AGENDA ITEM 1

REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments
Remote Participation Only
October 1, 2020

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (TC)
THURSDAY, September 3, 2020


The Transportation Committee of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its meeting telephonically and electronically given public health directives limiting public gatherings due to the threat of COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor’s recent Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

Members Present:
Hon. Sean Ashton, Downey District 25
Hon. Phil Bacerra, Santa Ana District 16
Hon. Rusty Bailey, Riverside District 68
Hon. Will Berg, Port Hueneme VCOG
Hon. Russell Betts, Desert Hot Springs CVAG
Hon. Art Brown, Buena Park District 21
Hon. Joe Buscaino, Los Angeles District 62
Hon. Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo OCTA
Hon. John Dutrey, Montclair SBCTA
Hon. Emily Gabel-Luddy AVCJPA
Hon. James Gazeley, Lomita District 39
Hon. Dean Grose, Los Alamitos District 20
Hon. Jack Hadjinian Montebello
Hon. Curt Hagman San Bernardino County
Hon. Ray Hamada Bellflower
Hon. Jan Harnik, Palm Desert RCTC
Hon. Steven Hofbauer, Palmdale (Vice Chair) District 43
Hon. Mike T. Judge, Simi Valley VCTC
Hon. Trish Kelley, Mission Viejo OCCOG
Hon. Linda Krupa, Hemet WRCOG
Hon. Clint Lorimore, Eastvale District 4
Hon. Steven Ly, Rosemead District 32
Hon. Steve Manos, Lake Elsinore District 63
Hon. Ray Marquez, Chino Hills District 10

Packet Pg. 9
Hon. Larry McCallon, Highland  SBCTA
Hon. Marsha McLean, Santa Clarita  District 67
Hon. L. Dennis Michael  District 9
Hon. Carol Moore, Laguna Woods  OCCOG
Hon. Ara Najarian, Glendale  AVCIPA
Hon. Frank Navarro, Colton  District 6
Hon. Hector, Pacheco, San Fernando  District 67
Hon. Ed Reece, Claremont  SGVCOG
Hon. Crystal Ruiz, San Jacinto  WRCOG
Hon. Tim Sandoval, Pomona  District 38
Hon. Rey Santos, Beaumont  District 3
Hon. Zak Schwank, Temecula  District 5
Hon. Thomas Small, Culver City  Culver City
Hon. Jeremy Smith  Canyon Lake
Hon. Larry Smith  Calimesa
Hon. Ward Smith, Placentia  OCCOG
Hon. Karen Spiegel  Riverside County
Hon. Cynthia Sternquist, Temple City  SGVCOG
Hon. Jess Talamantes (Vice Chair)  SFVCOG
Hon. Brent Tercero, Pico Rivera  GCCOG
Hon. Steve Tye  District 37
Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro  (Chair)  District 1
Hon. Don Wagner  Orange County
Hon. Colleen Wallace  Banning
Hon. Alan Wapner, Ontario  SBCTA/SBCOG
Hon. Alicia Weintraub, Calabasas  LVMCOG
Mr. Paul Marquez, Caltrans District 7  Ex-Officio Member

Members Not Present:
Hon. Kathryn Barger  Los Angeles County
Hon. Ben Benoit, Wildomar  South Coast AQMD
Hon. Jonathan Curtis, La Cañada-Flintridge  District 36
Hon. Diane Dixon, Newport Beach  OCCOG
Hon. Paul Krekorian  District 49
Hon. Richard Loa, Palmdale  NCTC
Hon. Fred Minagar, Laguna Niguel  District 12
Hon. Charles Puckett, Tustin  District 17
Hon. Ali Saleh, Bell  GCCOG
Hon. Marty Simonoff, Brea  District 22
Hon. Jose Luis Solache, Lynwood  District 26
CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, Imperial County Transportation Commission, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Hon. Jan Harnik, Palm Desert, led the Pledge of Allegiance. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Asuncion, SCAG staff, read written correspondence received: the first from Hills for Everyone in support of the conservation elements in Connect SoCal and the second from Southern California Bicycle Coalition in support of Connect SoCal. Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, ICTC, asked for a review of the procedure regarding public comments and if late arriving items can be grouped with other comments received by the submission deadline.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. 2020/2021 Sustainable Communities Program Guidelines – Active Transportation & Safety Call for Applications

   Julia Lippe-Klein, SCAG staff, reported on the SCS Guidelines – Active Transportation and Safety Call for Applications. Ms. Lippe-Klein provided an overview and history of the Sustainable Communities Program grants and its goal to provide needed planning resources to local jurisdictions for active transportation, multimodal planning efforts, sustainability and several other planning areas. She noted the call for applications for Active Transportation & Safety (ATS) will begin this year and that successful applicants will be supported with technical assistance. Cory Wilkerson, SCAG staff, reviewed the details of the application process. He stated projects of interest include community or area wide plans, quick builds and network and visioning. Mr. Wilkerson noted projects with innovative infrastructure, community engagement and vision such as a Go Human demonstration project, where a local agency can move forward to seek funding and see the project to completion. He reviewed the eligible applicants.

   Mr. Wilkerson noted, with the committee’s approval, the call for projects would commence September 8, 2020. In addition, two application workshops will be held October 7 and 21, 2020. The application deadline is November 13, 2020 and all applications will be submitted electronically. The recommended projects will be brought before the Regional Council for approval May 2021 with final approval provided by the California Transportation Commission June 2021. Projects can begin in years 2021 – 2022.
Hon. Jan Harnik, Palm Desert, noted a recent SCAG Go Human demonstration project led to the development of active transportation infrastructure improvements in her city and encouraged other jurisdictions to explore these programs.

Hon. Hector Pacheco, San Fernando, asked about the application workshops. Ms. Lippe-Klein responded that information about the workshops will be available soon on SCAG’s web site and she is also available to assist jurisdictions.

A MOTION was made (Hagman) to approve the 2020/2021 Sustainable Communities Program Guidelines – Active Transportation & Safety Call for Applications. The motion was SECONDED (Ashton) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: ASHTON, BACERRA, BAILEY, BERG, BETTS, BROWN, BUSCAINO, CHUN, DUTREY, GABEL-LUDDY, GAZELEY, GROSE, HADJINIAN, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HOFBAUER, JUDGE, KELLEY, KRUPA, LORIMORE, LY, MANOS, MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MICHAEL, MOORE, NAJARIAN, NAVARRO, PACHECO, REECE, RUIZ, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SMALL, SMITH J., SMITH L., SPIEGEL, STERNQUIST, TALAMANTES, TERCERO, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WALLACE, WAPNER, WEINTRAUB (47)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

2. CalSTA Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force Findings & Recommendations

Rachel Carpenter, Chief Safety Officer, Caltrans, reported on the Zero Traffic Fatalities Task Force Findings and Recommendations. Ms. Carpenter stated she is Caltrans first Chief Safety Officer and noted a report has been concluded which recommends actions to improve safety focusing on establishing speed limits, engineering, enforcement and education. She noted the recommendations take a new approach to establishing speed limits based on safe system principles. Ms. Carpenter stated the goal is to develop a new speed setting methodology, which provides greater flexibility to agencies to set appropriate roadway speeds. Additional efforts include establishing greater technical assistance and revising the Manual for Setting Speed Limits.

She noted engineering solutions aim to improve traffic control and how traffic control devices are used and deployed in the state. Ms. Carpenter reported that survey information indicates a greater need to add standards regarding the deployment of traffic control devices and to accommodate the need by local jurisdictions to make short-term changes in devices as a result of immediate changes in the environment. The bikes and pedestrian effort was reviewed and she noted the pedestrian monitoring program has been made permanent, including both hotspot and system monitoring. Ms. Carpenter added that
Caltrans seeks an inclusive approach to roadway safety and encouraged members to please forward ideas and suggestions for improvement to safety.programs@dot.ca.gov.

Hon. Russell Betts, Desert Hot Springs, stated a construction zone on the I-10 corridor between Coachella Valley and Beaumont has a posted speed limit of 60 MPH with strict enforcement; however, drivers often drive at higher speeds and the limit is not enforced which causes a safety issue for all motorist travelling the corridor.

Emily Gabel-Luddy, Burbank, stated large animal keep is common in some jurisdictions and asked if assistance can be provided to address roadway safety relative to the presence of large animals. Ms. Carpenter responded that she could provide resources within Caltrans to assist the effort.

3. Inland Empire Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plans Status Report

Gary Hamrick, Cambridge Systematics, reported on the Inland Empire Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plans Status Report. Mr. Hamrick stated that multi modal corridor planning is a new SB 1 requirement and this study was funded by a Caltrans grant. He noted corridor planning is guided by the Caltrans Multimodal Corridor Planning Guidebook and the California Transportation Commissions Guidelines. He reported the Inland Empire is vast with a variety of mobility activities, so it was best to study the area by defining 10 sub corridors, 5 east-west, 5 north-south based on frequent origin and destinations in the Inland Empire. Further, there was extensive community outreach in the development of the plan. Mr. Hamrick stated each of the 10 sub corridors were extensively analyzed. For example, household income below poverty level was examined to understand if that population faces challenges in getting around. Population-Employment (PE) ratios were examined to understand how far workers travel to their jobs as well as Vehicle Miles Travelled. Freeway safety and collisions were analyzed in addition to hot spots for bicycle and pedestrian accidents.

Mr. Hamrick noted that the work led to the recommendation of over 1,500 transportation projects including highway, arterial, goods movement, transit and active transportation.

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, asked for a follow up report at a future date.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval Item

4. Minutes of the Meeting, July 2, 2020
Receive and File

5. Final Connect SoCal Technical Refinements and PEIR Addendum
7. 2021 Active Transportation Program Regional Guidelines Schedule Update
8. Housing Production Study
9. California Climate Investments (CCI) 2020 Update

A MOTION was made (Hagman) to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was SECONDED (Navarro) and passed by the following votes:

AYES: ASHTON, BACERRA, BAILEY, BERG, BETTS, BROWN, BUSCAINO, CHUN, DUTREY, GABEL-LUDDY, GAZELEY, GROSE, HADJINIAN, HAGMAN, HAMADA, HARNIK, HOFBAUER, JUDGE, KELLEY, KRUPA, LORIMORE, LY, MANOS, MARQUEZ, MCCALLON, MCLEAN, MICHAEL, MOORE, NAJARIAN, NAVARRO, PACHECO, REECE, RUIZ, SANDOVAL, SANTOS, SCHWANK, SMALL, SMITH J., SMITH L., SMITH W., SPIEGEL, STERNQUIST, TALAMANTES, TERCERO, TYE, VIEGAS-WALKER, WAGNER, WALLACE, WAPNER, WEINTRAUB (50)

NOES: None (0)

ABSTAIN: None (0)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, adjourned the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE]
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