



**MOBILE SOURCE AIR POLLUTION REDUCTION REVIEW COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023 MEETING MINUTES
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond, Bar, CA 91765**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

(Chair) Larry McCallon, representing San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA)
(Vice-Chair) Brian Berkson, representing Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)
Patrick Harper, representing Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA)
Mark Henderson, representing Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
Mark Yamarone (Alt.), representing Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Curt Hagman, representing South Coast AQMD
Jessie Lopez, representing Regional Rideshare Agency
Cindy Allen (Alt.), representing SCAG
Steve Veres, representing Metro
Sydney Vergis, representing CARB
Michelle Buffington (Alt.), representing CARB
Katrina Foley (Alt.), representing OCTA
Linda Krupa (Alt.), representing RCTC
John Dutrey (Alt.), representing SBCTA

MSRC-TAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Derek Winters, representing CARB
Adriann Cardoso, representing OCTA
Scott Strelecki (Alt.), representing SCAG

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Abramowitz
Lauren Dunlap
David Thornburg – 4 Gen
Brian Cunanan – RCTC
Hanan Sawalha – RCTC

Jason Farag – City of Wildomar
Lisa Mirisola
Marisa Laderach – SCAG
Sam Emmersen – Better World Group
Tam Nguyen
Tess Paige
Todd Gutjahr – City of Yucaipa
Tony Abdalla – South Pasadena PD
Tony Williamson - TTSI

SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF & CONTRACTORS PRESENT:

Aaron Katzenstein, Deputy Executive Officer
Anish Pathak, Financial Analyst
Anthony Tang, Information Technology Supervisor
Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator
Daphne Hsu, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Debra Ashby, Sr. Public Affairs Specialist
Donna Vernon, Administrative Assistant
Lane Garcia, Program Supervisor
Laurence Brown, Air Quality Specialist
Marjorie Eaton, Administrative Assistant
Matt Mackenzie, MSRC Contracts Assistant
Michael Miller, Board Assistant
Paul Wright, Sr. Information Technology Specialist
Ray Gorski, MSRC Technical Advisor-Contractor
Scott Gallegos, Human Resources Manager
Sindy Enriquez, MSRC Contracts Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

- Chair McCallon called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.
- Roll call was taken at the start of the meeting.
- Chair McCallon recognized Tam Nguyen, thanked him for his service to the MSRC and presented him with a certificate.
- Chair McCallon asked for opening comments.

There were no opening comments.

- Chair McCallon asked for the status report on the Clean Transportation Policy Update.

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, reported on the Clean Transportation Policy Update, a report put together by the Outreach Coordinator on legislative session bills, incentives and regulatory programs of interest to the MSRC.

Significant to report that pending legislation, if approved, will impose an additional surcharge on motor vehicle registration fees and could potentially double the amount of funding allocated to the MSRC.

- Chair McCallon asked for disclosures.

Item #8 – MSRC Member Mark Henderson commented he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is a Council Member for the City of Gardena which is involved in this item.

Items #9 and #15 – MSRC Member Mark Henderson commented he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is a Regional Council Member for SCAG which is involved in these items.

Items #9 and #15 – MSRC Vice-Chair Brian Berkson commented he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is a Transportation Committee Member for SCAG which is involved in these items.

Item #11 – MSRC Vice-Chair Brian Berkson commented he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is a Commissioner for RCTC which is involved in this item.

Item #9 – MSRC Chair Larry McCallon commented he does not have a financial interest, but is required to identify for the record that he is a Regional Council Member for SCAG, which is involved in this item.

Item #10 – MSRC Chair Larry McCallon commented he does not have a financial interest, but is required to identify for the record that he is the Board Member for SBCTA, which is involved in this item.

Item #15 – MSRC Chair Larry McCallon commented he does not have a financial interest, but is required to identify for the record that he is the Board Member for the South Coast Air Quality Management District and a Regional Council Member for SCAG, which are involved in this item.

Item #15 – MSRC Member Mark Yamarone commented he does not have a financial interest, but is required to identify for the record that he is an employee for Metro, which is involved in this item.

- Chair McCallon asked for public comment on the Consent Calendar.

No public comment.

CONSENT ITEMS (Items 1 through 8):

Information Only – Receive and File

1. Minutes of the October 20, 2022 and January 19, 2023 MSRC Meetings

Moved by Berkson; seconded by McCallon; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1 through #8, item approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: No further action is required.

2. Summary of Final Report by MSRC Contractor

Capistrano Unified School District, Contract #MS18108 (\$111,750 – Expansion of Existing CNG Infrastructure)

Moved by Berkson; seconded by McCallon; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1 through #8, item approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: No further action is required.

3. MSRC Contracts Administrator's Report

The MSRC AB 2766 Contracts Administrator's Report for January 26 through March 29, 2023 was included in the agenda package.

Moved by Berkson; seconded by McCallon; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1 through #8, item approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: Staff will include the MSRC Contracts Administrator's Report in the MSRC Committee Report for the May 3, 2023 South Coast AQMD Board meeting.

4. Financial Report on AB 2766 Discretionary Fund

A financial report on the AB 2766 Discretionary Fund for March 2023 was included in the agenda package.

Moved by Berkson; seconded by McCallon; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1 through #8, item approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: No further action is required.

5. Report on Outreach Activities

A report of outreach, communications and policy activities undertaken by the Better World Group on behalf of MSRC for Winter 2023.

Moved by Berkson; seconded by McCallon; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1 through #8, item approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: No further action is required.

For Approval – As Recommended

6. **Consider Modified Scope and Eight-Month Term Extension by Premium Transportation Services, Inc. dba Total Transportation Services (TTSI), Contract #MS21015 (\$1,500,000 – Deploy 15 Near-Zero Emission Trucks)**
TTSI requests to substitute the use of Volvo VN64T300 and Mack Anthem 64T trucks instead of Freightliner trucks and requests an eight-month term extension.

Moved by Berkson; seconded by McCallon; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1 through #8, item approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: MSRC Staff will amend the above contract accordingly.

7. **Consider 22-Month Term Extension by City of Laguna Woods, Contract #ML18094 (\$50,000 – Install Two Level II EV Chargers)**

The City requests an initial 22-month term extension.

Moved by Berkson; seconded by McCallon; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1 through #8, item approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: MSRC Staff will amend the above contract accordingly.

8. **Consider One-Year Term Extension by City of Gardena, Contract #MS18027 (\$365,000 – Install Limited-Access CNG Station, Modify Maintenance Facility and Train Technicians)**

Design changes and supply chain issues have delayed progress. Having previously received a 16-month extension, the City is requesting a one-year term extension.

Moved by Berkson; seconded by McCallon; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1 through #8, item approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: MSRC Staff will amend the above contract accordingly.

ACTION ITEMS (Item 9 through 15):

9. **Consider 6-Month Extension by Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Contract #MS18015 (\$2,000,000 – Future Communities**

Partnership Program)

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, presented SCAG has been awarded \$2,000,000 to implement various pilot projects to reduce vehicle miles traveled. Previously been extended 27 months. Most of the projects complete or nearly so. The Los Angeles pilot has encountered an obstacle with recruiting pilot participants. Additionally, the Anaheim pilot has been impacted by the dissolution of the company which managed a key mobile application. SCAG requests a six-month extension.

The MSRC Contracts Administrator and MSRC-TAC recommend approval of the extension contingent upon this being their final extension.

MSRC Member Patrick Harper asked if we know of any results of their studies yet? Ms. Ravenstein answered that SCAG has not provided a final report.

Member Harper asked when we can expect to see results. Ms. Ravenstein stated that their current term is to May 31, 2023; we should have a report by November.

Marisa Laderach of SCAG stated that several of the pilots are nearly complete. Planned on providing a final report once all pilots are complete, however, they have results and are more than happy to share preliminary results anytime in the upcoming weeks.

Member Harper asked what are some of the conclusions or findings? Ms. Laderach answered for the projects completed, some of the biggest successes are portals where folks do not have to go to a city hall or a county courthouse. Results have been different depending on pilot technologies. Still waiting to hear about things like scooters and car share.

MSRC Vice-Chair Brian Berkson confirmed six months is the final extension.

Moved by Harper to extend the contract for six months, providing that the extension is the final one, seconded by Henderson; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: MSRC Staff will amend the above contract accordingly.

10. Assess Progress and Consider Reduced Scope and Value by San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA), Contract #MS14072 (\$1,250,000 – Implement Various Signal Synchronization Projects)

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, presented that this contract has previously been extended six years. Five of six projects are complete. SBCTA is requesting to reduce scope and value on final project to upgrade signal communications technology along Yucaipa Boulevard.

SBCTA's project partner the City of Yucaipa lacks funding to widen a segment of the project area roadway, and thus cannot install conduit for fiber optic cables. SBCTA indicates that the project objectives can be completed within current term via wireless technology for this segment. Therefore, SBCTA requests to eliminate that segment of conduit/fiber optic installation and reduce contract value by \$12,500.

Another thing the MSRC must consider in this request is whether SBCTA fulfilled the requirements of the contingency on the previous extension – to “show progress”.

Ms. Ravenstein recommends, should the MSRC opt to approve SBCTA's request, that language be added making reimbursement contingent on delivery of a traffic signal interconnect systems which is operational for the entire project area. MSRC-TAC recommends approval, with the contingency above.

MSRC Member Mark Henderson questioned validating the testing of the connectivity from the fiber portion to the wireless portion. Have they proved that part out?

Ms. Ravenstein answered we will have to see that when they are done. Ray Gorski, MSRC Technical Advisor, stated that we can verify the validation testing has taken place.

MSRC Member Patrick Harper read from the letter from Yucaipa confirming that the wireless connection is already linked into the system at Yucaipa City Hall.

Todd Gutjahr from the City of Yucaipa stated they do have wireless connectivity from City Hall to other locations, as was previously stated.

Chair McCallon asked for comments from the public for this item. No comments were received from the public.

Moved by Harper to reduce scope and value by \$12,500, seconded by Henderson; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: MSRC Staff will amend the above contract accordingly.

11. Modified Statement of Work and One-Year Term Extension by Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), Contract #MS18024 (\$1,500,000 – Implement Vanpool Incentive Program)

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, presented that this contract has previously been extended two years. \$812,660 has been paid to date, with a \$43,000 invoice on hold pending outcome of this item. RCTC is requesting a modification to the vanpool definition; an increase to the amount of the vanpool incentive allowed (without using MSRC funds); and a one-year term extension. Reason for request is to reflect distinction between minimum occupancy for new (five commuters) and ongoing vanpools (four commuters), to keep pace with increasing cost of leased vehicles and other programs in area, and to provide additional time to attract more vanpoolers.

Ms. Ravenstein recommended approval of the vanpool definition change and the language clarification to allow an increased incentive, provided the MSRC contribution is capped. She recommended against the extension because so much money is tied up in this. Although they said they would expend all the remaining funds, she said she does not see this happening. There will be a \$644,000 balance after payment of pending invoice. If MSRC does want to grant the extension, she recommends reduction of contract value by \$171,500. MSRC-TAC recommended approval of RCTC's request contingent upon reducing the contract by \$171,500.

MSRC Vice-Chair Brian Berkson commented that he sits on the RCTC board. He stated that many reports have come back on what they are doing with the carpooling/vanpooling issues. He requests that the full contract amount be retained rather than pull back the \$171,500. Based on his interpretation of recent meetings, he believes that they are working towards higher volumes to get more vanpools on the road.

Chair Larry McCallon asked Ms. Ravenstein about her concerns about finishing the contract with left over funds available. She confirmed that these funds will still be unused and tied up in the interim.

MSRC Member Patrick Harper asked questions regarding the funding the MSRC has available to use for awards, and how this \$171,500 would impact it. Ms. Ravenstein and South Coast AQMD Fiscal Analyst Anish Pathak clarified when the funds would revert if unused, and that the MSRC has significant other funds available currently. Member Harper stated that he would be okay with granting the extension but keeping the value the same.

Chair McCallon asked for comments from the public for this item. No comments were received from the public.

Moved by Harper but with no change in the contract value, seconded by Berkson; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon
Noes: None
Action: MSRC Staff will amend the above contract accordingly

12. Consider Change of Station Locations and 18-month Term Extension by City of Yucaipa, Contract #ML18129 (\$63,097 – Install EV Charging Infrastructure)

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, presented that this contract for \$63,097 was awarded under the 2016-18 Work Program to install EV charging infrastructure. It has previously been extended by three years. No work has been completed. The City is requesting location changes and an 18-month term extension. They are asking for this because they have had a loss of co-funding and are currently seeking additional co-funding.

Ms. Ravenstein had denied this request because the contract was previously extended two years or more, and the request is for greater than one year. MSRC-TAC is recommending approval, contingent on the City providing proof of co-funding by October 31, 2023 and on this being the final extension.

MSRC Chair Larry McCallon asked for comments from Committee members. No comments were received from Committee members.

Chair McCallon asked for comments from the public for this item. No comments were received from the public.

Moved by Henderson to change locations, to allow an 18-month term extension, and to require proof of co-funding by 10/31/2023, seconded by Harper; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon
Noes: None
Action: MSRC Staff will amend the above contract accordingly

13. Consider Authorizing Issuance of New Contract to Complete Work Initiated by City of Wildomar under Contract #ML18137 (\$50,000 – Install Class II Bicycle Lane Improvements)

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, presented that this contract for \$50,000 was awarded under the 2016-18 Work Program to install bicycle lane improvements. It has previously been extended by 18 months.

The City is requesting the MSRC to consider two potential contract modifications. They requested a 24-month extension to do the full project that was originally proposed. Or, if the MSRC would like them to be finished sooner, they can do a smaller segment of the original project for which they request a 12-month extension.

While working with the City of Wildomar, the contract lapsed. If the MSRC wants to approve their request, a new contract would need to be authorized.

Ms. Ravenstein had denied their request because the contract had previously been extended one year or more and no work completed. MSRC-TAC recommends approval of a 12-month replacement contract for the alternative scope (bicycle improvements on a bridge) in the amount of \$25,000, contingent upon the City providing documentation of a Caltrans encroachment permit by September 30, 2023 and there being no extensions permitted on the new contract.

MSRC Member Patrick Harper asked why the encroachment permit is required.

Jason Farag, City of Wildomar, explained that an encroachment permit is needed because the project involves the Clinton Keith Road bridge over the I-15 freeway. The bridge is technically a Caltrans structure, so they must obtain an encroachment permit for the re-striping and the change-out of the drainage grates.

MSRC Member Patrick Harper and MSRC Vice-Chair Brian Berkson asked about the City's progress in dealing with Caltrans. Mr. Farag answered they have started the conversation, and the City feels confident they will have the permit by September if not earlier.

Vice-Chair Berkson asked if the structure or part of the bridge needs to be modified in any way or is this a striping-only project. Mr. Farag answered it is a striping project, but because the bridge has about 20 drainage inlets along the surface of the bridge, they have to change out all the drainage inlets to be bicycle-compatible.

Vice-Chair Berkson stated his belief that there is not going to be a permit by September. Because they are going to modify the bridge structure, even if only to swap out grates, Caltrans can take many months to approve the permit.

Member Harper suggested instead of obtaining an encroachment permit, showing significant progress on an encroachment permit.

Chair McCallon asked if they are just replacing the grates. Mr. Farag responded that they are replacing the existing grates with the Caltrans-approved standard for bicycle-proof grates, then adding striping to delineate the bike lane.

Vice-Chair Berkson stated that the grate lid is attached to the structure beneath that is inside the bridge to get the drainage out and away from the bridge. Caltrans will take their time and vet it. Do we want to give the City more time? This is a 2016 program and they had 18 months to do a striping program, and nothing was done.

Chair McCallon indicated he would like to give them the benefit of the doubt. They say they can do it in 12 months, if they don't do it, there will be no contract extension.

Chair McCallon asked for comments from the public for this item. No comments were received from the public.

Moved by Harper, to approve a 12-month replacement contract for the alternative scope (bicycle improvements on a bridge) in the amount of \$25,000, providing that no extensions are permitted on the new contract, seconded by Berkson; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: MSRC Staff will process the above contract accordingly

14. Consider Modified/Corrected Award to City of Pasadena under the Transformative Transportation Strategies Program

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, presented MSRC awarded funding to the City of Pasadena for the electrification of their police fleet. The project was described as including the installation of two new dual-port, police-dedicated Level 3 chargers and one additional Level 3 charger which would be available to the public. Actually the description of the Level 3 infrastructure elements should have specified the installation of one new dual-port Level 3 charger which is for public safety use.

There will be some added Level 2 chargers that will be available to the public; there are Level 3 chargers that are very close by that are available to the public. This was a slight misunderstanding in the reading of the proposal and how this was conveyed to the MSRC. The MSRC Contracts Administrator and the MSRC-TAC recommend approval of the modified description of what is included in the project.

Chair McCallon recognizes that this is the first in the nation transition of an entire police force electrification. Finds it appropriate that we modify this contract as recommended.

Chair McCallon asked for comments from the public for this item. No comments were received from the public.

Moved by Harper, to modify the description of what is included in the project, seconded by Henderson; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Henderson, Harper, Yamarone, Berkson, McCallon

Noes: None

Action: MSRC Staff will amend the above contract accordingly

15. Receive Update on Results of Request for Information for Zero Emission Goods Movement Infrastructure and Consider Possible Application(s) for U.S. Department of Transportation (“DOT”) Funding

Ray Gorski, MSRC Technical Advisor, requested MSRC guidance on the following issues: leveraging MSRC funds, program implementation timing and participation in state-led proposal to U.S. DOT for charging and infrastructure grant funding.

There has been a desire to take the MSRC’s identified \$50 million for publicly accessible zero emission recharging and refueling infrastructure and leveraging that with other monies. Specifically, we have been having in-depth discussions with the South Coast AQMD, LA Metro/I-710 Clean Truck Program, and the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. Instead of funding a few projects, the MSRC may fund two or three times that number working with these entities.

Need to understand what the expectations are relative to timing. The MSRC has money available today and there’s a list of respondents to the RFI who have provided shovel-ready projects. The MSRC can start making investments to fund these projects. The alternative is to continue discussions with stakeholder partners to see if we can get additional funding to leverage these investments to fund these projects and more.

Mr. Gorski has high level of confidence that some of these partnerships will yield funding to augment the MSRC funding. He suggests that we should continue to have dialogue with the respondents but inform them that the MSRC will not be making a funding decision as we try to finalize partnerships with other regional agencies to combine our available funding to have a larger program.

MSRC Member Patrick Harper asked if we award a project to somebody and they start building it, can they still apply for funding from these other agencies? Mr. Gorski answered we do not know. Most of the projects have offered 50% co-funding and the objective would be to leverage other agencies’ money such that the MSRC portion is less than that or those agencies can pick up other projects received through the RFI process and expand the overall scope of the program.

MSRC Vice-Chair Brian Berkson commented that based on his prior experience with the MSRC and the prior work program that used leveraged money, it gave the users a much better deal. He would be happy to wait a couple of months to see these conversations continue.

MSRC Chair Larry McCallon agrees with Vice-Chair Berkson and stated that we have issues with the infrastructure going to and from the Ports. Partnering with them and the South Coast AQMD is appropriate.

MSRC Member Mark Henderson questioned staff regarding anticipation of any obstacles in continued discussions with these entities? Mr. Gorski answered no obstacles, just the regular public process that the other agencies need to go through.

Chair McCallon states the consensus is go ahead.

No public comments on this issue.

Mr. Gorski continued with his presentation. The U.S. DOT has released a Notice of Funding Opportunity with a very fast turnaround. Two specific program categories: Community-Based and Corridor-Based infrastructure programs. The community-based program is looking to have electric vehicle charging for regular cars; the corridor-based program is more goods movement focused. Total available is \$700 million nationwide split between community- and corridor-based programs. Federal funding proposals are due May 30, 2023.

There is potential opportunity for the MSRC to be a participant in this program. Participation would potentially augment the MSRC funding within the context of the Goods Movement RFI. Any funding that is received for the region will expand the zero-emission infrastructure within the region.

CEC and Caltrans are leading statewide corridor response to the U.S. DOT. The three focus areas are the I-5, I-8 and I-710 corridors. The MSRC has been asked to be a participant in this application going to U.S. DOT. Staff have been engaged with all the stakeholders throughout the entire process. The I-710 proposal element would benefit from MSRC participation. Many of the RFI responses are along the I-710. At this point, no funding is requested from the MSRC. But if the U.S. DOT makes an award to the region for the I-710 it is possible the MSRC will be asked, as a committee, to contribute from MSRC's existing balance towards this overall program.

Mr. Gorski needs to understand if it is ok to continue the conversations, participate in the development of the application the U.S. DOT, and reference the work the MSRC has done through the RFI process including specific responses received under the RFI, if authorization has been received from the respondent. Several respondents have acknowledged that they are ok.

Chair McCallon commented to go for it.

Member Harper questioned if this increases administrative expenses. Mr. Gorski answered that in the best-case scenario, there would be administrative costs. However, there is an allowance within the U.S. DOT opportunity, believe it to be 5%, to help offset those administrative costs.

Mr. Gorski stated we are trying to be very strategic, wanting to bring money to the region but also wanting to be tactical and make sure that the actions don't undo anything the MSRC is trying to do through work programs.

Chair McCallon asked for comments from Committee members. No further comments were received from Committee members.

Chair McCallon asked for comments from the public for this item. No comments were received from the public.

OTHER BUSINESS:

16. Other Business

Mark Yamarone stated that this will be his last meeting with the MSRC.

Acknowledged and thanked the MSRC board and staff for the many tremendous things accomplished. Rena Lum will be taking his place.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

[Prepared by Marjorie Eaton]