



# MINUTES

## *Board of Directors' Meeting*

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### **Call to Order**

The February 20, 2019 Board of Directors (Board) meeting of the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency (Agency) was called to order by Chairman Murray at 11:16 a.m., at the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Headquarters, Board Room – Conference Room 07, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.

Chairman Murray announced that several of the Directors would participate in today's meeting via teleconferencing, and all votes would be taken by roll call.

Directors Present:     Al Murray, Chairman  
                             Dana Reed, Vice Chairman  
                             MaryLou Echternack, Metro (teleconference)  
                             Jewel Edson, NCTD  
                             Caylin Frank, SDMTS (teleconference)  
                             Gregg Hart, SBCAG  
                             Ellie Haviland, SANDAG  
                             Bryan MacDonald, VCTC  
                             Tim Shaw, OCTA  
                             Fred Strong, SLOCOG  
                             Michelle Boehm, CHSRA, Ex-Officio  
                             Eric Hosey, Amtrak, Ex-Officio

Directors Absent:     John Fasana, Metro  
                             Kyle Gradinger, Caltrans, Ex-Officio  
                             Alan D. Wapner, SCAG, Ex -Officio

Staff Present:         Jennifer L. Bergener, Managing Director  
                             Gina Ramirez, LOSSAN Agency Deputy Clerk of the Board  
                             James Donich, General Counsel

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Director Haviland.

#### **1. Public Comments**

Public comments were heard from:

Eric Reese, (via teleconference from Los Angeles), asked the LOSSAN Agency's Board and staff consider constructing a flyover track bridge at the BNSF Railway/Metrolink Fullerton junction, just east of the Fullerton Station, and to extend the existing southern platform for through train movements. Mr. Reese highlighted the benefits for his recommendation.

Mr. Reese encouraged the LOSSAN Agency to work with Amtrak, Metrolink, the California High-Speed Rail (CHSR) Authority, and the BNSF Rail in their design analysis of the Los Angeles to Anaheim corridor. He added that he forwarded this public comment, along with his design renderings, to LOSSAN Agency staff for consideration and is inviting the Board to look these over.

Paul Herstein, (via teleconference from San Diego), representing the Train Coalition, Santa Fe Depot, stated that the Train Coalition understands that there are a limited number of Charger engines currently in use for the Pacific Surfliner service, and that four of those engines should be allocated to the four trains which layover in their immediate neighborhood at night. He added that nearly 2,000 people who live around the Santa Fe Depot are subjected to the old P-42 engines. He asked that as a matter of public health and as a courtesy, the LOSSAN Agency provide a detailed explanation of why the four charger engines are not assigned to the layover trains at the Santa Fe Depot, and asked for a timetable for compliance for this request.

### **Special Calendar**

There were no Special Calendar Matters.

### **Consent Calendar (Items 2 and 3)**

#### **2. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Director Strong, seconded by Director Hart, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to approve the minutes of the LOSSAN Board of Directors meeting of January 30, 2019.

### **3. Amendments to Pacific Surfliner Transit Transfer Agreements**

A motion was made by Director Strong, seconded by Director Hart, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to:

- A. Authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Agreement No. L-6-0010 with Anaheim Transportation Network in the amount of \$84,000 to provide ongoing reimbursement for transit transfers by Pacific Surfliner passengers. This will increase the maximum obligation of the cooperative agreement to a total value of \$124,000.
- B. Authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Agreement No. L-6-0016 with the City of Glendale in the amount of \$30,000 to provide ongoing reimbursement for transit transfers by Pacific Surfliner passengers. This will increase the maximum obligation of the cooperative agreement to a total value of \$35,000.
- C. Authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Agreement No. L-6-0005 with the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District in the amount of \$144,000 to provide ongoing reimbursement for transit transfers by Pacific Surfliner passengers. This will increase the maximum obligation of the cooperative agreement to a total value of \$184,000.
- D. Authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Cooperative Agreement No. L-6-0012 with the Ventura County Transportation Commission in the amount of \$72,000 to provide ongoing reimbursement for transit transfers by Pacific Surfliner passengers. This will increase the maximum obligation of the cooperative agreement to a total value of \$87,000.

### **Regular Calendar**

#### **4. Agreement for San Diego County Layover and Maintenance Facility Study**

A public comment was heard from:

Eric Reese, (via teleconference from Los Angeles), who suggested that the LOSSAN Agency and the selected contractor look into the current San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (SDMTS) trolley maintenance facility, and highlighted how this could be accomplished.

#### 4. (Continued)

Mr. Reese provided additional suggestions and benefits of considering the SDMTS trolley maintenance facility for this study. Mr. Reese also stated that through cost allocation, the North County Transit District (NCTD) and the LOSSAN Agency could work together to create a layover facility that benefits both agencies.

Jennifer L. Bergener, Managing Director, reported that the layover facility in San Diego is located adjacent to the Santa Fe Depot and four trains are currently stored there overnight. She added that capacity of that facility has been reached and, in order to expand the Pacific Surfliner service, an alternate location needs to be identified where the daily layover activities can be performed.

Ms. Bergener provided information on the procurement process and added that the Train Coalition and stakeholder groups will have an opportunity to comment and participate throughout the process and, as sites are identified or as the work progresses, there will be designated meetings for public input.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Reed, seconded by Director MacDonald, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to:

- A. Approve the selection of WSP USA, Inc., to identify and evaluate potential locations for a new maintenance and layover facility for the Pacific Surfliner intercity passenger rail service in San Diego County.
- B. Authorize the Managing Director to negotiate and execute Agreement No. L-9-0003 between the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency and WSP USA, Inc., in the amount of \$299,600 for a one-year term to identify and evaluate potential locations for a new maintenance and layover facility for the Pacific Surfliner intercity passenger rail service in San Diego County.

#### 5. Draft Business Plan for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21

Eric Reese, (via teleconference from Los Angeles), recommended that the Draft Business Plan (Plan) include a provision for the introduction of station ambassadors to help improve customer service and increase on-time performance and to achieve shorter station dwell times. Mr. Reese added that at unstaffed locations there is lack of public signage and public announcements to help guide new travelers and indicate where the train doors line up.

Mr. Reese provided the benefits for having train ambassadors and suggested that the LOSSAN Agency consider partnering with the Station Host Association of California, as they currently provide volunteer "station hosts" in Northern California the San Luis Obispo Station.

### 5. (Continued)

Fred Hottinger (via teleconference from San Diego), Train Coalition, Santa Fe Depot, thanked the Board for giving him an opportunity to comment on the Plan. Mr. Hottinger stated that there was no mention of the San Diego Layover Facility Study and felt it merits a paragraph in the Plan. Mr. Hottinger added to indicate in the Plan the time slots of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> trains to San Diego.

Roger Lopez, Manager of Planning and Analysis, provided background information on the process of developing and finalizing the Plan. Mr. Lopez added that there have been no significant material changes to the Plan following comments received from the Technical Advisory Committee, and only minor revisions to historical information.

Director Hart inquired about Chapter 7 of the Plan and reference to the CHSR project. Director Hart suggested that in the future, staff provide an update to the LOSSAN Agency Board about the status of the HSR project, particularly as it relates to how any future changes will impact Pacific Surfliner service connectivity.

Jennifer L. Bergener, Managing Director, reported that she had a conversation with California State Transportation Agency Secretary Brian Annis and Deputy Secretary Chad Edison regarding the State of the State speech, and one important point to clear up is that the money that exists will be used to complete the 171-mile segment.

Ms. Bergener also stated that the State administration remains committed to what has been referred to as the “bookend” projects for the last several years. She added that if there is ever money freed-up, the LOSSAN Agency has advocated for any funding made available to come to intercity rail. Ms. Bergener commented that staff will continue to monitor and return to the Board with updates as available.

Director Boehm reported that in the short-term, the CHSR Authority is working on the environmental clearance for the entire Phase 1 system (from San Francisco to Anaheim) and ensuring that investments in the bookends are put in place. She offered to provide a more detailed update at the next LOSSAN Board meeting.

Director Strong stated that Chapter 14: Emerging Corridors of the Plan discusses four actions needed to advance the Coast Daylight project. Director Strong suggested that, in light of the possible delay of the HSR, this be one of the LOSSAN Agency’s highest priorities for an additional secure connection between San Diego and San Francisco.

### 5. (Continued)

A motion was made by Director Strong, seconded by Chairman Murray, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 10-0, to direct staff to incorporate comments received from the Technical Advisory Committee, member agencies, and the Board of Directors into the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency Business Plan for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21, and return to the Board of Directors on March 18, 2019 to seek final approval.

### 6. Pacific Surfliner Marketing Update

Emilia Doerr, Marketing & Communications Officer, provided an overview and a PowerPoint presentation on this item as follows:

- Performance Summary;
- Year-Over-Year Performance;
- Always-On Campaigns;
- Driving Awareness;
- Driving Consideration;
- Driving Conversions;
- Campaign Fare Promotion;
- Pacific Surfliner Game of the Week (a short video clip with highlights of the game was shown);
- Big West Conference;
- Map of the Big West Universities on Pacific Surfliner Route was Shown;
- California Everyday Discounts for United States (U.S.) Veterans; and
- Looking Ahead.

Chairman Murray thanked Ms. Doerr for the presentation and encouraged her to seek all possible venues associated with the U.S. Veterans outreach efforts. Chairman Murray felt that a lot of veterans would take advantage of the discounts.

Director Edson asked if the companion fare discount being offered Monday through Thursday was for both business and coach class fares. Ms. Doerr responded that the discount would be only for coach class fares.

Director Edson also inquired if there is feasibility of the LOSSAN Agency collaborating with NCTD and Metrolink on marketing programs and incentives in the future. Jennifer L. Bergener, Managing Director, responded yes, and staff will continue to look for enhanced collaboration in the coming year.

### **6. (Continued)**

Director MacDonald suggested that staff continue to work on enhancing advertising of the “[pacificsurfliner.com](http://pacificsurfliner.com)” link, such as by putting a silhouette of a train as the background and the contrasting lettering (link) on top to really catch the eye.

Director Shaw asked if the Pacific Surfliner advertising is still being shown at Angels baseball games. Ms. Doerr responded that the LOSSAN Agency is still active in its partnership with both the Angels and the San Diego Padres.

Director Hart congratulated Ms. Doerr and staff for a fantastic, high-quality marketing effort on the Pacific Surfliner. He added that the public agrees because doubling the referral sales revenue is a very important statistical milestone and evidence of success.

No action was taken on this receive and file information item.

## **Discussion Items**

### **7. Managing Director's Report**

Jennifer L. Bergener, Managing Director, reported on the following:

- A more comprehensive update on the HSR project is expected to be provided at the next Board meeting.
- There was an issue with one of the ground power stations failing at the Santa Fe Depot and staff believes it will be resolved today. An email was sent to the Train Coalition, the LOSSAN Chairman, and Members of the Board who were directly affected.
- At the March 18, 2019 Board meeting, the Board will be taking action on the renewal of both Rail 2 Rail programs with NCTD and Metrolink, and the Final Business Plan for submittal to the State. Both items are very significant and represent huge accomplishments for the LOSSAN Agency.
- There are only four Siemens Charger engines in service today. One of the engines is damaged due to striking a tree on the north end of the corridor. The other engines are out of service due to various issues, and staff is working with Siemens, the State, and Amtrak to get the issues resolved as quickly as possible.



### **8. Board Members' Report**

Director Hart asked Jennifer L. Bergener, Managing Director, when the Board will be receiving an update on the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program grant projects. Ms. Bergener responded that staff is working on scheduling a briefing with LOSSAN Board Member on the north end of the corridor and with the Union Pacific Railroad to discuss the specific infrastructure projects. Staff can provide information on the layover facility efforts at a future Board meeting.

Director Strong reported that the National League of Cities (NLC) has named him Rail Co-Chair for the United States NLC. In addition, last week he met with the Vice President of the Transportation Committee for the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., and will return in two weeks to meet with the Chairman and promote rail as much as possible.

Director Haviland reported that earlier this month, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) received Coastal Commission approval to begin Phase 4 of the stabilization projects on the Del Mar bluffs, and work will begin this summer or fall.

Director Haviland also reported that SANDAG and NCTD are preparing a federal grant application to fund Phase 5 to stabilize the Del Mar bluffs, as well as to make seismic and drainage improvements. Director Haviland stated that SANDAG and NCTD are hoping for a letter of support from the LOSSAN Agency. Ms. Bergener responded that the letter of support is forthcoming and can be expected to be received tomorrow.

Director MacDonald thanked staff for reviewing train schedules and accommodating the Board Members with a slightly different meeting time to allow those Members that ride the train from both the south and north end of the corridor to arrive to the meetings in a timely manner and have spare time before they board the train to return.

Director Shaw reported that an official ribbon-cutting event took place yesterday for the new parking structure at the rail station in downtown Orange. The new parking structure has 608 parking spaces, solar panels, and electric vehicle charging stations. There are 500 parking spaces for people using the rail service, and 108 spaces are for folks that visit downtown Orange.

Director Edson thanked the Board for welcoming her to the LOSSAN Board.





# **MINUTES**

## ***Board of Directors' Meeting***

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### **9. Closed Session**

There was no Closed Session scheduled.

### **10. Adjournment**

The meeting of the LOSSAN Agency's Board adjourned at 12:06 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Board will be held:

**Monday, March 18, 2019**

**11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.**

Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters

Board Room – Conference Room 07

550 South Main Street

Orange, California

ATTEST:

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Al Murray  
LOSSAN Chairman

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Gina Ramirez  
LOSSAN Agency  
Deputy Clerk of the Board