METRO Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, May 22, 2008

MOTION

Supervisor Antonovich

The sudden availability of \$213.6 million in United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) grant dollars to Metro rapidly accelerated what had been an initial study of congestion pricing options countywide into a concerted push to adopt a congestion pricing proposal along three specific corridors—Interstates 10, 210 and 110—in such a rushed manner that our two main constituencies needed for the success of any congestion pricing proposal—the public and our local state and federal legislators—were caught unaware of these swift developments and left uninformed of what congestion pricing actually would mean for these jurisdictions.

Since the agreement by the Metro Board of Directors to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with USDOT, there have been concerns raised by the residents of the San Gabriel Valley about why their freeways were targeted for the grant, and why Metro did not apply for other freeway corridors like I-405 and US-101. Furthermore, members of the San Gabriel Valley state and federal legislative delegation have also voiced complaints that they were not properly informed about the congestion pricing proposal. One member has since introduced legislation at the federal level designed to terminate this USDOT grant implementation.

In order to ensure the residents and the legislators from the San Gabriel Valley that Metro is examining every freeway corridor possible in the County, and not solely San Gabriel Valley freeways, as a possibility for the use of this grant money for congestion pricing implementation, it is essential that Metro conduct a quick and thorough study of other freeway corridor possibilities that could serve as alternative proposals for implementation under the USDOT grant guidelines.

Recognizing that there may be elements of the actions recommended in this motion that have already commenced or that would overlap with other board policy directions, this motion seeks to provide a larger and more timely examination of congestion pricing in Los Angeles County so that questions of equity and appropriate outreach are taken into account immediately.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Directors instructs the CEO to return to the full board in June 2008 with the following:

- 1. A plan to deliver to the board a study that will fully research the potential for a congestion pricing proposal for the remainder of freeway corridors in Los Angeles County (e.g. I-405, US-101, SR-170). This study will contain, but not be limited to, the following items:
 - a. timeframes for earliest implementation of congestion pricing on these freeway corridors:
 - funding requirements needed to implement these corridor congestion pricing proposals;
 - c. policy decisions necessary at the local, state and federal level to allow this implementation to occur;
 - d. a plan to meet with, present to and obtain input from the Los Angeles County state and federal delegation on corridor proposals within each member's jurisdiction as well as the current congestion pricing proposal as outlined in the Metro/USDOT Memorandum of Understanding (MOU);
 - e. identification of which corridors could potentially replace the current 210/10/110 corridors in the Metro/USDOT MOU.
- 2. A timeframe in which this plan will be executed so that:
 - a. any alternative congestion pricing corridor proposals in Los Angeles County will be available as a substitute for the three current corridor proposals, staying within the guidelines of the USDOT Congestion Reduction Demonstration grant; and
 - b. any alternative congestion pricing corridor proposals which do not meet the implementation deadlines for the USDOT grant will still be developed for possible action should a new round of grants or funding opportunities arise.