

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Public Works Committee was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Chair Bob Moehling on the virtual platform, Zoom.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present:

Art Vela, City of Banning
Jeff Hart, City of Beaumont
Michael Thornton, City of Calimesa (arrived 2:25 p.m.)
Tom Koper, City of Corona
Mike Myers, City of Jurupa Valley
Yu Tagai, City of Lake Elsinore
Jonathan Smith, City of Menifee
Michael Wolfe, City of Moreno Valley
Bob Moehling, City of Murrieta, Chair
Brad Brophy, Cities of Canyon Lake, Perris, and San Jacinto
Patrick Thomas, City of Temecula
Alvin Medina, County of Riverside
Lauren Sotelo, March JPA
Jillian Guizado, Riverside County Transportation Commission
Mauricio Alvarez, Riverside Transit Agency

Staff present:

Rick Bishop, Executive Director
Andrew Ruiz, Chief Financial Officer
Chris Gray, Director of Transportation & Planning
Christopher Tzeng, Program Manager
Cameron Brown, Program Manager
Elisa Laurel, Program Manager
Tyler Masters, Program Manager
Ivana Medina, Staff Analyst
Daniel Soltero, Staff Analyst
Kyle Rodriguez, Staff Analyst
Suzy Nelson, Administrative Assistant

Guests present:

Darren Henderson, WSP
Carlos Geronimo, City of Menifee
Richard Lantis, County of Riverside, TLMA
Martha Masters, Riverside County Transportation Commission

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR (*Temecula / Jurupa Valley*) 16 yes; 0 no; 0 abstention. Item 4.A and 4.B were approved. The Cities of Calimesa, Eastvale, Hemet, Norco, Riverside, and Wildomar were not present.

A. Summary Minutes from the March 12, 2020, Public Works Committee Meeting are Available for Consideration.

Action: 1. *Approved Summary Minutes from the March 12, 2020, Public Works Committee meeting.*

B. TUMF Revenue and Expenditures Update

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

5. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. TUMF Nexus Study White Paper

Ivana Medina reported that the Nexus Study re-analyzes underlying data and assumptions used to calculate the TUMF fee and allows the Executive Committee to review and update the fee based on those changes in the data and assumptions. Some topics analyzed include socio-economic data, travel behavior, projects in the TUMF pipeline, and various funding mechanisms in the subregion. The Nexus Study Update uses the adopted forecasts prepared by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) during the preparation of the Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy document that occurs every four years. Recently, SCAG voted to delay the adoption of the growth forecasts and, due to the delay, WRCOG is postponing the Nexus Study update until the growth forecasts are officially adopted by SCAG. This delay will allow time to analyze COVID-19 impacts and potential affects that may occur.

Looking at future data collection post-COVID-19, which includes streetlight data and surveys on transit ridership in order to gauge possible behavior trends, the SCAG regional model assumes a certain amount of telecommuting at a relatively high level. In conclusion, Western Riverside County will continue to grow significantly in both population and employment, and the number of trips and length of trips is likely to remain the same as they currently are. Funding sources such as SB 1 (Gas Tax) are likely to increase beyond its current levels and TUMF will continue to be a vital funding source for transportation projects.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

B. Regional Streetlight Program Activities Update

Daniel Soltero provided an update on the Operations & Maintenance services of the Regional Streetlight Program. From January 1, 2020, to March 31, 2020, Siemens responded to a total of 358 work orders across the subregion. As jurisdictions have converted its streetlights to LED fixtures, staff have noticed a reduction in the most common issue seen in 2019; the number of lamp issues across the subregion has decreased 51%. Additionally, the number of all streetlight work orders, including lamp issues, have decreased by an average of 45% across the subregion.

In the first quarter of 2020, Siemens responded to 14 pole knockdowns and replaced 10 felled poles. Additionally, Siemens provided other extraordinary maintenance services for specifically requested work from varying jurisdictions which included one pole relocation, nine conduit repairs, and two streetlight banner installations. Response times for pole knockdowns is typically within a few hours, and pole replacements are occurring on average 13 workdays from the initial knockdown response date.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

C. RIVCOM Future-Year Network Approach

Christopher Tzeng reported that the development of the Riverside County Transportation Analysis Model (RIVCOM), previously RIVTAM, kicked-off in August 2018. The project team leading the development is WSP, which has been developing and is in the process of validating the base-year model. WSP is also in the process of beginning to develop the future-year model.

The project team and WRCOG anticipate that the main uses of the RIVCOM model will be activities, such as Mobility Plans and planning, General Plan updates, Climate Action Plans, estimating Vehicle Miles Traveled for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) assessments, and TUMF Nexus Study Updates, just to name a few. The concern associated with the previous model is that it included unfunded roadway improvements that were in a jurisdiction's General Plan Circulation Element. Although this can be used to do buildout-scale planning for local jurisdictions / agencies, it is not an appropriate tool for use in CEQA assessment. Specifically, CEQA requires all assumptions to be reasonably foreseeable, and inclusion of unfunded roadways does not pass the typical test for inclusion in CEQA-level assessment.

It is the project team and staff's recommendation that the network be based on a fiscally constrained roadway network to maximize the defensibility of the model results and to endure that the base model assumptions are appropriate for most applications. The 2045 network within the RIVCOM model can be modified by any jurisdiction / agency to include any projects in a city's General Plan or for applications where CEQA considerations are not part of the analysis.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

D. TUMF Revenue and Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Annual Review Report

Ivana Medina provided an update on TUMF collections during the March – April 2020 time period. The TUMF Program continued to see development activities and the online portal have helped aid in the social distancing, allowing for developers to still pay their fees online. Developers can continue to mail a check to the WRCOG offices or make a wire transfer. Staff are still processing payments and reviewing project applications in a timely manner.

TUMF collections for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018/2019 totaled \$63 million, the highest in collections since the recession. Prior to COVID-19, revenues were on trend like FY 2017/2018. With the unforeseen variables brought by COVID-19, forecasting TUMF revenue will be difficult. Currently, FY 2019/2020 TUMF collections are at \$37 million, with an average monthly collection of \$4.1 million.

WRCOG has finished conducting the FY 2018/2019 Annual Review. The Annual Review is conducted each year in order to ensure that member jurisdictions' TUMF assessments were correctly calculated and remitted in accordance with the Mitigation Fee Act. WRCOG staff requested and reviewed information related to TUMF credits, exemptions, and financial accounting of TUMF provided by each city. Staff found no significant issues and final confirmation letters have been sent out to each jurisdiction with the findings.

For the FY 2019/2020 Annual Review, the Review will be far less intensive given that WRCOG has assumed responsibility for the calculation and collection of TUMF. The Review process will remain the same for the four jurisdictions that opted to continue calculating and collection TUMF and remitting payments to WRCOG.

Action: 1. *Received and filed.*

E. TUMF Network Update for Nexus Study

Cameron Brown reported that during the summer of 2020, WRCOG will begin the update of the TUMF Nexus Study. The last update to the Study took place in 2016 and coincided with the 2016 Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update. SCAG is finalizing its 2020 RTP Update and WRCOG staff will update the TUMF Nexus Study using the RTP as a foundation for new demographic and modeling assumptions.

As a part of the Nexus Study Update, staff plans on revising the Regional System of Highways and Arterials, also known as the TUMF Network. Staff will be undertaking an update of this Network to identify all facilities that primarily support inter-community trips within the subregion. In doing so, staff will be requesting assistance from city staff to help identify what portions of the facilities have been completed so that the TUMF Network costs and shares can be determined.

Action: 1. *Received and file.*

6. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION & PLANNING

Chris Gray provided Committee members with an update on the delayed SCAG's Connect SoCal and the effects on WRCOG activities. The TUMF Nexus Study and the Riverside County Transportation Analysis Model is now anticipated to be completed in August 2020.

Fehr & Peers is available for continued assistance on implementing SB 743 as jurisdiction's transportation analysis metric. These sessions will be conducted virtually, and a link will be sent out to Committee members prior to the session.

7. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas.

8. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee member Jonathan Smith shared that the Scott Road Interchange should be completed by the end of June 2020.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next Public Works Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2020, 2:00 p.m., via Zoom.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Public Works Committee adjourned at 2:40 p.m.