

Citizens Advisory Council August 23, 2017 meeting minutes

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance, Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Dalila Sotelo, Darrell Clarke, Hank Fung, Chioma Agbahiwe, Greg Anderson, Tammy Ashton, Tony Banash, Brian Bowens, Michael Conrad, Russ Davies, David Lara, Angelo Logan, Penelope Meyer, Keith Martin, Jazmin Ortega, Anne Reid, Wally Shidler, Carmen Vasquez, Jerard Wright

Introductions –Members introduced themselves.

5a. Regional Goods Movement presentation

This item was taken out of order.

Allison Linder of SCAG made the presentation. SCAG is the metropolitan planning organization for a six county region. Ms. Linder described the regional goods movement system. LAX is the fifth busiest cargo airport in the United States. The region has the Port of Los Angeles and Long Beach, BNSF/UP, larger internal market, and border crossings in Imperial County. Goods movement is critical to the regional economy. Out of the cargo imported to the region, 23% for local use, 41% inland port intermodal/direct shipping via rail, and 36% transload/re-shipment or repacking. Regional goods movement delays affect the nation. There is an increase in e-commerce, increasing truck volumes, demand for warehouse space, grade crossing delays, airport flight capacity restrictions.

Truck/rail delays continue to increase. This has impacts on air quality, goods movement creates 50% of NOX emissions from all sources. Rail is regulated by the federal EPA and ships are subject to international treaties.

The 2016 RTP has \$70 billion in goods movement improvements. There are \$11 billion in mainline rail enhancements, grade separations, near dock improvements, and positive train control. SCAG has a truck bottleneck relief strategy to fund projects for 50 truck bottlenecks regionwide. An east west freight corridor is also being developed and different concepts are being considered. Trucks need to get on and off so fixed guideways may not work. There are target investments in this area which could implement new technology. The SR-60 alignment has significant warehousing and manufacturing activity.

Environmental Action Plan – there is a FASTLANE grant application to USDOT. Applications are for 57/60 interchange, 71 freeway widening, and I-10/I-15 HOT lanes, but were not funded. Region needs to remain competitive as we are part of a global supply chain, so this will support the regional and world economy.

Members asked about Alameda Corridor usage (mostly not for local goods), and environmental mitigation. SCAG RTP talked about timelines for new technologies. The pilot program will have early deployment locations, but is an iterative process as there is not funds for the full scale deployment. Cost per truck for upgrades to best technology is high. Ports and distributors are working on a regional truck collaborative.

Ad-hoc committee: Angelo Logan stated that billions on the I-710 corridor are being spent supposedly for jobs, but there are lower wage warehousing jobs. There are externalized costs in terms of health impacts and diversion of funds for better uses. Jerard Wright stated that maybe the improvements are necessary due to increased commerce. Automation may have the impact of increasing the amount of deliveries, as well as e-commerce. Hank Fung stated that there is a chicken an egg issue on regulation, where increasing regulations on the port of LA and Long Beach may result in goods moving to other ports with less stringent regulation, such as Prince Rupert, Lazaro Cardenas, or Savannah Georgia.

Allison Linder responded that there has been Panama Canal expansion, but post Panamax ships are larger than the expansion and so ships will continue to go to the west coast. Goods movement is in the EIR for the RTP and the ports are doing a clean air action plan. SCAG is coordinating with Metro's recently appointed officer of goods movement, Michael Cano.

Members noted the conflict between housing and goods movement. Allison Linder noted the goods movement appendix in the 2016 RTP and the SCAG Freight Committee for public involvement.

Ad-hoc committee – the deadline for EIR comments is October 23. Angelo Logan, Danielle Lafayette, Darrell Clark, and Jerard Wright are on the committee.

2. Meeting Minutes

Minutes moved by Shidler, seconded by Wright, carried unanimously with five abstentions.

6. Strategic Planning in Downtown Area

This item was taken out of order. Jerard Wright presented his draft motion. Strategic Planning needs to be done for the downtown, using system connectivity funds. The goal is to study the Metro Rail network and system capacity and have Metro staff think about these issues holistically. There have been different piecemeal studies. Also the Olympics is happening in 2028 and LRTP development is happening no. How are the Metro staff and Board looking at this cohesively?

Dalila Sotelo stated that should be directed to the CEO, not Board, as staff should be looking at these issues. Sotelo suggested writing a letter for the CEO to respond within 45 days for staff on how they are reviewing these issues. This was amended to a letter to the CEO within 30 days, from the CAC Executive Committee, on the work done within Metro to study core system capacity.

4. Community Engagement

The CAC selected Danielle Lafayette and Brian Bowens as liaisons to the Customer Experience Committee. Motion by Fung, seconded by Ortega, carried unanimously. This will be a standing item on agendas going forward.

3. Standing items

This item was taken out of order.

Future possible agenda items include I-710 and community engagement. There was also interest in a presentation on the arts program.

Hank Fung read the legislative update highlighted action on SB 268 and AB 7. Also Metro is trying to obtain cap and trade grant funds for the Gold Line extension to Montclair. Proposed meeting dates for 2018 were provided in an email. Also there are new CAC appointments.

7. Public comment

Louis Burns, Access Services.

Melissa Garcia, indicated she was a victim of a snatch and grab attempt on the Metro Green Line twice. She would like to see more police. She feels particularly unsafe at Vermont/I-105 station which she frequents. The first time the phone was recovered, the second she was able to keep the phone but police were not willing to take the crime.

8. Consider items not on the posted agenda

CAC members discussed in the context of future presentations on Metro Art about art making riders feel calmer, and in customer experience on the connection between 7th Street/Metro Center and the Bloc development, and how the passage closes down too early.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Martin, second by Davies, carried unanimously.