



**TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE MSRC  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024 MEETING MINUTES  
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765**

**MSRC-TAC MEMBERS PRESENT:**

MSRC-TAC Chair Minh Le, representing the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Adriann Cardoso, representing Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA)  
Angie Ramirez, representing the City of Los Angeles  
Ash Nikravan, representing South Coast AQMD  
Brian Cunanan, representing Regional Rideshare Agency  
Chris Escobedo, representing the Cities of Riverside County  
Inder Atwal, representing California Air Resources Board  
Jenny Chan, representing Riverside County Transportation  
Mark McCullough, representing San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors  
Rongsheng Luo, representing Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)  
Sean O'Connor, representing Cities of San Bernardino County  
Steven Lee, representing Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
(Metro)

**SCAQMD STAFF & CONTRACTORS**

Allie Ramirez, MSRC Contracts Assistant  
Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator  
Daphne Hsu, Principal Deputy District Counsel  
Karen Sandoval, Financial Analyst  
Kristin Remy, Senior Administrative Assistant  
Mei Wang, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer  
Ray Gorski, MSRC Technical Advisor - Contractor  
Sindy Enriquez, MSRC Contracts Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Tarra Tisopolis, Sustainability Officer, County of Orange

**CALL TO ORDER**

- Chair Minh Le called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
- Roll call was taken at the start of the meeting.

**CONSENT ITEMS (Items 1 through 3)**

*Information Only – Receive and File*

**1. Minutes of April 4, 2024 MSRC-TAC Meeting**

The minutes for the April 4, 2024 MSRC-TAC meeting were included in the agenda package.

Moved by Escobedo; seconded by Luo; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1–3, item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cardoso, Nikravan, Cunanan, Escobedo, Atwal, Chan, McCullough, Luo, O'Connor, Lee, Le, Ramirez

Noes: None

Action: The meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. MSRC staff will place the minutes on the MSRC's website.

**2. MSRC Contracts Administrator's Report**

The MSRC AB 2766 Contracts Administrator's Report for July 25, 2024 through August 28, 2024 was included in the agenda package.

Moved by Escobedo; seconded by Luo; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1–3, item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cardoso, Nikravan, Cunanan, Escobedo, Atwal, Chan, McCullough, Luo, O'Connor, Lee, Le, Ramirez

Noes: None

Action: The Contracts Administrator's Report was received and filed. It will be included on the MSRC's next agenda for final action.

**3. Financial Report on AB 2766 Discretionary Fund**

The Financial Report on the AB 2766 Discretionary Fund for July 2024 was included in the agenda package.

Moved by Escobedo; seconded by Luo; under approval of Consent Calendar Items #1–3, item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cardoso, Nikravan, Cunanan, Escobedo, Atwal, Chan, McCullough, Luo, O'Connor, Lee, Le, Ramirez

Noes: None

Action: No further action is required.

**ACTION CALENDAR (Items 4 through 9)**

- Chair Minh Le asked for disclosures

MSRC-TAC Member Ash Nikravan said he must recuse himself from participation in Item Nos. 4 and 9 because of a financial interest because of his employment with South Coast AQMD, which is involved in these items.

MSRC-TAC Member Rongsheng Luo said for Item No. 9 that he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is an employee for the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), which is involved in this item.

MSRC-TAC Member Steven Lee said for Item No. 9 that he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is an employee of Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), which is involved in this item.

**4. Receive Report on INVEST CLEAN Program to be Administered by South Coast**

**AQMD**

Mei Wang, South Coast AQMD's Assistant Deputy Executive Officer of Technology Advancement Office, presented a brief overview of the Infrastructure, Vehicles, and Equipment Strategy for Climate, Equity, Air, Air Quality and National Competitiveness (INVEST CLEAN) program for which South Coast AQMD has been awarded up to \$499,997,415 from the U.S. EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program.

MSRC-TAC Member Chris Escobedo asked for the workplan by county and how the funds will be distributed.

Wang responded that South Coast AQMD is creating an email and will send out an update to partners and Steering Committee members throughout the process.

MSRC-TAC Member Adriann Cardoso inquired as to who is participating on the Steering Committee. She also had questions surrounding the specific incentive measures, where the heavy-duty chargers are to be located, and opportunities for local counties/agencies to be involved in the grant process.

Wang responded that the Steering Committee was formed early in 2023, and the counties and cities have already been involved. South Coast AQMD will be releasing solicitations for the specific charger projects so that will determine the exact locations.

Cardoso, Wang and MSRC Technical Advisor Ray Gorski discussed the locomotive demonstration and cargo handling measures, how emission benefits would be realized from the measure, and what locations might be eligible.

Cardoso asked where MSRC might fit in this effort. Dr. Aaron Katzenstein, South Coast AQMD's Deputy Executive Officer of Technology Advancement Office, responded that

South Coast AQMD will be in close contact with MSRC, Gorski and Contracts Administrator Ravenstein as they start to develop the RFPs that are going to be released.

Chair Minh Le commented that it makes a lot of sense to find synergy between this Program and the new Work Program that the MSRC-TAC is currently developing. Some MSRC-TAC members also may be able to leverage work by their agencies.

Public comment from Tara Tisopulos, Sustainability Officer for the County of Orange. Tisopulos expressed concerns that the Program was freight-heavy. Tisopulos wanted more information as to whether it would also apply to ground support equipment at airports and whether the locomotive portion would only be focused on switcher locomotives.

#### **FYs 2016-18 WORK PROGRAM**

**5. Consider \$27,605 Reallocation Between Tasks by City of Glendale, Contract #ML18059 (\$260,500 – Install Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure)**

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, explained that the City of Glendale was able to install the Level III charging station specified by the contract for less than originally indicated. However, the Level II charging stations cost more than anticipated. The City requests to reallocate \$27,605 from Level III station installation to Level II station installation. The Contracts Administrator recommends approval.

Chair Minh Le asked for any public comment.

No public comment.

Moved by Cardoso; seconded by Ramirez; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cardoso, Ramirez, Nikravan, Cunanan, Escobedo, Atwal, Chan, McCullough, Luo, O'Connor, Lee, Le

Noes: None

Action: This recommendation will be placed on the next MSRC agenda for consideration.

#### **FYs 2018-21 WORK PROGRAM**

**6. Consider Eight-Month Term Extension by BNSF Railway Company, Agreement #MS21023 (\$1,313,000 – Install Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure)**

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, explained that the BNSF requests an eight-month term extension due to delays in the charging units being energized due to unanticipated easement issues brought forth by the electric utility. This agreement has previously been extended by one year. Recent information updates indicate that the easement issues may take longer to resolve than at the time of agenda publication. Therefore, the Contracts Administrator suggests that the MSRC-TAC consider granting a one-year term extension.

MSRC-TAC Member Adriann Cardoso asked if they are not able to complete it within the 8 months, can BNSF come back to request another extension. Ravenstein replied that they can

request another extension, unless there is a condition that says they cannot request any further extensions.

Chair Minh Le asked if they installed the chargers without the utility service. Ravenstein replied that yes, that is correct.

Ray Gorski agrees with Ravenstein for the one-year extension as opposed to 8 months.

Chair Minh Le asked for public comment.

No public comment.

Chair Minh Le asked for a motion for the 12-month extension.

Moved by Cardoso; seconded by McCullough; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cardoso, Ramirez, Nikravan, Cunanan, Escobedo, Atwal, Chan, McCullough, Luo, O'Connor, Lee, Le

Noes: None

Action: This recommendation with a 12-month extension will be placed on the next MSRC agenda for consideration.

**7. Consider Five-Month Term Extension by ITS Technologies & Logistics, dba ConGlobal, Agreement #MS21009 (\$1,686,900 – Deploy Two Zero-Emission Yard Tractors)**

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, explained that ConGlobal requests an extension to December 31, 2029 – approximate a five-month term extension due to delays in being able to place the vehicles into service. They are not able to recharge the vehicle because their partners BNSF's installation has been delayed in association with the unanticipated easement issues brought forth by the electric utility. This agreement has previously been extended by one year. To be consistent with the previous item, the Contracts Administrator recommends a nine-month term extension.

Chair Minh Lee asks for public comment.

No public comment.

Moved by McCullough; seconded by Cunanan; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cardoso, Ramirez, Nikravan, Cunanan, Escobedo, Atwal, Chan, McCullough, Luo, O'Connor, Lee, Le

Noes: None

Action: This recommendation for a 9-month extension will be placed on the next MSRC agenda for consideration.

**FYs 2018-21 WORK PROGRAM**

**8. Consider Recommendation for Programmatic Outreach Services for the MSRC**

Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, explained that the MSRC approved the release of a Request for Proposals for the solicitation of Programmatic Outreach Services for the MSRC. Four proposals were received in response to the RFP. An evaluation panel composed of MSRC-TAC members has reviewed each proposal submitted. One proposal was deemed non-responsive to the RFP; the other three were scored and ranked. The panel recommends approval of an agreement not to exceed \$300,000 with Better World Group Advisors to provide outreach services for the MSRC.

Chair Minh Le asked for public comment.

No public comment.

Moved by Nikravan; seconded by McCullough; item unanimously approved.

Ayes: Cardoso, Ramirez, Nikravan, Cunanan, Escobedo, Atwal, Chan, McCullough, Luo, O'Connor, Lee, Le

Noes: None

Action: This recommendation will be placed on the next MSRC agenda for consideration.

**9. Status Update on MSRC FY 2025-'27 Work Program Development**

Ray Gorski, MSRC Technical Advisor, provided an update on the current status of the MSRC's FY 2025-'27 Work Program Development process, including preliminary candidate programs under consideration by the MSRC-TAC Partnerships, Innovation, and Innovative Transportation Control Measures /Transportation Demand Management Subcommittees.

Chair Minh Le asked for disclosures.

MSRC-TAC Member Adriann Cardoso said she does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that she is an employee of the Orange County Transportation Authority, which is involved in this item.

MSRC-TAC member Ash Nikravan said he must recuse himself from participation because of a financial interest because of his employment with South Coast AQMD, which is involved in this item.

MSRC-TAC Member Brian Cunanan said he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is an employee of the Riverside County Transportation Commission, which is involved in this item.

MSRC-TAC Member Jenny Chan said she does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that she is an employee of the Riverside County Transportation Commission, which is involved in this item.

MSRC-TAC Member Mark McCullough said he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is an employee of the County of San Bernardino, which is involved in this item.

MSRC-TAC Member Steven Lee said he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is an employee of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which is involved in this item.

MSRC-TAC Chair Minh Le said he does not have a financial interest but is required to identify for the record that he is an employee of the County of Los Angeles, which is involved in this item.

Gorski provided his presentation.

Chair Le asked about the geographic focus of the West Coast Infrastructure partnership with CEC and Caltrans. Gorski responded that it would run border to border, with the MSRC contribution focused on the four-county region. Le further asked about the criteria that the Innovation Subcommittee used to narrow down to the sanitation segment. Gorski responded that the subcommittees are looking for programs that have regional applicability and maximize the formation of partnerships to leverage MSRC funding.

Chair Le asked for public comment.

No public comment.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Cynthia Ravenstein, MSRC Contracts Administrator, introduced the newest MSRC staff member, Allie Ramirez, Contracts Assistant.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No public comment

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:58pm

**NEXT MEETING:** Next meeting: Thursday, October 3, 2024, 1:30 p.m.

(Minutes prepared by Kristin Remy)