



SGVCOG Transportation Committee Special Meeting Minutes

Date: **January 11, 2021**
Time: **4:00 PM**
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
J. Pu called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
E. Reece led the Transportation Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call
A quorum was in attendance.

Committee Members Present

Claremont	Ed Reece
Diamond Bar	David Liu
Glendora	Steven Mateer
Industry	Cory Moss
La Cañada Flintridge	Keith Eich
Monterey Park	Peter Chan
Pomona	Tim Sandoval
San Gabriel	Jason Pu
South El Monte	Andres Gonzalez
South Pasadena	Diana Mahmud
Temple City	Ashley Avery
L.A. County District #1	Martin Reyes
L.A. County District #5	David Perry

Absent

Duarte
Walnut

Guests

L.A. County DPW	Enrique Baul
L.A. County DPW	Dan Sharp
Metro	Martha Butler
Metro	Lilian De Loza-Gutierrez
Metro	Mary Lou Echternach
Metro	Craig Hoshijima
Metro	Laurie Lombardi

SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter, Executive Director
E. Shen, Staff
P. Hubler, Staff
A. Fung, Staff

4. Public Comment
One written comment was submitted and it can be found in Attachment A towards the end of this document.

Nature for All Program Organizer, Bryan Matsumoto, also provided a verbal public comment and recommended committee members to include language that supports Transit

to Parks in the 2021 Transportation Legislative Priorities, including language that support public transit access to regional and local parks, beaches, and the San Gabriel Mountains, request regular updates and progress from Metro Transit to Parks Strategic Plan, and support and initiate long-term funding for Transit to Trails and Transit to Parks.

5. Changes to Agenda Order

There were no changes to the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

6. Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – 11/19/2020

Action: Review and approve.

There was a motion to approve consent calendar item 6 with directions for staff to revise the 11/19/2020 minutes to include the City of South Pasadena’s approval vote for Item 10, Metro Measure R Highway Program Criteria and Measure M Guidelines. (M/S: E. Reece/C. Moss)

[Motion Passed]

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

ACTION ITEM

7. 2021 Transportation Legislative Priorities

SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, provided a presentation on this item. The proposed legislative priorities outline the position of the Governing Board on priority issues and matters that impact the San Gabriel Valley.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- A committee member commented that the proposed legislative priorities are too broad and suggested specific transportation and capital improvement projects, such as the I-710/I-10 interchange improvements, be mentioned in the priorities. The committee member also recommended that the priorities should include actions that support mobility for east-west travel corridors in the San Gabriel Valley.
- Another committee member commented that the legislative priorities should specifically support obtaining Federal funding the extension of the Gold Line to Montclair.
- A committee member recommended that the SGVCOG should advocate for major infrastructure improvement/public works programs that can support the rebuilding of the nation’s economy.

- A committee member mentioned that a footnote indicating the inclusion of projects and programs that are being assigned for implementation under the proposed State and Regional Legislative Priorities may cover some of the projects that other committee members had previously mentioned in the discussion.

There was a motion to recommend the Governing Board to adopt the proposed 2021 Transportation Legislative Priorities with the following additions:

- **Support continued engagement on the I-710/I-10 interchange improvements and increased mobility for east-west travel corridors in the San Gabriel Valley; and**
- **Support the extension of the Foothill Gold Line to Montclair.**

(M/S: J. Pu/P. Chan)
[Motion Passed]

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

DISCUSSION ITEM

8. Metro Subregional Equity Program Guidelines

Metro Deputy Executive Officer, Craig Hoshijima, provided a presentation on this item. Metro staff was previously directed by the Metro Board of Directors to develop standard and explicit criteria for how and when subregions' SEP funds may be accelerated to meet their needs. As a result, Metro staff began developing guidelines using the process similar for other Metro Multi-Year Subregional Programs. A White Paper summarizing the proposed concepts of the SEP Guidelines was presented to the SGVCOG Transportation Committee for review and discussion.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- A committee member called on Metro Board Deputy, Mary Lou Echternach, to provide additional insights on the proposed SEP Guidelines. Ms. Echternach inquired about Metro's definition of a White Paper and requested that all Metro Board Deputies be included in the conversations to draft SEP Guidelines. Mr. Hoshijima responded that Metro's upper management believed that it would be fairer to release a White Paper instead of a Board report attachment until a time arrives for a Metro Board action. This would allow subregions to have early access to information regarding an upcoming Metro Board item.
- Another committee member expressed concerns over the SEP Guidelines' proposal to allow subregions to borrow funds from one another and that the SEP funds would only be available starting in 2043. Additionally, the committee

member was concerned that Metro Board would have the ability to approve or deny subregions’ requests for SEP funds under the current proposal. Mr. Hoshijima responded that the proposed SEP Guidelines does not allow subregions to borrow funds from one another. Instead, it would allow a subregion to borrow within the subregions’ multi-year subregional program accounts to address eligibility issues. With respect to the timeline, Mr. Hoshijima referred to Metro’s broader financial capacity issues and responded that Metro staff’s analysis projected that the earliest the SEP funds would be available is 2043.

- A committee member mentioned that Supervisor Barger is closely monitoring subregions’ feedback and recommended that this item be brought back for additional discussion at the committee meeting next month.

There was a motion to direct staff to work with Metro to address the stated issues in this item’s discussion and direct staff to prepare a letter to Metro outlining SGVCOG positions regarding the Subregional Equity Program funds to include, but not limited to, the following points:

- **Subregions should initiate the programming of SEP funds, including timing, amounts, and project eligibility;**
- **SEP funds must remain available when needed, rather than in 2043, and should remain consistent with the Board motion to provide funding to each subregion as early as possible consistent with the project funding made available to the San Fernando Valley subregion;**
- **Developing criteria for programming SEP funds does not require preparation of guidelines since guidelines currently exist for subregional funds which include SEP; and**
- **Request that Metro discloses the source of non-SEP funds, if any, used to cover cost increases on capital projects since the passage of Measure M.**

(M/S: J. Pu/D. Mahmud)

[Motion Passed]

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

PRESENTATIONS

9. San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network Development Project

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Civil Engineer, Enrique Baul, provided a presentation on this item. The project promotes cohesive travel throughout the San Gabriel Valley region while advancing public health, public safety, mobility and accessibility, economic development, stormwater management, and greenhouse gas reduction. With the aim of transforming approximately 138 miles of existing Los Angeles County Flood Control District’s right-of-way into a world-class Greenway Network, the

project bridges gaps between existing planning efforts and identifies and prioritizes project opportunities.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- A committee member mentioned that this project can certainly connect residents with San Gabriel Valley communities and provide spaces for local residents to enjoy open spaces.
- Another committee member mentioned that there is a lack of facilities and amenities along several bikeways and that extension of existing bikeways can lead to better use of the region's Greenway Network.
- A committee member inquired about maps or overlays that would best reflect job sites and destinations where the proposed routes can be used for mobility and transportation. Mr. Baul responded that there is a connectivity lens that showcase activity generators of retail, industrial, and open space areas.

10. San Gabriel Mountains Transit and Infrastructure Program

Nature For All Program Organizer, Bryan Matsumoto, provided a presentation on this item. Nature For All recently launched the program to accelerate the planning and pilot demonstrations for Metro's Gold Line rail connector shuttles, walk routes, and related programs to the San Gabriel Mountains and nearby natural spaces. The program aims to address critical regional needs by connecting "park poor" communities to open space and providing access for disadvantaged communities to visit the San Gabriel Mountains. By linking the Metro Gold Line and local bus and active transit systems to the San Gabriel Mountains, this program can offer Los Angeles County residents healthy outdoor access to world-class trails and mountain destinations, such as Mount Wilson Observatory, Sturtevant Falls, and the San Gabriel River.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- A committee member inquired about possible actions from the Federal government that can support the San Gabriel Mountains Transit and Infrastructure Program. Mr. Matsumoto responded that Nature for All is hopeful to reintroduce legislation in Congress that can support Transit to Parks programs. Additionally, Nature for All is collaborating with the U.S. Forest Service to implement Federal land access programs that can provide specific funding for the project.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

11. Oral Report

SGVCOG Executive Director, Marisa Creter, reported that the Durfee Avenue Grade Separation Project in Pico Rivera recently achieved a project milestone by erecting a girder for the project's bridge. A timelapse video of the girder erection process has been shared with committee members and the video can also be found on https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXWu0e9_Tfo&feature=youtu.be.

LIAISON REPORTS

No verbal report was given unless otherwise noted.

12. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Report

- 13.** Metrolink Report
- 14.** Gold Line Report
- 15.** Foothill Transit Report

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Transportation Committee Chair, Jason Pu, encouraged cities to review the draft Metro Recovery Task Force Report and submit comments by February 8, 2021.

ADJOURN

J. Pu adjourned the Transportation Committee meeting at 6:06pm.

**San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
Transportation Committee Meeting – Monday, January 11, 2021 at 4:00 PM
Written Public Comments**

**Written Public Comment #1: Jackson Salinas
Submitted: Sunday, January 10, 2021 at 9:38 PM**

LIAISON REPORTS

12. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Report: I sent this to your customer service department but I wanted to address it here as well. I would like to make some suggestions about your trains and some stations being very dirty. With some of the recent trips I have been on there has been nothing but dirt and trash at certain places. It just looks disgusting and if you're going to be on top of cleaning during COVID-19 to stop the spread this needs to be done more frequently.

Suggestions:

1. At the end of each trip for each train. At the last station someone should be assigned to clean up everything in the train that way it's ready to go for the next trip.
2. Have someone that is assigned to a station that tends to be very filthy. The floors at Memorial Park Station in Pasadena is always filthy everyday just to name one of them. That should be assigned to someone cleaning it daily.
3. Have hand sanitizers on the trains to encourage passengers to utilize.

13. Metrolink Report: Have there been any talks about going back to normal service? Also, I love that you added express trains on the San Bernardino line. Is there a way you guys can add it to more lines?

14. Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority: I asked this when they presented to the La Verne Planning Commission but they never answered my questions. Has there been any talks of subsidizing Lyft in La Verne like what Monrovia is doing? Where people at the station can utilize that to go anywhere in La Verne at a low cost. 50 cents or \$1 is what Monrovia had when they started it. This was mentioned at the City Council Meeting during the presentation on the gold line months ago.

Will, there be any way to make the Goldline a 24-hour service during the extension?

15. Foothill Transit Report: When can we go back to normal service?