with regional and local transit agencies to solicit their interest to join the fareless pilot program.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- T. Paras-Caracci inquired about methods for the City of Duarte to connect Metro with the City’s local school district. Ms. Deming responded that Metro convenes weekly meetings with transit agencies, which are interested in collaborating with

school districts. Ms. Deming added that the Duarte Unified School District expressed reservations about the pilot program given that the District may not have a lot of students who utilize transit services. Some of the District's students are currently covered under the California School of the Arts' program.

- A. Andrade-Stadler inquired about Metro's previous partnership efforts with schools. Ms. Deming responded that she has been managing Metro's student programs for five years. The U-Pass Program began with college students and a K-12 pilot program was previously established.
- A. Andrade-Stadler commented that many K-12 students ride local transit lines that are owned and managed by cities instead of Metro. Ms. Deming responded that several cities had expressed interest in joining Metro's TAP or pass programs. A group that meets weekly on Tuesdays had also been convened to allow all transit agencies in Los Angeles County to discuss streamlining transit programs with Metro.
- P. Chan inquired about long-term funding sources that can sustain the Fareless Systems Initiative. Ms. Deming responded that the pilot program includes plans to identify long-term funding sources. T. Sandoval also assured Mr. Chan that the Metro Board of Directors is committed to identifying long-term funding sources for the Fareless Systems Initiative.
- J. Pu inquired about opportunities for cities that do not operate their own transit routes to partner with Metro. Ms. Deming responded that some cities are interested in developing cost-sharing agreements to sponsor their school districts in the pilot program.

PRESENTATIONS

9. U.S. Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework Overview

SGVCOG Director of Government and Community Relations, Paul Hubler, provided a presentation on this item. On August 10, 2021, the U.S. Senate voted to pass the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684) to provide funding to support the nation's infrastructure, including roads, bridges, rail, transit, ports, airports, electric grids, water systems, broadband, and other priorities. The legislation would provide \$944 billion in total spending over five years, totally \$550 billion in new spending. The Senate's passage of the bill follows months of negotiations between the White House and a bipartisan cohort of senators on the infrastructure component of President Biden's original American Jobs Plan. The bill has proceeded to the U.S. House of Representatives for consideration.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- J. Pu inquired about the funds' administration agency in California. Mr. Hubler responded that the Section 130 funds will be administered by Caltrans.

10. Gold Line/I-210 Safety Improvements Project

Metro Executive Director of Engineering and Construction, Bryan Pennington, provided a presentation on this item. Metro Gold Line operates on a right-of-way in the middle of the I-210 Freeway for approximately six miles. Since 2007, a total of 13 major accidents that involved vehicles breaching the median have occurred within the six-mile segment,

with a majority of them involving tractor trailers. Metro is in the process of securing funding to place barriers along an S-curve of the six-mile segment to prevent accidents and injuries.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- J. Hwang inquired about the barriers' cost estimates. Mr. Pennington responded that the high costs result from constructing the area between the highway and the rail line to place barriers. The work to construct the area requires closing parts of the Gold Line.
- D. Perry expressed gratitude to Metro staff for addressing safety issues on the I-210.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

11. Oral Report

SGVCOG Executive Director, Marisa Creter, provided a report and members of the Committee expressed gratitude and appreciation to Metro Board Deputy, Mary Lou Echternach, as she retires from Metro.

LIAISON REPORTS

12. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Report

Pomona Mayor/Metro Board Member, Tim Sandoval, provided a report.

13. Foothill Transit Report

Foothill Transit Chief Executive Officer, Doran Barnes, provided a report.

14. Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority Report

Committee Vice Chair and Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority Board Member, Ed Reece, provided a report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no additional announcements.

ADJOURN

J. Pu adjourned the Transportation Committee meeting at 5:47pm.