

SBCAG STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee

MEETING DATE: December 17, 2020

AGENDA ITEM: 4H

STAFF CONTACT: Lauren Bianchi Klemann

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file Citizens' Oversight Committee annual letter regarding compliance with the provisions, requirements, and voter mandates specified in the Measure A Investment Plan and Ordinance No. 5.

DISCUSSION:

The Measure A Ordinance, approved by 79% of Santa Barbara County voters in 2008, requires the Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee to annually send a letter to the SBCAG Board commenting on whether Measure A is being properly carried out. Section 22A specifically states, *"The committee shall annually submit a letter to the Authority commenting on whether the provisions, requirements and voter mandates specified in the Investment Plan and Ordinance have been properly carried out. The letter may include observations and recommendations to the Authority."*

The Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee held a public meeting on November 9, 2020, reviewed the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Measure A Audit prepared by Moss, Levy & Hartzheim, LLP and received a report from SBCAG staff on the current status of Measure A regional projects and information about the measure's Local Street and Transportation Improvement program. The Citizens Oversight Committee unanimously found the Authority is proceeding in accordance with the Measure A Ordinance and Investment Plan. The committee noted that local jurisdictions have specific five-year periods to achieve compliance with both the Maintenance of Effort and Alternative Transportation requirements and found that after four years of the current five-year cycle, all jurisdictions are on track to achieve compliance.

Mark Cheli, Chair of the Citizens Oversight Committee signed the attached annual letter to the SBCAG Board per section 22A of the Measure A Ordinance. As explained in the letter, the Citizens Oversight Committee acknowledges the shared disappointment that SBCAG was not recommended for funding as part of Senate Bill 1 (SB1), Cycle 2 from the California Transportation Commission to complete the Highway 101 Carpinteria to Santa Barbara project. However, the committee appreciates SBCAG's success of being awarded \$184 million in SB1, Cycle 1 for the improvements in Carpinteria through Summerland and staff's strategy to focus on the remaining segment's project readiness to make it attractive for state and federal investment. The committee wanted to highlight the importance of Measure A as a local source of investment to help leverage additional resources. In addition to the comments on fully funding the Highway 101 project, the committee requested an update in 2021 on the opportunities associated with funding and delivering remaining named or regional projects.

ATTACHMENTS: Measure A Citizen's Oversight Committee annual letter to SBCAG Board

ATTACHMENT A

December 3, 2020



Measure A

CITIZENS OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE

Honorable Gregg Hart
Chair, Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
260 N. San Antonio Rd., Suite B
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Subject: Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee Annual Review

Dear Chair Hart and Board of Directors:

The Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee annually sends a letter to the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) Board of Directors commenting on whether the provisions, requirements, and voter mandates have been properly carried out in accordance with the Santa Barbara County Road Repair, Traffic Relief, and Transportation Safety Measure Ordinance and Investment Plan (Measure A).

The Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee held a public meeting on November 9, 2020. The Committee reviewed the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19 Measure A Audit prepared by Moss, Levy & Hartzheim, LLP and received a report from SBCAG staff on the current status of Measure A regional projects and information about the measure's Local Street and Transportation Improvement program. At that meeting, the Citizens Oversight Committee unanimously found that the Authority is proceeding in accordance with the Measure A Ordinance and Investment Plan. It should be noted that local jurisdictions have specific five-year periods to achieve compliance with both the Maintenance of Effort and Alternative Transportation requirements. The committee finds that after four years of the current five-year cycle, all jurisdictions are on track to achieve compliance.

The Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee acknowledges the shared disappointment that SBCAG was not recommended for funding as part of Senate Bill 1 (SB1), Cycle 2 from the California Transportation Commission to complete the Highway 101 Carpinteria to Santa Barbara project. However, the committee appreciates SBCAG's success of being awarded \$184 million in SB1, Cycle 1 for the improvements in Carpinteria through Summerland and staff's strategy to focus on the remaining segment's project readiness to make it attractive for state and federal investment. The committee recognizes the importance of Measure A as a local source of investment to help leverage additional resources, particularly as SBCAG evaluates new sources of revenue in the next year.

In addition to focusing efforts on fully funding the Highway 101 project, the committee requests an update in 2021 on the opportunities associated with funding and delivering remaining named or regional projects as part of Measure A. The committee further expresses appreciation to the Board for the opportunity to receive updates on the development of the Measure A Strategic Plan prior to its adoption. On behalf of all the members of the committee, we recognize that this has been a challenging year in light of the COVID-19 public health crisis and appreciate the Board's leadership and ability to continue to prioritize infrastructure investment and construction to support the Santa Barbara County economy in the long-term.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Cheli'.

Mark Cheli
Chair, Measure A Citizens Oversight Committee

Mark Cheli
Chair

Pat Saley
Vice-Chair

Mark Bradley

Andy Caldwell

J. Lansing Duncan

Phillip B. Greene

Alissa Hummer

Tomas López

Christy Nordgren

Pat Saley

Geoffrey Slaff

Dennis Story