

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Briefing & Breakfast with Legislative District Staff Meeting Notes

Thursday, April 13, 2017

SBCCOG Chair & Lawndale Councilman Jim Osborne called the meeting to order at 8:07 am and proceeded with the flag salute. The following individuals introduced themselves:

Elected Officials and Board Members

Mark Henderson, Gardena
Ericka Velazquez, LA County D-4
Jim Osborne, Lawndale
Kenneth Kao, Palos Verdes Estates
James Vandever, Palos Verdes Estates
Anthony Misetich, Rancho Palos Verdes
Steven Zuckerman, Rolling Hills Estates
Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates
Heidi Ann Ashcraft, Torrance
Milton Herring, Torrance

Christopher Wilson, Assemblymember
Mike Gipson
Andrew DeBlock, Assemblymember Al
Muratsuchi
Cody Bridges, Assemblymember Al
Muratsuchi
Mark Waronek, LA County Supervisor
Janice Hahn
Matt Johnson, LA County Supervisor
Janice Hahn

Legislators

Steven Bradford, State Senator (D-35)
Mike Gipson, Assemblymember (D-64)

City Staff

Jacqueline Wu, Palos Verdes Estates
Eleanor Jones, Torrance

Representatives of Legislators

Brent Robinson, US Senator Kamala
Harris
Gabriela Cid, Congresswoman Nanette
Barragán
Nita Patel, State Senator Steven Bradford
Robert Pullen-Miles, Assemblymember
Autumn Burke

Other Agencies

Chris Cagle, SBWIB
Jeff Kiernan, League of CA Cities
Javiera Cartagena, SCAG
Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG
Natalie Champion, SBCCOG
Rosemary Lackow, SBCCOG
David Leger, SBCCOG

SBCCOG Program Update

SBCCOG Executive Director Jacki Bacharach provided a program update and shared that at 3 pm, there will be a Broadband meeting to discuss the final study on the Feasibility of a Regional Broadband Network for the South Bay and how the South Bay has great potential to receive greater internet speeds at a lower cost. It appears that cities getting 100 megabytes could receive up to 10 gigabytes for a cheaper cost. She emphasized that as more cities move to cloud-based systems, there is a need for greater broadband capacity. Moreover, Ms. Bacharach identified the need to learn more about broadband applications and stated that the SBCCOG will have brown-bag lunches with experts to discuss this technology beginning on May 24. She shared that the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) funded the study and that the SBCCOG is looking for additional funding to coordinate with member cities.

Regarding homeless services, Ms. Bacharach thanked Supervisors Hahn and Ridley-Thomas' Offices for an extension of funding through June 30 and shared that the SBCCOG hopes to get more permanent funding, especially through Measure H. She explained that the SBCCOG and Joe Hoefgen, the City Manager of Redondo Beach, are participating in the [Measure H Revenue Planning Process Work Group](#) and that that group will going to the LA County Board of Supervisors on June 13 with recommendations to include COGs like the SBCCOG for funding for special services around homelessness. Ms. Bacharach pointed out the 680 unduplicated contacts, superseding the goal of 450, with 1,900 duplicate contacts with a goal of 2,300, linking those in need to services. She described how Coordinated Entry is the LA County system that keeps the history of people being served for all agencies to access. Fifty people have been placed in interim housing and 85 have received permanent housing.

Ms. Bacharach indicated that Metro is writing guidelines for Measure M and formed a [Policy Advisory Council](#) and each COG has a seat. She detailed the letter that will go to the SBCCOG Board for approval with comments on the Measure M Guidelines to go to the Metro Board. Ms. Bacharach clarified that although there are sub-regional programs in Measure M, the guidelines don't give sub-regions spending authority over those programs. Additionally, Ms. Bacharach commented on how the guidelines define "active transportation" in such a way that excludes motorized vehicles or e-bikes from being funded by Measure M and remarked that official comments on the Plan are being accepted via theplan@metro.net.

Ms. Bacharach reported that the Regional Coyote Management Task Force featured the City of Torrance and how the city has tagged a few coyotes to monitor their actions in order to address the influx of coyotes more effectively. Culver City has been invited to the next meeting since it is successfully managing its coyote issue. She described Travel Pal and how the SBCCOG is working with city staff to create options for South Bay residents to plan their routes through ride sharing and how the Green Building Challenge for businesses is currently auditing energy efficiency projects. Ms. Bacharach stated that the SBCCOG is also working with HERO and PACE to promote solar in Carson. Other issues Ms. Bacharach reported on include the Base Re-Alignment which is a possible threat to the LA Air Force Base and how the SBCCOG is working with the Base Advisory Council and South Bay Association Chambers of Commerce to emphasize how vital the Air Force Base is to the region. Additionally, she clarified that the SBCCOG does not have a position on [Community Choice Aggregation](#) but is monitoring the issue. And, Wayne Natri, AQMD Executive Director will be the guest speaker at the upcoming Board meeting. Lastly, Ms. Bacharach invited attendees to a Special Workshop on the South Bay Sustainable Strategy and Vision for 2030 on April 27 to review land use, transportation and livability of the South Bay.

The SBCCOG Program update PowerPoint presentation is on the SBCCOG website at: http://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/legislative_staff/4.13.17%20-%20%20briefing%20for%20leg.%20staff_-%20updated.pdf

City Issues – None

Federal Offices

Field Representative Gabriela Cid of Congresswoman Nanette Barragán's Office introduced herself and provided an update on the committee assignments for the Congresswoman, specifically to the [House Homeland Security Committee](#) and the [House Committee of Natural Resources](#). The Congresswoman is currently in Asia learning about foreign threats to national security and talking to public officials, including the Prime Minister of Japan. On April 19, she will host a Town Hall from 6:00-7:30 pm at the San Pedro Dalmatian-American Club.

State Offices

State Senator Steven Bradford thanked Ms. Bacharach and Chair Osborne for the opportunity to address the SBCCOG and the good work being done. He shared that California and the nation are playing defense to make sure the Affordable Care Act is not taken away, which would leave 2 million Californians without insurance. The Senator noted the threat of underfunding UC Berkeley and how many working families are living in fear of deportation. He elaborated on the passage of the Gas Tax and how it will fix our roads using \$.12 per gallon starting in November, including using charges in the vehicle licensing fees depending on the value of the vehicle, in order to raise \$5 billion. Senator Bradford stated the tax has no sunset and emphasized that funds need to be spent wisely, specifically on roads, streets, light rail and transportation. The Senator added that small businesses, veterans, minorities and women will be given more of a chance to bid on the contracts as part of the Gas Tax. City Councilman Steve Zuckerman of Rolling Hills Estates congratulated the Senator on passing the [Gas Tax](#) and wanted to know the Senator's assessment on the future of the Bullet Train. Senator Bradford shared that the train should serve commuter needs, such as from Los Angeles to San Diego or Los Angeles to San Francisco and noted that high-speed rail needs certain terrain to qualify at over 100 miles per hour and how the high-speed rail plans for Modesto to Bakersfield may not meet the standard. Ms. Bacharach shared with the Senator how the SBCCOG is preparing to release its report on Broadband in the South Bay and how it will help cities to pay less for 10 times the service. She detailed how the fiber connector charge to connect city halls throughout the South Bay will be challenging for most cities and asked if the state could assist. Ms. Bacharach noted that Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi has been supportive and asked if the Senator could work with him to secure funding to cover the charge. Senator Bradford shared his record as an Assemblyman and his support of the California Emerging Technology Fund and how he chaired the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy and the challenges of broadband accessibility. He mentioned how parts of urban areas have no service at all and that broadband accessibility is one of his priorities. Councilmember Milton Herring of Torrance discussed his concern for the lack of a sunset clause as part of the Gas Tax; Senator Bradford shared that there is a need for infrastructure repairs and that sometimes funds are used for other things. Board Member Jim Osborne recommended the Senator look into [AB 1250](#).

Assemblymember Mike Gipson thanked the SBCCOG for the invitation to come and speak and mentioned [SB 1](#) and the resources that will be budgeted for cities to fix roads. He has been in conversation with his constituents around SB 1 and pothole repairs are a major concern for the community. Furthermore, the Assemblymember

stated that SB 1 will provide 78,000 jobs and that as a representative of the 6th poorest district in California that has a 7.3 percent unemployment rate, job creation is critical. Assemblymember Gipson met with the mayors and city managers to discuss SB 1 and how funds collected are used for improving roads and infrastructure. He reviewed how he introduced 40 bills with the Governor signing 16. Twenty-one of the 40 bills he introduced focus on the environment, safety, home services, healthcare, transportation and workforce development. The Assemblymember acknowledged the need for more services for seniors through the [Home Upkeep Allowance](#) that will help seniors to pay for utility bills to keep seniors in their homes while they are at a rehab center. [AB 7](#) was discussed, which addresses the open-carry loophole in the unincorporated areas. Regarding education, Assemblymember Gipson highlighted his support for technology and job readiness through the [California Business Roundtable](#); he emphasized the need for labor and education to reinstate technical and vocational training in middle and high school, especially around robotics and automation, in order to create a workforce prepared for the future. Rolling Hills Estates Councilmember Steven Zuckerman asked about storm water mitigation requirements and stated that Rolling Hills Estates has an approved mitigation plan that will cost \$55 million, although the city has a population of approximately 8,000 and a \$10 million budget. He noted the obligation is impossible to meet, especially with less than \$1 million in discretionary spending. He recommended a financial capability analysis that puts a ceiling on what cities have to spend. Assemblymember Gipson mentioned the small water agencies in his district and how his bill would allow for small and larger water agencies to collaborate to address water quality and water rationing. Councilmember Milton Herring of Torrance discussed AB 1058 that deals with the formerly incarcerated with Assemblymember Gipson sharing that he focuses on homeless and foster youth and mentioned [AB 1228](#) that was signed by the Governor, which allow homeless and foster youth to remain in their dorms as long as they are in school. Lomita Mayor and Field Deputy for LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn Mark Waronek highlighted the importance of SB 1 and the importance of fixing the roads.

Federal Offices Continued

Field Representative Brent Robinson of U.S. Senator Kamala Harris' Office shared the Senator's priorities, which include immigration, specifically [S. 349: Access to Counsel Act](#), a bill that seeks to guarantee access to counsel to those held or detained at a port of entry or detention facility overseen by CBP or ICE. Mr. Robinson noted that the federal government will not pay for the legal counsel, but individuals can pay or have other organizations provide pro bono services. The Senator views this as a due process issue and stated that S. 349 is the first legislation she has put forward. The Senator will be hosting an immigration forum and will continue to have "Know Your Rights" workshops throughout the state. Additionally, Mr. Robinson shared the Senator's priority around infrastructure. She sits on the [U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works](#) and the [U.S. Senate Committee on The Budget](#) and is reviewing the environmental justice issues of the Torrance Refinery and wants to hear about the infrastructure needs of each city to make sure California is represented. Mr. Robinson welcomed those in attendance to email him at brent_robinson@harris.senate.gov to share their respective needs.

State Offices Continued

Field Representative Andrew DeBlock of Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi's Office thanked those in attendance who called and wrote letters supporting the passage of SB 1. He stated that the Assemblymember chairs the [Joint Committee on Legislative Audit](#) and sits on the [Assembly Committee on Appropriations](#), the [Natural Resources](#), [Veterans Affairs](#) and [Utilities and Energy](#) Committees and has been assigned the chairmanship of the [Select Committee on Aerospace](#). The Assemblymember will be hosting a local committee meeting to bring more aerospace to the South Bay. Regarding jobs and safety, Mr. DeBlock discussed [AB 1649](#) which will codify the [Governor's Interagency Refinery Task Force](#) and [AB 1648](#) which will increase the number of Cal OSHA inspectors. [AB 427](#), the California Aerospace Commission Bill, is supported by State Senator Benjamin Allen and will ensure that California remains a leader in innovation and green jobs. [AB 491](#) passed out of the Education Committee unanimously, which will provide \$3 million in grants to include education on the Japanese American internment in schools and libraries. Lastly, Mr. DeBlock discussed broadband and the Assemblymember's desire to expand broadband to government buildings, libraries, businesses and individuals in order to attract more business interest to the South Bay region.

Representative Robert Pullen-Miles of Assemblymember Autumn Burke's Office shared that the Assemblymember sits on the Committees on [Health](#), [Revenue and Taxation](#), [Utilities and Energy](#), and chairs the [Select Committee on Career Technical Education and Building a 21st Century Workforce](#) and is a member of the [Select Committee on Aerospace](#). She also launched a 62nd District Advisory Panel to the Aerospace and Defense industry and held her first meeting. El Segundo is the home of Aerospace in the region and she is a strong advocate for aerospace and defense spending and economic development. Assemblymember Burke is also on the [Joint Legislative Committee on Climate Change Policies](#) and proposed [AB 151](#), which focuses on climate change and environmental justice, including a jobs component and extends the program beyond 2020. Mr. Pullen-Miles reviewed [AB 1082](#) that expands electrification infrastructure in order to build charging stations at state parks, beaches and schools to create incentives for consumers to purchase electric vehicles. Regarding economic development, [AB 818](#) extends CalWORKs programs to those in the process of obtaining their GED. [AB 1060](#), the LA Metro Enhanced Infrastructure Finance District, creates a funding mechanism to build a rail line to the Inglewood station. According to Mr. Pullen-Miles, Metro is not a legislative body and this bill would allow Metro to become eligible as an infrastructure district to create an additional finance tool to build lines to go to the Inglewood entertainment stadium. [AB 1520](#): Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force, seeks to identify programs that have an impact on families, with a goal of removing 1 million children out of poverty. The Department of Finance will issue a report through the Budget Process to ascertain the effectiveness of such programs to ensure budget allocations are assisting families. Additionally, Mr. Pullen-Miles discussed the [Transformative Climate Grant Workshop with the Strategic Growth Council](#) for community organizations to apply for grants allocated for climate change programs starting in July 2017. Lastly, the Assemblymember plans on having a "Know Your Rights" Forum regarding immigration issues.

LA County

Representatives Mark Waronek and Matt Johnson of LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn's Office thanked the SBCCOG for all its support of Measure H. Mr. Johnson mentioned that the Supervisor met with members of the Palos Verdes Unified School District regarding a [social host ordinance](#), which was passed by the cities of Hermosa Beach, Carson, Palos Verdes Estates and Manhattan Beach, making parents liable for any underage drinking occurring on their property, whether or not they are present.

Agency and Public Comment

Jeff Kiernan of the League of California Cities discussed the "Hot Bill List" and mentioned the League is monitoring the storm water bills, especially with storm water regulations enforcement starting in LA County and cited how [SB 589](#) addresses this issue. Mr. Kiernan provided information on affordable housing through [SB 540](#) that is sponsored by the League, which deals with workplace housing opportunity zones. He mentioned the League will host a Newly Elected Governance Training on May 4 and welcomed those in attendance. Mr. Pullen-Miles asked for Mr. Kiernan to elaborate on the workplace housing opportunity zones with Mr. Kiernan stating that SB 540 will allow cities to create zones within their cities that will streamline the CEQA and EIR process, so long as developers meet affordability requirements.

Javiera Cartagena of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) mentioned that SCAG supported [AB 1060](#), [SB 2](#), [SB 3](#), and [SB 540](#) and recently met with the California Public Utilities Commission requesting to receive demographic data on riders, including their income, from Uber and Lyft in order to project future transportation needs. Ms. Cartagena detailed SCAG's legislative priorities around SB 1 and [AB 1](#) and invited attendees to the upcoming [Regional Conference General Assembly](#) on May 4-5.

Adjourn

There being no further business Chair Osborne adjourned the meeting at 9:33 am until Thursday, July 13, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,
Natalie Champion
South Bay Cities Council of Governments