

STREET AND TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES – December 7, 2023
2:00 PM

Committee Members Present

Yolanda Chavez, Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), Chair
Maria Souza-Rountree, Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA)
Randall Winston, Office of the Mayor (Mayor)

Committee Staff Present

Daisy Bonilla, CAO

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: General Public Comment, Multiple Agenda Item Comment

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approval of Minutes from the September 7, 2023, meeting. - Action by Committee

DISPOSITION: Approved.

2. Report from Public Works (PW) Bureau of Engineering (BOE) - Hillside Slope Stability Program requesting Committee action to approve the changes to the street and transportation projects list and schedules.

Patrick Schmidt from BOE presented the status of the HSSP. The program has added two additional projects to the master schedule: one at a recreation and parks location and another addressing washout and guardrail issues with a new bulkhead at 8294 Gould Avenue. Overall, the program is working on 59 projects: 9 in pre-design, 15 in design, 16 in construction, and 19 in post-construction.

DISPOSITION: Approved.

3. Reports on street and transportation projects list from the Bureau of Engineering (BOE), Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL), Bureau of Street Services (BSS), and Department of Transportation (DOT) - Action by Committee

A. BOE – Bridge Improvement Division (BID)

Scott Gibson from BOE presented the status of 18 active projects under the Bridge Improvement Division, valued at \$252 million. Eight projects are in pre-design, and ten are in design. The City requested proposals for the Glendale Hyperion Complex of Bridges. Only one bid was received in November 2023, amounting to \$213 million, which is \$143 million over the City Engineer's estimate of \$70 million. The project will be reviewed and advertised again for proposals.

B. BOE – Municipal Facilities Architectural Division (MFAD)

Marcelino Ascensio from BOE presented the status of MFAD, which includes 11 projects: one in design, two in bid award, six in construction, and two in post-construction, totaling \$138,878,000. The Los Angeles Riverway San Fernando Completion project was highlighted with an estimated cost of \$60 million. BOE has secured \$46 million, including Active Transportation Grant Funding, and is meeting with Metro and Los Angeles County to secure additional funding.

C. BOE – Street Improvement Division (SID)

Arsen Voskerchyan from BOE presented the status of SID, which has 122 active projects estimated at \$528 million. BOE is developing a new prioritization system for all projects that will take into account various data points including grant delivery milestones.

D. Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL)

Victor Turcios from BSL presented the status of BSL's 147 active projects. Highlights included the LED Replacement Program and the San Fernando Valley Transit Project, which will be built in-house through the new Master Cooperative Agreement (MCA) with the Metro Transit Authority. Randall Winston from the Mayor's Office inquired about the MCA's impact on project delivery, to which Mr. Turcios noted that in-house construction means the new delivery rules will not affect the project.

E. Bureau of Street Services (BSS)

Shirley Lau from BSS presented the status of BSS's 147 active projects, representing \$532 million in funding.

F. Department of Transportation (DOT)

Carlos Rios from DOT presented the status of DOT's 75 active grant-funded projects totaling \$360 million. DOT, along with BOE, is working on a prioritization system for these projects.

DISPOSITION: The Committee noted and filed the report.

4. Written report from DOT on the status of the Traffic Signal Construction Program.

Mr. Rios provided an update on the Traffic Signal Construction Program. At the last quarterly meeting, DOT updated the Committee on the status of fully funded active projects. DOT is developing a schedule for traffic signals approved but unfunded, to develop budget requests as these projects approach the design phase. Mr. Winston (Mayor) asked if the prioritization system would include this program, to which Mr. Rios confirmed it would, noting the listing of 508 projects includes both funded and unfunded approved projects.

DISPOSITION: The Committee noted and filed the report.

5. Verbal report from DOT on the impacts that the closure and repair of the Interstate

10 freeway, due to a fire, have had on City resources.

Mr. Daniel Mitchell from DOT provided a verbal report on the I-10 freeway closure and repairs following a fire on November 11, 2024. Traffic was diverted to city streets, managed by the Special Traffic Operations and Emergency Response Team. The City also offered free public transportation during the closure. Governor Newsom announced the freeway would reopen by Thanksgiving, and it did reopen on November 19, 2024. Mr. Winston (Mayor) thanked the department for its efforts during the freeway closure. Ms. Souza-Rountree (CLA) inquired about lessons learned, to which Mr. Mitchell noted that an after-action report is being prepared.

DISPOSITION: The Committee noted and filed the report.

6. Report Verbal report from BOE, BSS, and DOT on the challenges and issues of delivering or prioritizing the Active Transportation Program and other grant projects.

Dan Mitchell (DOT), Kevin Minne (BOE), and Shirley Lau (BSS) provided a joint report on the challenges and issues related to delivering and prioritizing grant-funded public right-of-way projects. Mr. Minne began the report by noting that the City has been successful in securing grant funding. However, there is a discrepancy between the project schedules based on the grant deliverables and the Gantt charts. The grant deliverables and deadlines have prioritized these projects to avoid losing funding, pushing city-funded projects further back in the work schedule. The Departments aim to finalize the prioritization method and compare it to the resources available to complete the projects.

Ms. Lau noted that BSS has a \$532 million grant portfolio. BSS requested additional positions in the previous budget cycle to support the review of plans for grant-funded projects, but these positions were denied. Yolanda Chavez (CAO) asked if they had submitted a joint budget request for the resources needed to deliver grant-funded projects. Mr. Minne stated that the departments consulted each other on the necessary resources to support the projects, but each department submitted its budgetary requests individually. Mr. Mitchell noted that DOT has been streamlining and combining all interagency resources within the department to better assist partner agencies.

Ms. Lau highlighted that the same staff with the technical expertise to apply for the grants are also managing the projects. Ms. Souza-Rountree (CLA) asked if the departments have the resources to deliver the projects they have been awarded. Mr. Minne stated that while the City currently has the resources to deliver the awarded projects, additional resources will be needed as more projects are awarded.

The City comprises ten percent of the state's population and is entitled to a fair share of funding for transportation improvements. Mr. Mitchell believes the City should expand its capacity to deliver projects, as state and federal funding for transportation projects is expected to continue.

DISPOSITION: The Committee noted and filed the report.

7. Report Verbal report from the Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) on the transfer of oversight of the Bridge Improvement Program from the Seismic Governance Committee to the Street and Transportation Projects Oversight Committee.

Elis Lee, from the Office of the CAO, discussed transferring oversight of the Bridge Improvement Program from the Seismic Governance Committee to the Street and Transportation Projects Oversight Committee, reflecting the program's evolution and alignment with current goals.

DISPOSITION: The Committee noted and filed the report.

8. Verbal report from the CAO on the budgetary requests related to street and transportation projects received for the 2024-25 Capital Technology Improvement Expenditure Program. PW BOE, BSL, BSS, and DOT will present on high-priority budget requests.

Daisy Bonilla, from the Office of the CAO, reported on the 140 budget requests (71 continuing, 69 new) related to street and transportation projects for the upcoming fiscal year, highlighting high-priority items.

DISPOSITION: The Committee noted and filed the report.

9. Next Meeting Dates: The quarterly meeting will be held on March 7, 2024. – Discussion

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.