



SGVCOG Transportation Committee Approved Minutes

Date: February 21, 2019

Time: 4:30 PM

Location: Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
602 E. Huntington Dr., Suite B, Monrovia, CA 91016

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 4:40 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Members Present

Claremont	E. Reece
Diamond Bar	D. Liu
Duarte	J. Fasana
Pomona	M. Pilarz
San Gabriel	J. Pu
South El Monte	G. Olmos
South Pasadena	D. Mahmud
Temple City	A. Avery
Walnut	A. Wu
LA County District 1	M. Reyes
LA County District 5	D. Perry

Members Absent

Alhambra
El Monte
Glendora
La Cañada Flintridge

SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter
K. Ward
P. Duyshart
P. Hubler

4. Public Comment

No general public comment.

5. Changes to Agenda Order: Identify emergency items arising after agenda posting and requiring action prior to next regular meeting

There were no changes made to the agenda order at this point in the meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

6. Transportation Meeting Minutes: 01/17/2019

Recommended Action: Approve Transportation Committee minutes.

7. Election of Vice Chair for the Remainder of FY 2018-2019

Recommended Action: Nominate and elect Jason Pu as Vice Chair for the remainder of FY 2018-2019.

There was a motion made to approve both Consent Calendar items. (M/S: J. Fasana/A. Wu).

[MOTION PASSED]

AYES:	Claremont, Diamond Bar, Duarte, Pomona, San Gabriel, Temple City, Walnut, LA County District 1, LA County District 5
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	Alhambra, El Monte, Glendora, La Cañada Flintridge, South El Monte, South Pasadena

PRESENTATIONS

8. California High Speed Rail Update

Michelle Boehm, the Southern California Regional Director of the California High Speed Rail Authority provided a presentation to the Transportation Committee for this agenda item. She discussed how the High-Speed Rail is part of an integrated, multi-tiered rail, transit, and mobility network, and can complement existing and planned transportation services along and adjacent to the planned rail route. The High-Speed Rail will increase mobility, is a needed transportation alternative, will improve air quality, and lead to job growth, according to Ms. Boehm. She also discussed the Share Connected Modern Rail Corridor which will stretch from Burbank to Anaheim through Los Angeles, and how it will involve rail infrastructure improvements which improve safety and travel time for both Metrolink and High-Speed Rail trains. Features of this corridor will include: positive train control, corridor protection and detection, grade separations, early earthquake warning system, and planning around stations. Ms. Boehm also provided an overview on the project development process and the revised timeline and scope of work for the project.

Moreover, Ms. Boehm stressed that, despite remarks by Governor Newsom pertaining to the High-Speed Rail project in his State of the State speech, there has been no change to this project in terms of what the short-term goals and milestones already were for this project. This includes completing the on-going environmental work for the LA sections of the rail line. She did clarify that Governor Newsom did define the limits and scope of the first phase of construction (from Merced to Bakersfield) in order to meet terms of the federal grant funding for this project.

Questions/Discussion:

- One member of the Committee asked if the High-Speed Rail will go through the San Gabriel Valley ever.
 - Ms. Boehm responded that there are plans for the rail line to go through the San Gabriel Valley, but this will be far off in the future. Eventually though, for Phase 2 of the project, which will connect LA to San Diego, the rail line will go through the SGV, either along I-10 or I-60. The State decided to not just extend the rail line from Anaheim to San Diego because the High-Speed Rail Authority wants to connect the Inland Empire to the system and wants to connect Ontario Airport to the system. This phase will not happen until 2050.
- Another question that was asked was: Has the Authority done studies of the impacts of High-Speed Rail in other countries, in terms of impact on land value?
- Another Committee member asked: What are the time savings of doing a “blended system?”

- Ms. Boehm said that the benefits are the time savings and the reliability of time savings. Also, once the rail line goes north of Burbank, the train will be operating at speeds of 200 MPH.

9. Metro Open Streets Grant Program, FY 2020 Mini-Cycle Application and Guidelines

Brett Atencio Thomas, who is a Senior Transportation Planner with LA Metro, provided the SGVCOG Transportation Committee with a presentation during which he gave an overview of the mini-cycle guidelines and application. Thomas announced that FY 2020 Mini-cycle applications are due online to Metro by March 8, 2019. Additionally, he pointed out how, for the Open Streets Grant Program Mini-cycle, Metro wants to ensure that cities which have disadvantaged communities and are short on resources are able to submit competitive open streets event applications. Thus, Metro will offer writing assistance to smaller, resource-challenged jurisdictions with the SGVCOG subregion. For this cycle, Metro is making available \$1,078,688; cities can use any award money they receive to fund planning, outreach, and implementation costs for an open streets event. Mr. Thomas encouraged SGV cities to apply for funding.

Questions/Discussion:

- A Committee member asked how this funding is typically allocated, and if there will be an emphasis on smaller events, or larger events?
 - Mr. Thomas stated that the average funding award per event is \$300,000.
- One Committee member encouraged people to attend the upcoming 626 Golden Streets: Mission to Mission open streets event in San Gabriel, Alhambra, and South Pasadena in May. This event was funded through Cycle 3 of the Metro Open Streets Grant Program.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. LA Metro's "Twenty-Eight by '28" Initiative

John Fasana, the Chair of the Transportation Committee, began the discussion on this item. He mentioned that some Metro committees are starting to acknowledge that "28 by '28" might be too aspirational. Mr. Fasana then went over which projects will be accelerated by 2028. He mentioned that this item will be deliberated on at the next Metro Board meeting.

Questions/Discussion:

- One member of the Committee reported that Metro committees have been talking about "decoupling," meaning, decoupling "28 by '28" from the new Re-Imagining LA County Initiative. There was mention about the need to look at the impacts of congestion pricing, too.
- Another Committee attendee asked where the \$26 billion for unfunded "28 by '28" projects will come from. There was a discussion about different revenue source options, and there was mention that Congestion Management Program revenues should be allocated in a bottoms-up approach, similar to Measure M. The approach should be equitable, too.
- A Committee member also pointed out that Metro staff will have to figure out what the exact initiative funding shortfall is, and if it is actually more than \$26 billion when considering operational costs of projects.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (MTA) REPORT

11. Oral Report

Lilian De Loza-Gutierrez of LA Metro provided this report. She began by thanking SGV cities for sending in letters of support for the INFRA Grant for the 57-60 Confluence Project. Additionally, she announced that Metro has been conducting nearly 15 community based NextGen Bus Study meetings and workshops all throughout LA County to get resident and constituent feedback on the redesign of its bus system. She also mentioned how the Metro Board will vote on the formal naming of the Gold Line Phase 2B stations in March. Ms. De Loza-Gutierrez also said how Metro and Via are currently in the 4th week of its mobility on demand project in three pilot neighborhoods, including the area adjacent to the El Monte Bus Station.

Mr. Fasana also provided an update about Metro's study of the I-10 ExpressLanes from the I-605 to the County line along I-10.

UPDATE ITEMS

12. Metrolink Update

Sylvia Novoa of Metrolink provided this update. She announced an upcoming press conference about the automatic external defibrillators for medical emergencies. She also made mention of an upcoming budget workshop in March, and a Metrolink text notification system.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

13. Oral Report

COG staff announced that staff will soon be emailing Transportation Committee voting members to solicit feedback and input about selecting a new Committee meeting date and time.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS

There were no Committee Member Items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.