



# Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

The Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency (Agency) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on September 5, 2019, at 12:30 p.m. at the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Henry Huntington Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.

## **Committee members in attendance:**

### *In Person:*

Megan LeMaster, OCTA  
Jay Fuhrman, LA Metro  
Linda Culp, SANDAG  
Heather Miller, VCTC

### *Via Teleconference:*

Anna Devers, SLOCOG  
Sheldon Peterson, RCTC  
Scott Spaulding, SBCAG  
Eric Roe, NCTD  
Michael Johnson, NCTD

## **Guests and Staff in attendance:**

### *In Person:*

James Campbell, LOSSAN  
Michael Litschi, LOSSAN  
Paul Dyson, RailPAC

## **Welcome and Introductions**

The September 5, 2019, LOSSAN Agency TAC meeting was called to order by Mr. James Campbell, LOSSAN Program Manager, who welcomed the LOSSAN TAC to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, One Gateway Plaza, California. Mr. Campbell asked the participants in the room and over the teleconference line for introductions.

## **1. Public Comments**

Mr. Paul Dyson presented the new Steel Wheels brochure and announced the next RailPAC meeting will be held in Fullerton, California, on September 28, 2019. In addition, he commented on NCTD attempting to get funding for two additional train sets to run a major increase in service. He is inquired as to whether the capacity was there to run this new service.

## **SPECIAL CALENDAR**

There were no Special Calendar matters.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

*A brief discussion ensued regarding the past meeting minutes. There was no further discussion.*

*The consent calendar was approved by the Committee.*

## **REGULAR CALENDAR**

### **3. 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Call for Projects**

Mr. Michael Litschi (LOSSAN) introduced himself to the Committee and provided an update on the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP). Mr. Litschi mentioned that the last three rounds of funding have been successful to get TIRCP funding on a variety of capital projects. Mr. Litschi shared the list of possible candidate 2020 projects provided in the staff report, as well as some general background information on the types of projects that have been funded in the past.

Mr. Litschi expected an official call for projects to be released in October 2019, with the applications due in January, and the announcement of recommended projects for award sometime in spring of 2020. The anticipated funds available is very similar to cycle two and three which was around four to five hundred million.

*Ms. Anna Devers (SLOCOG) mentioned that the CRCC maybe looking in to submitting a TIRCP application and were just starting to look into that.*

*Mr. Sheldon Peterson (RCTC) mentioned RCTC may apply for some projects out in the inland empire. Mr. Peterson also inquired whether there were any projects that are standing out that LOSSAN would really push for? Mr. Campbell responded that there were none at this time.*

*Ms. Linda Culp (SANDAG) was curious about the mentioned preliminary list of projects and inquired whether this is what the LOSSAN application would include. Mr. Campbell responded that it would be where the LOSSAN application would start from.*

There was no further discussion.

### **4. Pacific Surfliner Ridership Trend Analysis**

Mr. Roger Lopez (LOSSAN) introduced himself to the Committee and presented a detailed evaluation of the ridership trends since the April 2018 schedule change. Mr. Lopez presented a brief overview on the data, as well as the ridership losses, and the impact the schedule changes have had on Rail 2 Rail riders.

*Ms. Heather Miller (VCTC) asked if the trains that really weren't modified as part of the peak period service could be isolated and determine on a train by train bases if those actually showed a similar decline or impact? Mr. Lopez responded that*

*it's not just a matter of isolating trains that were adjusted or had their schedule impacted and then looking at those that were not, it is a network and any adjustment to a single train could cascade to other trains.*

*A brief discussion ensued regarding the ridership data. There was no further discussion.*

## **DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

### **5. Corridor Optimization Study Update and Additional Scope**

Mr. Campbell (LOSSAN) provided an update that he will be assuming the project management of the project and giving the updates moving forward til project completion.

Mr. Lopez (LOSSAN) briefly gave an update on the current status of the corridor optimization and then some details on some additional scope that is being taken to the Board during the next cycle of approval.

The Committee asked questions on the additional scope being added to the study, the assumptions for developing the service concepts, the schedule for the study, and upcoming stakeholder meetings.

There was no further discussion.

### **6. Capital Project Update**

Mr. Campbell (LOSSAN) provided a brief overview of the capital projects currently underway: Central Coast Layover Facility Expansion, Goleta Layover Facility Expansion, the San Diego County Layover and Maintenance Facility Study and the TIRCP funded capital projects along the Union Pacific Santa Barbara Subdivision. Mr. Campbell informed the Committee of the progress made on the projects including stakeholder meeting dates and agreement statuses. Staff intends to provide updates to the Committee as they become available.

There was no further discussion.

### **7. October 2019 Schedule Change**

Mr. Campbell (LOSSAN) reported on the planned October 14 schedule change and the efforts to implement a new 13th round trip.

The Committee asked clarification questions regarding the challenges that are being faced with completing the third track through the Rosecrans / Marquardt crossing. A brief discussion ensued regarding possible delays associated with these challenges.

There was no further discussion.

**8. Pacific Surfliner On-Time Performance Analysis**

Mr. Roger Lopez (LOSSAN) presented the Pacific Surfliner on-time performance analysis for the third quarter, which would be April, May, and June of federal fiscal year 2019.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the analysis, delays and possible adjustments to schedules.

There was no further discussion.

**9. Upcoming Agenda Items**

Mr. Campbell (LOSSAN) provided a brief overview of the agenda items for the September 16, 2019 Board of Directors meeting and the meeting will be held at the OCTA offices.

**10. Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor Agency Update**

Mr. Campbell (LOSSAN) informed the Committee that CalSTA did approve the Annual Business Plan and Budget for fiscal year 2019-20 at the end of July. Additional one-time funding was also included for wi-fi equipment, installation, and refresh on the Pacific Surfliner cars.

Mr. Litschi (LOSSAN) informed the Committee about the Pacific Surfliner website refresh. A booking widget has been updated for buying tickets and service issues. He also mentioned that September is Rail Safety Month and provided some other brief marketing updates.

Mr. Campbell (LOSSAN) also introduced three new LOSSAN members to the TAC Committee members (Rosa Guillen- Sanchez, Michelle Alonso, and Steve Griego).

**11. Technical Advisory Committee Members' Report**

Mr. Campbell (LOSSAN) informed the Committee that the LOSSAN Managing Director position will be posted and more information to follow.

**12. Closed Session**

There was no Closed Session scheduled.

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at:

Thursday, October 10, 2019  
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Henry Huntington Room – Third Floor  
One Gateway Center, Los Angeles, California