



SGVCOG Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: June 10, 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
J. Pu 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
Monterey Park	Peter Chan
Pasadena	Laura Cornejo
Pomona	Tim Sandoval
San Gabriel	Jason Pu
South El Monte	Gloria Olmos
Walnut	Allen Wu
L.A. County District #1	Martin Reyes
L.A. County District #4	Jamie Hwang
L.A. County District #5	Dave Perry

Absent

Alhambra
Duarte
La Cañada Flintridge
South Pasadena
Temple City

Guests

City of Glendora	Vanessa Mikhail
City of Industry	Josh Nelson
City of Industry	Sam Pedroza
ActiveSGV	Danielle Zamora
Foothill Transit	Yoko Igawa
Foothill Gold Line	Lisa Levy Buch
Metro	Carlos Rico
Metro	Judy Gerhardt
Metro	Mary Lou Echternach
Member of Public	Cameron Griffin

SGVCOG Staff

M. Creter, Executive Director
E. Shen, Staff
C. Sims, Staff
K. Ward, Staff
A. Fung, Staff
S. Matthews, Staff

4. Public Comment
There were no public comments at this meeting.

5. Changes to Agenda Order
There were no changes to the Agenda Order.

CONSENT CALENDAR

6. Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes – 05/13/2021
Action: Review and approve.
7. FY 2021-2022 Committee Chair & Vice Chair Elections
Action: Elect San Gabriel City Councilmember Jason Pu as the FY 2021-2022 Transportation Committee Chair and Claremont City Councilmember Ed Reece as the FY 2021-2022 Transportation Committee Vice Chair.

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

[Motion Passed]

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

ACTION ITEM

8. Metro Strategic Project List
SGVCOG Management Analyst, Alexander Fung, provided a presentation on this item. Metro adopted the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) last year to provide a detailed roadmap for guiding Metro’s plan to build, operate, maintain, and partner for improved mobility over the next three decades. Included in the LRTP is the development of the Short Range Transportation Plan (SRTP), a 10-15 year action plan which contains the Strategic Project List (SPL). The SPL includes a list of planned but unfunded major transportation projects and approved transportation programs submitted to Metro from any of the nine councils of governments (COGs) in Los Angeles County. Metro recently requested all of the COGs to submit eligible projects and programs for inclusion on the SPL by June 30, 2021. After soliciting feedback from member agencies, staff received a total of 38 programs and projects to be included on the SPL.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- T. Sandoval, as the San Gabriel Valley Representative on the Metro Board of Directors, extended an invitation for member agencies to consult or discuss SPL projects with him.
- D. Liu commented that the SR 57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project is almost fully funded and is currently lacking \$30 million in construction funding. Additionally, Mr. Liu commented that the Westbound SR-60 Direct Connector to

Grand Avenue Project is only Metro’s Measure M Project List. Mr. Fung responded that the SR 57/60 Confluence Chokepoint Relief Project should also still be eligible for inclusion on the SPL given that a portion of the project is unfunded.

- J. Pu inquired about the Public Works Technical Advisory Committee’s ability to comment on the proposed list of projects and programs. Mr. Fung responded that the Public Works Technical Advisory Committee was not able to review the proposed list of projects and programs due to the constrained timeline.
- J. Pu inquired about the process for member agencies to request additional projects and programs to be included on the SPL. Mr. Fung responded that member agencies are allowed to request additional projects and programs to be included on the SPL at any time. In the event that a request originates from the Public Works Technical Advisory Committee, the Transportation Committee would first review the request before it is presented to the Governing Board for approval.
- M. Echternach commented that it is possible that funding will become available for some projects as other Metro projects are shifted around.
- J. Pu inquired about the effect of the Cities of Pasadena and South Pasadena including their proposed projects and programs in both SGVCOG’s request and the Arroyo Verdugo Communities Joint Powers Authority’s request. Mr. Fung responded that both agencies are supportive of the Cities of Pasadena and South Pasadena’s proposed projects and programs; however, those projects and programs would not necessarily be given priority over other requests. Ms. Cornejo added that the City of Pasadena does not intend to leverage one agency over another and that these projects can provide benefits to both subregions.

There was a motion to recommend the Governing Board to adopt the list of San Gabriel Valley regional transportation projects and programs to be included on the Metro Strategic Project List. (M/S: G. Olmos/C. Moss)

[Motion Passed]

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

UPDATE ITEM

9. San Gabriel Valley Transit Feasibility Study Update
 SGVCOG Director of Capital Projects, Eric Shen, provided updates on this item. On May 20, 2021, the SGVCOG Governing Board approved a professional contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. to conduct the technical analyses for the San Gabriel Valley Transit Feasibility Study. On June 1, 2021, the Executive Director approved a Task Order with Hill International, Inc. for providing public outreach services in support of Kimley-

Horn's analyses for the project. The Notice to Proceed (NTP) for both contracts are to be issued in mid-June and the project kick-off meeting has been scheduled for July 9, 2021.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- M. Echternach suggested that the Study should also include ExpressLanes and busways when analyzing existing mobility needs for the San Gabriel Valley.
- P. Chan inquired about the Study's public outreach activities. Mr. Shen responded that the public outreach schedule will soon be developed after technical tasks are confirmed. The information will be shared with committee members at a later meeting.
- C. Moss inquired about whether Metro's funding would cover the implementation of projects that will be recommended as a result of the Study. Mr. Shen responded that Metro has committed \$1.5 million, which covers the cost for a majority of the Study. Additionally, feasible projects that will be recommended as a result of the Study will be placed on Metro's project list. M. Echternach added that the SGVCOG will require additional funds from Metro in the next fiscal year to complete the Study.
- C. Moss inquired about the Public Works Technical Advisory Committee's involvement in the Study. Mr. Shen responded that plans to include the Public Works Technical Advisory Committee will be incorporated in the Study's public outreach efforts.
- J. Pu inquired about the Study's project timeline. M. Echternach responded that the total cost of the Study will likely be \$2 million to \$2.5 million and Metro is committed to funding the entire Study; however, the funding and a portion of the Study's scope may need to be adjusted as the Study progresses, which may impact the project timeline.
- J. Pu inquired about the source of the \$1.5 million that will be used to fund the Study. M. Echternach responded that the \$1.5 million originates from the Measure R allotment.

PRESENTATIONS

10. Glendora First/Last Mile Demonstrations

City of Glendora Transportation Manager, Steven Mateer, presented on the City's first/last mile pilot demonstration projects. In December 2019, the Glendora City Council adopted a resolution to further refine first/last mile project concepts for Ada Avenue, Foothill Boulevard, Glendora Avenue, and Vermont Avenue. As a result, Glendora city staff engaged in public outreach activities and applied for funding to implement demonstration projects. In September 2020, the SGVCOG awarded the City of Glendora over \$30,000 for a demonstration project using repurposed Metro Open Streets grant funds. By November 2020, a temporary first/last mile demonstration project was installed on Glendora Avenue from Foothill Boulevard to Ada Avenue. This demonstration project ran through March 2021 with the goals of supporting active transportation and public health during the COVID-19 Pandemic, evaluating potential safer street designs, and collecting detailed public feedback. The demonstration provided an excellent opportunity for the City to test improvements and observe operational benefits and drawbacks.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- J. Pu inquired about feedback about street parking in the Demonstrations Project. Mr. Mateer responded that the angled parking suggestions originated from local businesses given that parallel parking can be difficult for visitors. While the Demonstrations Project removed 40% of the parking spaces, it did not interfere with local businesses' revenue streams given that the demand for parking spaces are quite low near areas of the Demonstrations Project.

11. Metro Homelessness Programs

Metro's System Security and Law Enforcement Chief Judy Gerhardt presented on Metro's "Operation Shelter the Unsheltered" that assists individuals experiencing homelessness in seeking housing and support services. During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Metro has experienced an increase in the number of persons experiencing homelessness seeking shelter on the rail system and riding trains throughout the day without a formal destination. Since riders are currently required to exit trains at all terminus stations, such as Union Station, to allow Metro staff to effectively clean and disinfect trains, Metro has used this opportunity to partner with law enforcement and several homeless outreach providers to engage with persons experiencing homelessness. Metro and these partners are engaging with individuals experiencing homelessness as they exit trains by offering them interim housing, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment. By tracking bed availability, Metro can subsequently provide these persons transportation to area shelters.

Key Questions/Discussions:

- P. Chan inquired about long-term plans to resolve the homeless issues. Ms. Gerhardt responded that relocating homeless encampments is only relocating the homeless problems and does not end homelessness. Metro has identified that continuously offering consistent services and resources to individuals experiencing homelessness and building trust with these individuals can help with mitigating the homeless issues.
- P. Chan inquired about ways to resolve conflicts between residents and individuals experiencing homelessness. Ms. Gerhardt responded that, from a law enforcement perspective, de-escalation trainings can assist with lowering the tensions between members of the community and individuals experiencing homelessness. It is also important for members of the community to understand that individuals experiencing crises may not be rational and should only allow trained professionals to engage with individuals experiencing homelessness.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

12. Oral Report

SGVCOG Executive Director, Marisa Creter, provided a report.

LIAISON REPORTS

13. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Report

Metro Board Deputy, Mary Lou Echternach, provided a report.

14. Foothill Transit Report

Foothill Transit Public Affairs Manager, Yoko Igawa, provided a report.

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

- 16.** Metrolink Report
There were no reports on this item.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

J. Pu announced that the Transportation Committee will be reconvening on Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 4:00pm.

ADJOURN

J. Pu adjourned the Transportation Committee meeting at 5:59pm.