



**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
*A Joint Powers Authority*

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**  
**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

Thursday, September 2, 2021 — 2:00 p.m.

**DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,  
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY CALL IN TO LISTEN TO THE MEETING**

Please click the link below to join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89100169131?pwd=UWlhMjZJcjJuRDdjVkeE0U040Ry9uZz09>

or call

1-669-900-6833 and enter webinar ID: 8910 0169 131#

**\*\*The meeting will open at 1:45pm to allow testing of the system.\*\***

For those wishing to speak on an agenda item, please email [john@sfvkog.org](mailto:john@sfvkog.org) no later than **11:00 a.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting** with the item number you wish to speak on and the phone number you will use when calling or the name you will use when logging into the meeting. You should then call or log into the meeting at least 10 minutes prior to its start time. Staff will unmute you and announce you when it is your time to speak. You will have two (2) minutes to speak, unless that time is adjusted by the Chair. If you do not have access to a computer please call 818-570-3408 to request public comment.

As an alternative to speaking during the meeting, you can email your comments to the COG executive director at [john@sfvkog.org](mailto:john@sfvkog.org) no later than 11am on the day of the

meeting to ensure that staff has time to organize the emails prior to the beginning of the meeting. Comments will then be provided to the members when the item is presented. Please include the Agenda Item in your correspondence.

You may also submit public comment by mail to:

**SFVCOG**  
**10945 Burbank Blvd**  
**North Hollywood, CA 91601**

Written public comment or requests to speak must be received no later than 11:00 a.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting. Please include the Agenda Item in your correspondence.

All correspondence received shall become part of the official record.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Chair:* Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, 3rd District, City of Los Angeles  
Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles  
Vice-Mayor Jess Talamantes, City of Burbank  
Councilmember Paul Krekorian, 2nd District, City of Los Angeles  
Councilmember Marsha McLean, City of Santa Clarita

STAFF

SFVCOG Fiscal Agent: Rachele Anema, County of Los Angeles  
SFVCOG Secretary: Los Angeles County Commission's Office  
SFVCOG Executive Director: John Bwarie  
Counsel: Shan Thever, Deputy County Counsel, County of Los Angeles

**OPEN SESSION**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** — Bob Blumenfield, Chair
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

*At the discretion of the SFVCOG Committee Chair, all items appearing on this*

*Agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated and may be subject to action by the SFVCOG Transportation Committee.*

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**5. CONSIDERATION OF JUNE 17, 2021 TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Recommended Action: *Approve Transportation Committee Meeting minutes*

**6. METRO WORKSHOP ON I-405 CORRIDOR**

Metro representatives will lead a workshop for committee members and public stakeholders to present issues and collect feedback to inform future projects and planning along the length of the 405.

Recommended Action: *Discussion and Possible Action*

**7. FUTURE MEETINGS: AGENDA ITEMS**

Recommended Action: *Discuss potential agenda dates and items.*

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Notices:**

Meetings of the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments are recorded. Minutes of each meeting are available at <http://sfvcog.org/> after the Board approves them. A person with a disability may contact the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments before the scheduled meeting to request receipt of an agenda in an alternative format or to request disability-related accommodations, in order to participate in the public meeting, requests will be met to the extent feasible. Email [info@sfvcog.org](mailto:info@sfvcog.org) for accommodation. The entire agenda package and any meeting related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda package, unless exempt from disclosure pursuant to California Law, are also available.



**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

*A Joint Powers Authority*

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, June 17, 2021 — 1:30 p.m.

**DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,  
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY CALL IN TO LISTEN TO THE MEETING**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83772042963?pwd=NnNuYVFtUlovSk55SWjFUZUZ0R01mZz09>

or call

1-669-900-6833 and enter webinar ID: 837 7204 2963#

**\*\*The meeting will open at 1:15pm to allow testing of the system.\*\***

For those wishing to speak on an agenda item, please email [john@sfcog.org](mailto:john@sfcog.org) no later than 11:00 a.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting with the item number you wish to speak on and the phone number you will use when calling or the name you will use when logging into the meeting. You should then call or log into the meeting at least 10 minutes prior to its start time. Staff will unmute you and announce you when it is your time to speak. You will have two (2) minutes to speak, unless that time is adjusted by the Chair. If you do not have access to a computer please call 818-570-3408 to request public comment.

As an alternative to speaking during the meeting, you can email your comments to the COG executive director at [john@sfcog.org](mailto:john@sfcog.org) no later than 11am on January March 18, 2021 to ensure that staff has time to organize the emails prior to the

**beginning of the meeting. Comments will then be provided to the members when the item is presented. Please include the Agenda Item in your correspondence.**

**You may also submit public comment by mail to:**

**SFVCOG  
10945 Burbank Blvd  
North Hollywood, CA 91601**

**Written public comment or requests to speak must be received no later than 11:00 a.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting. Please include the Agenda Item in your correspondence.**

**All correspondence received shall become part of the official record.**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*Chair:* Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, 3rd District, City of Los Angeles  
Supervisor Kathryn Barger, 5th Supervisorial District, County of Los Angeles  
Vice-Mayor Jess Talamantes, City of Burbank  
Councilmember Paul Krekorian, 2nd District, City of Los Angeles  
Councilmember Marsha McLean, City of Santa Clarita

**STAFF**

SFVCOG Fiscal Agent: Rachelle Anema, County of Los Angeles  
SFVCOG Secretary: Los Angeles County Commission's Office  
SFVCOG Executive Director: John Bwarie  
Counsel: Shan Thever, Deputy County Counsel, County of Los Angeles

## OPEN SESSION

1. **CALL TO ORDER** — John Popoch, Alternate for Chair Bob Blumenfield

**John Popoch, Alternate Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.**

2. **ROLL CALL**

**QUORUM ESTABLISHED (4 Members):**

**John Popoch for Chair Bob Blumenfield,  
Dave Perry for Supervisor Kathryn Barger  
Vice Mayor Jess Talamantes,  
Sahag Yedalian for Councilmember Paul Krekorian,  
Councilmember Marsha McLean**

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**The Pledge was led by Sahag Yedalian.**

### **REGULAR CALENDAR**

*At the discretion of the SFVCOG Committee Chair, all items appearing on this Agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated and may be subject to action by the SFVCOG Transportation Committee*

4. **CONSIDERATION OF MARCH 18, 2021 TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Recommended Action: *Approve Transportation Committee Meeting minutes*

**On motion of Vice Mayor Jess Talamantes, seconded by Councilmember Marsha McLean, and unanimously carried, the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) Transportation Committee approved the March 18, 2021 Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes.**

5. **CONSIDERATION OF REVIEWING AND TRANSMITTING THE SFVCOG'S STRATEGIC PROJECT LIST TO METRO**

Recommended Action: *Review, adopt and transmit the SFVCOG's Strategic*

*Project List to Metro before their June 30, 2021 deadline.*

**No members of the public requested to comment on this item.**

**Mr. John Popoch introduced the item and Mr. John Bwarie provided the following overview:**

- **This item went before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in April 2021. The BOS instructed the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) to review and adopt a Strategic Project List (List) and submit the List to Metro before June 30, 2021.**
- **The List is a planned list reflecting unfunded major transportation projects, and approved transportation programs that were submitted to Metro from any Los Angeles County Council of Government (COG) that contribute to increasing mobility and reducing traffic congestion. Essentially, these are extra projects that were not part of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).**
- **The SFVCOG has the opportunity to add more projects to the List, which can be completed in the event that additional funding becomes available.**
- **The recommended action for this item is to improve, add to and advance the List, by including requests for projects in the City of San Fernando, along with requests from the cities of Burbank, Glendale and Los Angeles.**

**This item was tabled for further discussion to address Item No. 6.**

**Later in the meeting, after discussion and action of Item No. 6, Mr. Popoch opened the floor to continued discussion on this item.**

**Mr. Bwarie suggested that a motion be introduced to include three requests from the City of San Fernando and add SFVCOG's request to add a submission related to the connectivity between the terminus of the Sepulveda Transit and the North County via the Antelope Valley Metrolink Line.**

**On motion of Councilmember Marsha McLean, seconded by Alternate Chair John Popoch, and unanimously carried, the SFVCOG Transportation Committee approved the amendment to include the requests from the City of San Fernando and SFVCOGs into the SFVCOG's Strategic Project List and authorized John Bwarie,**

**Executive Director, to transmit the SFVCOG's Strategic Project List to Metro before the June 30, 2021 deadline.**

DRAFT



**6. CONSIDERATION OF THE SFVCOG'S ROLE WITH REGARD TO METRO'S BETTER BUS PROGRAM**

Presentation from the City of Los Angeles's Streets LA about their work with bus amenities.

Recommended Action: Discussion and possible action related to additional information on funding sources, providing a safe/comfortable street furniture design and consider developing a funding plan or Better Bus Experience plan for the SFVCOG Board to adopt.

**This item was tabled to address Item No. 7.**

**No members of the public requested to comment on this item.**

**Mr. John Bwarie provided the following overview:**

- **This item went before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in April 2021. The BOS instructed the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) Transportation Committee to take a role in Metro's Better Bus Program.**
- **The BOS directed the SFVCOG Transportation Committee to collect further information, identify, in direct relation to funding sources, how to provide a safe and comfortable street furniture design and consider the development of a funding plan or Better Bus Experience plan for the COG Board to adopt.**

**Mr. Douglas Mensman, Director, Transportation Services, City of Los Angeles, provided a description of the general intent of the Better Bus Experience, which is to examine and improve the public transit service level and the customer experience.**

**Cassie Halls, Transportation Planner, Los Angeles Metro, stated that that the Better Bus Experience plan focuses and encapsulate the complete trip experience of bus riders, and improve on core needs such as speed, ease, safety and comfort.**

**On motion of Dave Perry, seconded by Vice Mayor Jess Talamantes, and unanimously carried, the SFVCOG Transportation Committee directed John Bwarie, Executive Director, to convene the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) with Streets LA and Los Angeles Metro and report back on the group's discussion surrounding priority corridors, standards and metrics for gathering local expertise and identifying potential funding sources.**

## **7. METRO UPDATE ON MEASURE M PROJECTS**

Recommended Action: *Receive and File*

No members of the public requested to comment on this item.

**Karen Swift, Senior Manager, Community Relations, LA Metro; Peter Carter, Senior Director, Countywide Planning; and Matthew Marquez, Community Relations, LA Metro, provided an update on Measure M Projects.**

**Mr. Carter presented a brief overview of the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project which included project milestones, the results of a feasibility study, five (5) alternatives for environmental review and a project schedule.**

**Ms. Swift presented an overview of a webinar which was open to the public and hosted by LA Metro on June 8, 2021. The webinar was conducted to provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions and focused on addressing key themes including drilling/tunneling, noise, and timeframe for completion.**

**In addition, Ms. Swift provided an update on the I-405 Sepulveda Pass ExpressLanes Project, which will be evaluating alternatives to convert the existing HOV lanes to express lanes on the I-405 Sepulveda Pass, between the US-101 and the I-10. An environmental process for the project will be launching this summer. She announced that zoom meetings will be held during the summer and looked forward to the COG's support on the project.**

**In response to questions posed by Councilmember McClean, Mr. Carter provided the following information:**

- The first document that will be produced during the environmental process will discuss the expectations for connectivity to the North Valley via the Sepulveda Transit Corridor.**
- Councilmember McClean will be added to the list of recipients for updates on the I-405 Sepulveda Pass ExpressLanes Project. He added that a recording of the June 8<sup>th</sup> webinar, including a Q&A session that followed the session, is available on the project website.**

In response to Vice Mayor Talamantes' concern about whether input from stakeholders is being received and shared appropriately and in a timely manner, Ms. Swift reassured that stakeholders were all invited to the webinar on June 8, which served as an opportunity to catch up on the project. She added that that LA Metro will be really focused on scoping during the environmental process.

In response to Mr. Yedalian's question regarding how adding an item to the Strategic Project List (List) would affect an ongoing project; for example, I-405 Sepulveda Pass ExpressLanes Project, Mr. Bwarie clarified that adding a project to the list cannot alter existing projects and would be considered a new and separate project depending on whether new funding becomes available.

On motion of Alternate Chair Popoch, seconded by Mr. Yedalian, and unanimously carried, the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) Transportation Committee received and filed the Metro Update on Measure M Projects report.

Mr. Dave Perry joined the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

#### **8. FUTURE MEETINGS: AGENDA ITEMS**

Recommended Action: *Discuss potential agenda dates and items.*

Executive Director John Bwarie informed that the next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2021. He added that Item 6 on today's Agenda would be added to the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

Councilmember McLean asked if the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments (SFVCOG) will continue to have an option for committee members and the public to call in. Mr. Bwarie responded that the Brown Act, unless it is altered, currently allows for call-in and virtual participation.

#### **9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Executive Director John Bwarie informed that he is in the beginning stages of planning a mobility workshop to take place in October or November focusing on the transportation committee's priorities and the implementation of active transportation. In addition, a Mobility Academy 5-week program has been calendared for January of 2022.

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**No members of the public addressed the SFVCOG.**

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**John Popoch, Alternate Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:09 p.m.**

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