



SGVCOG Governing Board Approved Minutes

Date: August 8, 2019 (Special Meeting)

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water Districts (602 E. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016)

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
SGVCOG President Cynthia Sternquist called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
D. Perry led the Governing Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call
A quorum was in attendance.

Governing Board Members Present

Alhambra	David Mejia
Arcadia	Peter Amundson
Azusa	Uriel Macias
Baldwin Park	Monica Garcia
Claremont	Ed Reece
Covina	Victor Linares
Diamond Bar	Nancy Lyons
Duarte	John Fasana
El Monte	Victoria Martinez Muela
Glendora	Michael Allawos
Industry	Cory Moss
Irwindale	Albert Ambriz
La Puente	Charlie Klinakis
La Verne	Tim Hepburn
Monrovia	Becky Shevlin
Monterey Park	Peter Chan
Pomona	Tim Sandoval
San Dimas	Denis Bertone
Sierra Madre	Rachelle Arizmendi
South Pasadena	Michael Cacciotti
Temple City	Cynthia Sternquist
Walnut	Allen Wu
West Covina	Tony Wu
L.A. County District #1	Florencio Briones
L.A. County District #4	Lauren Yokomizo
L.A. County District #5	David Perry
SGV Water Districts	Carlos Goytia

Absent

Bradbury
La Cañada Flintridge
Montebello
Rosemead
San Gabriel
San Marino
South El Monte

SGVCOG Staff

Marisa Creter, Executive Director
Kimberly Hall Barlow, General Counsel
Deanna Stanley, Staff
Alexander Fung, Staff
Navneet Kaur, Staff
Stefanie Hernandez, Staff

4. Public Comment

The Governing Board received 12 submitted letters expressing support for the use of \$126 million of San Gabriel Valley's Measure M Subregional Equity Funds to fill the funding gap for the Foothill Gold Line Project. Letters were submitted from the following individuals and entities:

- Assemblymember Chris Holden
- Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez
- Citrus College
- Congressman Adam Schiff
- Congresswoman Judy Chu
- Congresswoman Norma Torres
- Metro Board Members Kathryn Barger, John Fasana, Janice Hahn, and Hilda Solis
- Pomona Fairplex
- San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
- Senator Connie Levya
- University of La Verne
- Western University of Health Sciences

SGVCOG President Cynthia Sternquist announced that the Governing Board would receive public comments for 30 minutes. Each speaker would be given three continuous minutes to speak. Public comments would resume towards the end of the meeting for those who did not receive the opportunity to speak due to the time limit. A total of five individuals provided public comments at this meeting.

Lauren Jacobs, a representative from the Office of Congresswoman Judy Chu, provided a public comment urging Governing Board members to approve the allocation of \$126 million to extend the Foothill Gold Line. Ms. Jacobs mentioned that completing the Gold Line Extension Project is a priority for the Congresswoman.

Daniel Enz provided a public comment regarding the urgency of securing the \$126 million before Metro's deadline. Mr. Enz stressed that the San Gabriel Valley desperately needs the Gold Line Extension Project and not taking this chance to connect the region would lead to negative consequences.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis provided a public comment to express support for extending the Gold Line to Pomona. Ms. Solis took the opportunity to thank the Governing Board for supporting the County's transportation projects and respectfully requested Governing Board members to approve the allocation of \$126 million to extend the Foothill Gold Line. Ms. Solis also stressed that declining the allocation request would set the Gold Line Extension Project back two years. She hoped that the Gold Line Extension Project can be completed by the 2028 Olympics and she reaffirmed her commitment to the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys.

Brad Jensen from the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership provided a comment to express support for the Gold Line Extension to Pomona. Mr. Jensen shared the concerns of using limited funds on one project, but stressed that the Foothill Gold Line is a valuable resource to the San Gabriel Valley. Mr. Jensen cited a 2016 research study that showed a total of \$6.7 billion were invested in projects near the Foothill Gold Line. On behalf of the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership, Mr. Jensen urged the Governing Board to approve the \$126 million allocation.

Miguel Santana from Pomona Fairplex provided a public comment to express support for extending the Foothill Gold Line to Pomona, then to Claremont and Montclair. Mr. Santana mentioned that Pomona Fairplex receives three million visitors every year and that the Gold Line Extension is essential for Fairplex's future planning efforts. He also stressed that the Gold Line Extension Project can decrease the need of visitors to travel to Fairplex by car, thereby decreasing carbon emissions around the Pomona Valley.

5. Changes to Agenda Order

SGVCOG President Cynthia Sternquist requested Governing Board members to review the meeting agenda. No changes to the meeting agenda were requested.

After requesting Governing Board members to review the meeting agenda, President Sternquist took the opportunity to recognize SGVCOG General Counsel Kimberly Hall Barlow for her service to the SGVCOG.

ACTION ITEM

6. Allocation of \$126 Million in Measure M Subregional Equity Program Funds to the Gold Line Foothill Extension Project Phase 1 Alignment to Pomona

SGVCOG Executive Director Marisa Creter provided a thorough presentation on this item. After Ms. Creter's presentation, Metro's Chief Program Management Officer, Richard Clarke, was invited to provide further comments and background on the project to extend the Foothill Gold Line to Pomona.

Mr. Clarke mentioned that the Metro Board of Directors views the Gold Line Extension Project as a priority to the Board. After receiving bids for the extension project, it was discovered that there was a funding gap of \$126 million to extend the Gold Line to Pomona. The Board understood that there was a lack to funding to award the contract; however, Metro board members believed that it was crucial to extend the rail line to Pomona to obtain regional connectivity at the Pomona Metrolink Station. Metro representatives eventually identified the Measure M subregional equity funds, which currently has \$199 million available.

At this time, several Governing Board members raised questions regarding the Measure M subregional equity funds:

- Governing Board members inquired about whether the \$199 million in Measure M subregional equity funds would be inflated if the funds are not spent. Metro representatives responded that the Metro policies only allow subregional equity funds to be inflated if a specific percentage of the original allocated amount are spent. If the Governing Board decides to allocate \$126 million of the \$199 million in Measure M subregional equity funds to the Gold Line Extension Project, the remaining balance would pass Metro's requirements for inflation.
- Another Governing Board member was concerned about the need to utilize Measure M subregional equity funds on other transportation projects, such as the 57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project. The Governing Board member cited a situation in which the SGVCOG was rejected from receiving a grant from the federal government to pursue transportation projects. Metro representatives responded that the approval of grant applications is based on competition and the urgency and need of projects within a specific region. Additionally, Metro representatives cited that SGVCOG previously applied for a federal INFRA grant for the 57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project. They expressed confidence in receiving state funds for the 57/60 project given that the State

- has a specific funding program towards truck and confluence relief projects.
- A Governing Board member recognized the urgency for completing the 57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project as the interchange caused multiple deaths and accidents. The Governing Board member mentioned that member agencies and partners should send letters of support to assist the 57/60 project obtain state funding if the Governing Board decides to allocate \$126 million towards the Gold Line Extension Project.
 - A Governing Board member inquired about north/south improvements along the 210 and 605 freeways near Azusa and West Covina and whether the Measure M subregional equity funds can be used on traffic signal synchronization programs. SGVCOG Executive Director Marisa Creter and Metro representatives responded that there is a separate pool of funding allocated for traffic signal synchronization programs and that many north/south improvements are completed on highways, such as the 605 freeway.

There was motion for the SGVCOG to act on the following:

- **Concur with the allocation of \$126 million in Measure M sub-regional equity program funds to the Gold Line Construction Authority for the segment of the project to Pomona;**
- **Request Metro commit in writing that the sub-regional equity funds be the last spent, if necessary, and that any unspent funds, up to \$126 million, be returned to the SGVCOG for future allocation to other eligible projects in the sub-region; and,**
- **Ask Metro that it follows through on its commitment to working with the SGVCOG to explore funding options for projects within the sub-region.**

(M/S: M. Allawos/J. Fasana)

[Motion Passed]

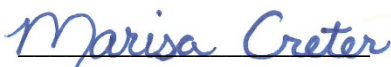
AYES:	Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, Duarte, El Monte, Glendora, Industry, Irwindale, La Puente, La Verne, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Pomona, San Dimas, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, Temple City, Walnut, West Covina, L.A. County District #1, L.A. County District #4, L.A. County District #5, San Gabriel Valley Water Districts
NOES:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	Bradbury, La Cañada Flintridge, Montebello, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, South El Monte

ADJOURN

SGVCOG President Cynthia Sternquist adjourned the Governing Board meeting at 7:21 p.m.

BOARD APPROVED

September 19, 2019
 Date


 Marisa Creter, Secretary