



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

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Transportation Committee Meeting Notes

Date: January 17th, 2008

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: SCE CTAC

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:50 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call / Introductions

Members Present

Alhambra	S. Placido
Diamond Bar	D. Liu
Duarte	J. Fasana
Glendora	D. Tessitor
Industry	J. Ballast
Montebello	L. Cornejo
Monterey Park	S. Martinez
San Gabriel	H. Baldwin
Walnut	M. Su
LA County District 1	B. Johnson
LA County District 4	W. Briesemeister
LA County District 5	M. Cano

Members Absent

Baldwin Park
El Monte
La Verne
Pasadena
Sierra Madre
South Pasadena

Ex-Officio Members

Foothill Transit, D. Barnes
Metro San Gabriel Valley Services Sector, J. Gabig
SGVCOG Metro TAC Representative, L. Stevens

SGVCOG Staff

N. Conway, Executive Director
J. Silvey, General Counsel
K. Boyd, Staff
M. Creter, Staff

Guests

S. Afshari, LA DPW
V. Aguas, Avant-Garde Inc.
S. Amiri, Metro
Y. Arias, Arellano Associates
J. Cristales, City of Pasadena
P. Doudar, LA DPW
B. Doyle, Titan Group
K. Gagnon, San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
R. Hamada, City of Irwindale
H. Ikhata, SCAG
T. Jenkins, Parsons Brinkerhoff
D. Monks, Metro
G. Neely, Office of Assemblymember Bob Huff
S. Neely, ACE Construction Authority
R. Richmond, Metro
M. Smith, Metro
K. Yu, Metro

2.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3.0 Consent Calendar

There was a motion to approve the consent calendar (M/S/C: H. Baldwin/ S. Martinez/ Unanimous).

4.0 Metro: Congestion-Reduction Demonstration Initiatives Application

Metro staff gave a presentation on this item. Staff stated that Metro had submitted an application to the United States Department of Transportation for a one-year congestion pricing demonstration project that includes the conversion of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) to High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes along the 210, 10, 60 and 110. Staff stated that, in total, 35 applications have been submitted and the Metro grant is competitive, but will require strong political support to get approval. One of the major strengths of the major strengths of the Metro application is that it includes for corridors under one project.

Questions were asked about the following issues:

- ***Voter Approval:*** Committee members asked if voter approval was required to implement tolls on the roadways and the Chair stated that it was not.
- ***Funding for Local Projects:*** Committee members asked if there would be any guarantees that funding that was raised as a result of the tolls would remain local (within the San Gabriel Valley). The Chair stated that this would be one of the conditions of for approval of the program.
- ***New CEQA:*** Committee members asked if the implementation of congestion pricing would require a new CEQA document. The Chair stated that because this type of project would be categorized as a travel demand management that would improve air quality, there would likely be relaxed requirements.

5.0 Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan

Metro staff and consultants gave a presentation on this item. The purpose of this Action plan is to provide a master plan for goods movement in southern California and is intended to be used as a guide in the preparation of state, regional, and local transportation plans. The Action Plan recommends the four following actions:

1. Accelerate regional environmental mitigation
2. Relieve congestion and improve mobility
3. Improve operational efficiency
4. Develop equitable public/private funding strategy

Projects recommended in the San Gabriel Valley include: ACE Phase II, 605/60 interchange, 605/10 interchange, 60/57 interchange, and a dedicated east-west freight guideway system/regional truck lane corridor between 710 freeway and 57 freeway. In total, the regional and county-specific list recommends over \$50 billion in projects, of which \$2.4 billion is committed funding.

Following the presentation, the following issues were discussed:

- ***Truck Routes:*** Committee members expressed concern that one of the technical memoranda identifies the SR-60 as the preferred east-west truck route and that this analysis was incomplete. Metro staff stated that several routes were still under consideration.
- ***Sources of Funding:*** Committee members asked whether the sources of funding had been integrated into the draft LRTP. Metro staff stated that \$2.3 billion of the \$50 billion had been identified.

A motion was made as follows (M/S/C: H. Baldwin/ B. Johnson/ Unanimous):

1. Support approval of the Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan.

2. Commend staff of the county agencies for their multi-year effort to develop a goods movement plan. Particularly commend Shahrzad Amiri and Michelle Smith who managed the consultants and other county agency efforts to oversee the significant work through to recommendation.
3. Request Metro Board to consider developing a financing plan and implementation plan for the \$50 billion priority program as outlined in the report.

5.1 Letter to Los Angeles/Long Beach Ports

A motion was made to add this item to the agenda (M/S/C: H. Baldwin/ W. Briesemeister/ Unanimous).

ACE staff gave a presentation on this item. Over the past year, the SGVCOG has been working with Senator Lowenthal's office to secure approval of a container fee. While this bill (SB 974) has been carried over to a two year bill, on Monday, January 14th, the Ports of LA/Long Beach moved to approve their own container fee. This fee, which would be in the range of \$10-\$18, would exclude community impacts and would only go to fund projects in the immediate vicinity of the ports. This action presents a challenge as ACE, along with other regional agencies, submitted grant applications for funding under Proposition 1B Goods Movement funding. ACE staff is requesting that the Transportation Committee recommend that the Governing Board approve a letter from the SGVCOG President to the Ports requesting support on securing the passage of SB 974 and requesting continued collaboration.

Committee members asked whether there was any further faction that needed to be taken at this time. ACE staff stated that a conference call between the County CEOs is being planned to occur in the coming week to discuss further strategies.

A motion was made to recommend approval of the letter from the SGVCOG President (M/S/C: B. Johnson/ W. Briesemeister/ Unanimous).

6.0 Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Phase 2 Update

Metro staff stated that they are currently in the process of undergoing an alternatives analysis study, which will take approximately 1 year. As a part of this study, Metro staff will be meeting with stakeholders and expects to take a recommendation of a preferred route back to the Board in September.

The Chair stated that cities that are near the proposed routes, such as South El Monte, Monterey Park, and Rosemead, should follow progress on this study closely.

7.0 Comments on Metro 2008 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

Metro staff stated that while both the Gold Line Phase II and the I-710 gap closure were included in the SCAG's RTP, they have not been included in Metro's financially constrained LRTP. Additionally both the I-10 carpool lanes and the SR-71 projects have been delayed by one to two years.

8.0 Comments on SCAG Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

H. Baldwin introduced Hasan Ikhrata, the new Executive Director of SCAG, to give a presentation on this item. He stated that SCAG's RTP has been released for public review and comment. While \$150 billion worth of projects have been identified, there is only funding for \$2 billion. He also stated that public comments will be accepted through February 18th.

The Committee members reviewed a draft letter from the SGVCOG to SCAG that reviewed the SGVCOG's issues with the RTP, particularly the need to synch projects with Metro's LRTP and studies of possible east-west freight corridors.

A motion was made to recommend to the Governing Board approval of this letter (M/S/C: D. Tessitor/ D. Liu/ Unanimous).

9.0 Metro Report (LACMTA) (update memo distributed at meeting)

10.0 New Business

The Chair stated CD's are available with information on public private partnerships.

11.0 Next Meeting – February 21st, 2008

12.0 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.