



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

## **FEBRUARY 4, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

The Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency (Agency) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on February 4, 2021, at 12:30 p.m. via TEAMS conference call.

### **Committee members in attendance:**

*Via Teleconference:*

Scott Spaulding, SBCAG  
Lauren Bianchi Klemann, SBCAG  
Claire Grasty, VCTC  
Martin Erickson, VCTC  
Megan LeMaster, OCTA  
Sheldon Peterson, RCTC  
Graham Blackwell, NCTD  
Danny Veeh, SANDAG  
Brent Boyd, MTS  
Steven Fox, SCAG  
Jerry Romana, HSR  
Tamara Noel, BNSF  
Cindy Stone, BNSF  
Peggy Harris, UPRR  
Victor Stone, UPRR  
Ryan Greenway, Caltrans  
Anthony Serna, Caltrans  
Allen, Caltrans  
Kevin Banks, Amtrak  
Jay Fuhrman, LA Metro  
Anna Devers, SLOCOG  
Timothy Corbett, Amtrak

### **Welcome and Introductions**

The February 4, 2021, LOSSAN Agency TAC meeting was called to order by Mr. James Campbell, LOSSAN Program Manager, who welcomed the LOSSAN TAC to the TEAMS conference call. Mr. Campbell asked the participants over the teleconference line for introductions.

### **1. Public Comments**

*There were no Public Comments.*

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

*This item was moved by Danny Veeh (SANDAG) and seconded by Megan LeMaster (OCTA). The Committee approved the November 2020 meeting minutes.*

## **REGULAR CALENDAR**

There were no Regular Calendar matters.

## **DISCUSSION CALENDAR**

### **3. Fiscal Year 2021-22 Annual Business Plan – Final Draft Discussion**

Mr. Roger Lopez (LOSSAN) provided a final update on the Business Plan before its presented to the Board of Directors. Mr. Lopez mentioned Chapters 8, 11, and 12 were not sent out due to minimal changes requested. The Board will have an opportunity to weigh in on questions and changes.

*A brief discussion ensued regarding the updated chapters. Mr. Lopez presented explanations to why certain revisions and updates were made. There was no further discussion.*

### **4. San Diego County Layover and Maintenance Facility Study & Recommendation**

Mr. Campbell provided a presentation of the facility study and recommendation, including a brief background on the study. The presentation included a summary of the initial sites identified, the evaluation methodology site characteristics, environmental constraints, and cost estimates.

*A brief discussion ensued on the approved budget to the study. Mr. Campbell confirmed that 28.4 million was awarded for the project through the 2020 Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program. There was no further discussion.*

### **5. Marketing Update**

Ms. Emilia Doerr (LOSSAN) provided an overview on the recent marketing activities with a brief 2020 performance summary, COVID-19 impacts along the rail corridor, as well as the outlook for 2021 ridership and the public's desire to travel again in California. Ms. Doerr also mentioned the proposed COVID-19 response to campaign results and the efforts to recover ridership again.

*There was no further discussion.*

**6. Upcoming Agenda Items**

Mr. Campbell (LOSSAN) provided a brief overview of the agenda items for the February 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

*A brief discussion ensued on several Board agenda items. There was no further discussion.*

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

Mr. Campbell (LOSSAN) mentioned LOSSAN will be hosting a public scoping meeting for the Central Coast Layover Facility project in conjunction with the City of San Luis Obispo Planning Commission.

Mr. Campbell also mentioned that 10 Pacific Surfliner Business Class cars will be undergoing an upgrade and refresh and should be completed by this Spring.

Mr. Campbell also mentioned that Pacific Surfliner and Amtrak have come to an agreement to upgrade the Pacific Surfliner Wi-Fi system and this project is scheduled to begin in the upcoming weeks.

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

*Mr. Brent Boyd, MTS mentioned ridership has been steady, the future blue line extension from Old Town to UC San Diego is scheduled to open in November.*

*Mr. Danny Veeh, SANDAG, shared they received funding for the Broadway to Gaslamp project that would include a Convention Center Gaslamp Quarter platform for COASTER and some other track improvements. Also, the El Portal Undercrossing project in the City of Encinitas will be similar to the Santa Fe Undercrossing project. Lastly, SANDAG will have new Board Members on the LOSSAN Board. All members have been appointed but will not be publicly announced until the Board meeting.*

*Mr. Graham Blackwell, NCTD, shared that North County ridership is low, but stable. Also, on February 8<sup>th</sup>, there will be a service launch of the new charger locomotives for service, which includes the introduction of the first four overhaul bi-levels back into service. Mr. Blackwell also mentioned that mid-day service will be back in April.*

*Ms. Megan LeMaster mentioned that Metrolink will not be providing any bus bridges for the upcoming absolute work windows on the weekends.*

*Mr. Sheldon Peterson, RCTC, gave a quick update on the Coachella Valley environmental document and service plan. The draft will be released in late Spring.*

*Mr. Jay Fuhrman, Metro, mentioned CEO Phil Washington announced he would be leaving the agency in May, when his contract ends.*

*Ms. Claire Grasty, VCTC, shared the progress of the double track project in Simi Valley where Metrolink is getting ready for right-of-way acquisitions.*

*Ms. Anna Devers, SLOCOG, mentioned the integration study should be ready for review, then it will go to the Board for adoption in April and SLOCOG is working with LOSSAN with the scoping meeting with the City of San Luis Obispo.*

*Mr. Victor Stone, Union Pacific, mentioned a washout was repaired, along with other corridor improvements that are ongoing as part of the LOSSAN funded capital improvements agreement.*

*Mr. Ryan Greenway, Caltrans, gave an update on the state rail plan and some efforts going on. Caltrans is currently updating the service plans for the 2022 State Rail Plan and will be engaging with regional funding and operating stakeholders in strategic planning exercises that will seek to align local priorities with State planning.*

*The TAC also requested consideration of starting the TAC meetings a ½ hour later, which would be 1pm. Mr. Campbell will follow-up.*

## **9. Adjournment**

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

Thursday, March 4, 2021

Location: TBD

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.