

**MINUTES OF THE
SR-91/I-605/I-405 CORRIDOR CITIES
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING
Gateway Cities COG Office, 16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount
March 29, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chris Magdosku at 2:38 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken by self introductions.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jerry Stock, City of Bellflower; Kanna Vancheswaran, City of Cerritos; Glen Kau, City of Compton; Ed Norris, City of Downey; Bill Pagett, Cities of Hawaiian Gardens and Paramount; Joshua Nelson, City of Industry; Max Withrow, City of Lakewood; Bill Zimmerman, City of Norwalk; Jose Loera, City of Pico Rivera; Noe Negrete, City of Santa Fe Springs, Vice Chair; Chris Magdosku, City of Whittier, Chair; Dominic Osmena, County of Los Angeles; Mark Christoffels, San Gabriel Valley COG.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Okina Dor, City of Artesia; Eric Widstrand, City of Long Beach.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ernesto Chaves, Metro; Adrian Alvarez, Metro; Adrian Alvarez, Metro; Yvette Kirrin, Gateway Cities COG; Kekoa Anderson, Gateway Cities COG; Sam Ekrami, Parsons Brinckerhoff; Jim Parker, Paragon Partners; Joe Harake, Parsons Transportation Group; Eric Spangler, Michael Baker International; Juanita Martinez, NCE; Chao Chen, Moffatt & Nichol; Peter Pham, Southern California Edison; David Zimmerman, Southern California Edison.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was held.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

Yvette Kirrin led a discussion seeking to determine whether the TAC members wished to maintain the 2:30 meeting time or to move the time earlier to 1:30 and whether to retain the schedule of meeting on the last Tuesday of the month rather than a consistent fourth Tuesday. After discussion among the TAC members, it was determined that the consensus was to meet monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Bill Pagett, seconded by Glen Kau, to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 23, 2016. The motion was approved unanimously, with Chris Magdosku abstaining.

REPORTS

A. Measure R I-605/SR-91/I-405 Cash Flow Update

Ernesto Chaves, Metro, reported that there were four outstanding MOUs with cities. Adrian Alvarez, Metro, said he would follow up with each city and that a status report on funding agreements would be made at the next meeting.

It was moved by Noe Negrete, seconded by Glen Kau, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. I-605 Hot Spots Interchanges Project Updates and Presentation on Early Action Projects

Ernesto Chaves gave a PowerPoint presentation on Metro's proposed Early Action Projects. He noted that the highway side totaled approximately \$3-4 billion in improvements. He said an initial list of 14 projects along I-605 was narrowed to 6 that have independent utility that include the freeway and the arterials that cross the freeway in the subject segment areas. He said approximately \$24.2 million is needed to move these projects into the next phase, with only \$9.9 million in the Gateway Cities area and the rest in the San Gabriel Valley. He said there is a "gentlemen's agreement" that the Gateway Cities COG would pay only for PAED, but that the cities that benefit are in the Gateway Cities area. He said this would bring the first decade Measure R expenditures to \$168 million, which is slightly higher than the amount programmed.

Mark Christoffels said the original state highway split was a monetary split, not a timeline split. It was noted that cash flow will dictate the projects and not necessarily the decade allocations.

It was moved by Mark Christoffels, seconded by Jose Loera, to approve the allocation of the \$24.2 million as proposed by Metro. The motion was approved, with Noe Negrete opposed.

C. I-605 Hot Spots Funding Eligibility Criteria and Approval Process

Ernesto Chaves presented a white paper with a cost containment and contingency policy and recommended that all new projects include a contingency. He said a line item would be set aside on the Metro FA for programming a 5% contingency. He pointed out that it would lower the overall capacity of the decade's programming. Mr. Chaves said jurisdictions would still come to the TAC to explain increases in scope to get concurrence, but the existence of a contingency may eliminate the need for an amendment to the MOU.

Noe Negrete asked that documentation be included in the white paper regarding how TAC members justify the additional 5%.

It was moved by Noe Negrete, seconded by Jerry Stock, to approve the cost overrun and contingency policy as recommended. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ernesto Chaves provided the TAC with a handout outlining "Clarification on the Project Eligibility for Highway Operational Improvements and Ramp/Interchange Improvements", as well as a decision tree to help illustrate the process.

Mr. Chaves discussed the policy that an eligible project must be within a distance of one mile from a state highway. He said there would be a process by which a project located more than a mile away would establish a nexus to the state highway, including three basic criteria. He said this policy would not affect projects already funded, only new proposed projects.

Bill Pagett noted that the I-710 TAC had recommended that a project would be eligible if it is located in the study area and said he thought this TAC should consider a similar policy.

Jerry Stock said he didn't think it would be appropriate to move anything forward without being technically correct such as some of the bullet points in the handout being inconsistent.

It was moved by Jerry Stock, seconded by Max Withrow, to request a Metro Board clarification of the eligibility criteria to include the I-605 Hot Spots Feasibility Study to be all inclusive of the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Measure R program, plus a clarification on the inconsistent criteria. The motion was approved unanimously.

**D. Quarterly Arterial Early Action Project Reports: County of Los Angeles
Presentation on Five Hot Spots Projects**

It was moved by Noe Negrete, seconded by Glen Kau, to table this item to the April meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

E. Measure R Funding Requests Update

Ernesto Chaves noted that under the two meeting process approved by the TAC, Metro was not able to get back to the cities regarding the presentations at the February meeting until this week.

Adrian Alvarez noted that the Del Amo Bridge project proposed by the City of Cerritos is consistent with the uses, but, at a 1.6 mile distance, it is not within one mile of a state highway. Therefore, a nexus to the state highway system needs to be established. He said Metro will work with the STP traffic consultant to see if a nexus can be developed.

Mr. Alvarez said Metro staff supports the eligibility of the Florence Avenue widening project in the City of Santa Fe Springs. He said the TAC may wish to consider approval of the project in a phased approach.

Noe Negrete said he would like to request that \$600,000 of the \$2.8 estimated total project cost be approved at this time for environmental, design, and right-of-way work on the project.

It was moved by Jose Loera, seconded by Mark Christoffels, to approve \$600,000 for the Florence Avenue widening project for pre-construction activities. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Alvarez said there are still outstanding questions regarding the Imperial Highway project in the City of Norwalk. He noted that the County is responsible for the signal timing on Imperial. He asked what the existing conditions and equipment are that are proposed to be improved and whether they are consistent with the County's signal synchronization program. He said he is requesting County concurrence on the project to be sure everyone is on the same page. He said he wasn't clear on the cost savings from the Imperial/Pioneer project, which was budgeted at \$3.4 million. Mr. Alvarez said Metro recommends that the project be re-considered when the applicant can provide answers to the requested information as not enough information is in hand to determine eligibility.

Bill Zimmerman said he had received Metro's comments today at 1:38 p.m. and hasn't had time to respond. He noted that Imperial Highway is a City facility and not a County facility, and so the County shouldn't have anything to say about the

project. He said ITS is an eligible project expense. He said nowhere did it have additional requirements and the City is upset that it is being questioned now.

Mr. Alvarez noted that there is a strong benefit to working with the City early on. He said this project is different and clear benefit needs to be shown. Mr. Zimmerman responded that the scrutiny is getting too burdensome.

Ernesto Chaves said there is fact finding that still needs to happen via an intermediate meeting. He said with the information they had received up to today they have a tough time making a determination.

It was moved by Bill Pagett, seconded by Glen Kau, to approve the project as it stands for \$3.3 million with reinvestment of \$1.2 million from the Imperial/Pioneer project. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Chaves noted it can still go to the Metro Board, but will not have a Metro staff recommendation until the issues are resolved.

F. Presentation by Southern California Edison

Peter Pham and David Zimmerman gave a PowerPoint presentation on how to intermix Southern California Edison requirements into existing EIR projects so as to not have Edison affect or delay local projects. They said transmission has a different point of contact than the local service providers.

It was moved by Jose Loera, seconded by Mark Christoffels, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

G. Gateway Cities COG Engineer's Report

Yvette Kirrin noted that the STP TAC had recommended approval of the Gateway Cities Strategic Transportation Plan to the STP Oversight Committee. She said the STP would go to the Committee, the Transportation Committee, and the COG Board of Directors on April 6th.

Kekoa Anderson discussed the expenditures on the Hot Spots projects. He noted that they are only 12% expended. He said there are approximately twelve projects that do have impacts on ongoing initiatives such as the Complete Streets and Urban Greening pots of funding. He said it may be helpful to accelerate projects to leverage funds with other opportunities.

It was moved by Ed Norris, seconded by Glen Kau, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chris Magdosku announced that the City of Whittier had hired a new public works director.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 5:01 p.m.