

**SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Valentine called the SBCCOG Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

II. VERIFY QUORUM

In attendance were the following voting elected officials:

Jim Dear, Carson	Jim Roos, Palos Verdes Estates
Drew Boyles, El Segundo	John Cruikshank, Rancho Palos Verdes
Rodney Tanaka, Gardena	Christian Horvath, Redondo Beach
Olivia Valentine, Hawthorne	Bea Dieringer, Rolling Hills
Stacey Armato, Hermosa Beach (6:06 arrival)	Steve Zuckerman, Rolling Hills Estates (6:10 arrival)
James Butts, Inglewood (6:13 arrival, 7:11 departure)	George Chen, Torrance
Bernadette Suarez, Lawndale	Sonia Lopez, LA County D-2 (8:05 departure)
Jim Gazeley, Lomita	Jennifer LaMarque, LA County D-4 (6:04 arrival)
Joe Buscaino, LA City	

Other elected officials in attendance:

Barry Waite, Lomita	Heidi Ashcraft, Torrance
Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates	

Also, in attendance were the following persons:

Martha Hurtado, El Segundo	Sarah Patterson, SCAG
Joseph Lillio, El Segundo	Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG
Jacob Haik, LA City CD-15	Kim Fuentes, SBCCOG
Aram Chaparyan, Torrance	Steve Lantz, SBCCOG
Stephano Padilla, AQMD	Wally Siembab, SBCCOG
Jeff Kiernan, Cal Cities	David Leger, SBCCOG
Stephen Sawyer, Charter/Spectrum	Natalie Champion, SBCCOG
Dr. Seira Kurian, LA County Public Health	Colleen Farrell, SBCCOG
Nancy Rodriguez, LA County Public Health	Grace Farwell, SBCCOG
Maria Rosales-Ramirez, LA Sanitation Districts	Aaron Baum, SBCCOG
David Mieger, Metro	Brooke Heri, SBCCOG
Dolores Roybal-Saltarelli, Metro	Jon Rodman, SBCCOG
Mark Dierking, Metro	Christine Robert, The Robert Group
Georgia Sheridan, Metro	Isaiah Ford, The Robert Group

III. CONFIRM POSTING OF THE AGENDA BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Jacki Bacharach confirmed that the agenda was properly posted in the City of Torrance.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Bacharach reported no changes to the agenda but announced that the legislative matrix has been hyperlinked to the Legislature's bill database; and Item G-3 on the Consent Calendar (City Attendance at SBCCOG meetings) will be included in all Board agenda packets going forward.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. January Board Meeting Minutes (*attachments*) – Approved**
- B. FY 21-22 Measure R & M Multi-Year Sub-Regional Programs Metro Budget Request (*attachments*) – Approved**
- C. MOU with City of Compton re: Integrated Monitoring Program for the Dominguez Channel Watershed Management Area (*attachment*) – Approved**

- D. Contract with So Cal Gas Company** *(attachment)* – **Approved**
- E. Legislative Matrix with bills of interest** *(attachment)* – **Approved**
 - 1. Support – AB 14, AB 34, SB 4, SB 54, SB 83, SB 15
 - 2. Oppose – SB 9
- F. Dues for FY 2021-2022** *(attachment)* – **Approved**
- G. Monthly Reports – Received and Filed**
 - 1. South Bay Environmental Services Center Report *(attachment)*
 - 2. Transportation Report *(attachment)*
 - 3. City Attendance at SBCCOG meetings *(attachment)*
 - 4. Reports from Outside Agencies *(attachments for each at end of the agenda)*
 - a. League of California Cities & La Division Legislative Committee (Bea Dieringer & Jeff Kiernan)
 - b. SCAG Regional Council (Drew Boyles, Mark Henderson, James Gazeley)
 - c. Metro Service Council & Ridership Report (Don Szerlip)
 - d. KHRH (Hawthorne Airport) Communities Network Committee (Olivia Valentine)
 - e. South Bay Workforce Investment Board (Chris Cagle)

MOTION by Board Member Boyles, seconded by Board Member Tanaka, to **APPROVE** the Consent Calendar. No objection. Board Member Buscaino abstained from Item A. So ordered.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

A. Local Travel Network

Wally Siembab, Aaron Baum, and Jon Rodman who make up the SBCCOG’s Local Travel Network (LTN) team presented an overview and update on the Local Travel Network project. Mr. Siembab began by briefly explaining the SBCCOG’s prior research on South Bay travel patterns and the determination that micro-mobility devices are often ideal for the type of close-to-home travel common in the South Bay. Coupled with RHNA allocations that would add tens of thousands of vehicles to the road, micro-mobility could reduce congestion, GHG emissions, and more by “right-sizing” the vehicle for the trip being taken.

Mr. Baum reviewed the Caltrans Sustainability Planning Grant that has funded the LTN route refinement study, what that process was like, and the proposed 240+ mile Local Travel Network. He explained that the LTN team looked at where people live and where they travel, and then utilized slow-speed-vehicle-friendly routes to connect neighborhoods and destinations.

Mr. Rodman then presented the LTN Story Map that was created and discussed the truncated public outreach process that was implemented as a result of COVID-19 restrictions. This Story Map explains the project and gives viewers an opportunity to learn more about the project and explore what the LTN proposed routes are in their neighborhood and even how they might use it. The Story Map is available online here: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/157cffcbae244fa39eb5b22c9575e563>

For more detail, the presentation is available online here:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/PRESENTATION_2.21%20LTN%20report%20to%20board%20revision%20final.pdf

Ms. Bacharach explained that the final report will be available April 1st, with SBCCOG staff scheduled to make presentations to the Infrastructure Working Group and Community Development Directors meetings in April. The LTN team will return in May to discuss public and staff input received via the survey and to consider approval of the LTN as a SBCCOG strategy similar to other strategies in the subregional climate action plan.

Chair Valentine thanked the team and asked how the network handles conflicts with regular vehicles. Mr. Baum explained that part of the solution is educational, but that the network was designed to avoid the high-volume streets where conflicts would be most likely.

Board Member Boyles indicated his support in finding a collaborative response to addressing the “El Segundo Bubble” that prevents the city from being connected to the rest of the South Bay via the LTN.

Board Member Waite commended Mr. Rodman and the team on the Story Map and the use of GIS. He explained that he is a GIS professor and that this is a great example of how to use GIS to analyze and solve problems.

B. Green Line (C Line) Extension Project Scoping

Mr. Dierking explained that the Green Line supplemental alternatives analysis (SAA) was completed in 2018 and that Metro is now going back to the public as part of the EIR process. He introduced Mr. Mieger and Ms. Roybal Saltarelli who presented on the project.

Mr. Mieger provided the Committee a brief overview of the project and its history. He explained that after the previous work, Metro is considering two alternatives from the SAA that will be carried into the Draft EIR. The two alternatives include the Metro Railroad ROW and Hawthorne Blvd. alignments. He noted that south of 190th street, both alignments are identical.

Ms. Roybal Saltarelli continued the presentation by reviewing the two alternatives in more detail and the environmental process and the study topics covered by the EIR. The scoping period for the project is January 29th – March 15th with two scoping meetings planned for February 24th and 27th (virtually). The Draft EIR is expected to be released in Spring 2022, followed by the final EIR in Winter/Spring 2023. The groundbreaking is currently scheduled for 2026 with opening taking place in 2030-2033. Metro staff is still committed to efforts to deliver the project in time for the 2028 Olympics as the project was included on the “28 by ’28” plan.

Metro’s presentation is available online here:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/PRESENTATION_Metro%20Presentation%20.pdf

Board Member Buscaino urged Metro to consider bringing light rail into San Pedro given all of the development taking place that will soon make it a regional destination. Mr. Lantz added that there is an old plan called the “Harbor Sub-Division” that envisioned a loop going down into the San Pedro area.

Ms. Bacharach noted that the item will be discussed further at the Steering Committee in March along with a proposed comment letter to be submitted prior to the end of the comment period.

C. Mid-Year Budget Review (attachment)

Ms. Heri presented to the Board the FY20-21 mid-year budget and touched on changes to revenue and expenditures compared to the forecasted figures when the budget was initially adopted. Revenues were decreased by approximately 31% compared to the budget while expenditures were decreased almost 30%. She went on to highlight a few of the items driving those changes. The presentation is available online here for more details:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/11_SBCCOG%20Mid-Year%20Overview_Budget%20%26%20Narrative%20FY20-21%20.pdf

MOTION by Board Member Horvath, seconded by Board Member Armato, to **APPROVE** the mid-year budget update.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION REPORTS

A. Metro Report

Mr. Lantz reported the following items: Metro continues to evaluate transit police operations. Currently, Metro contracts with LAPD, LBPd, and LASD in addition to their own police but are looking to move away from utilizing the police officers to enforce fares and instead use Metro Ambassadors (unsworn officers). The Metro Board instructed staff to return to a full 7M service hours by September, not December as initially proposed by staff, as part of the COVID-19 recovery. Metro will have to hire additional operators to accommodate for the lower occupancy limits on busses due to social distancing. Metro is moving forward with studying two technologies for the Sepulveda Pass project. The first includes a monorail down the I-405 to the Expo Line, and the second is a subway to the Expo Line with a stop at UCLA. The two teams will simultaneously study the two options as part of a pre-development agreement and one will be off-ramped after the preferred technology is selected. Metro is moving forward with the Traffic Reduction Study or Congestion Pricing. There were four pilot projects proposed to start in 2025, but the concept will be further developed over the next four years. Three corridor proposals and one cordon proposal will be studied. Supervisors Hahn and Solis expressed concerns over the concept.

B. Transportation Committee report

Board Member Horvath noted the committee received a presentation by the new Caltrans District 7 Director who provided an update on the Ambassador Program that provides each city a single point of contact with

Caltrans senior leadership. The Committee also approved the Measure R and Measure M Metro Budget Requests which were approved on the consent calendar earlier in the meeting.

IX. SBCCOG PROGRAM ACTION ITEMS, REPORTS AND UPDATES

A. Letter to LA World Airports re: Comments on EIR (attachment) – APPROVED

Ms. Bacharach pointed the Board to the draft letter in the agenda packet and reviewed some of the main issues brought to the SBCCOG's attention including advocating for more air traffic regionalization; whether the proposed improvements accommodate growth or induce growth; and traffic impacts and access/egress to the facilities from the South Bay.

Board Member Cruikshank shared his city's problem with air traffic cutting over the peninsula as a shortcut. He mentioned that LAWA puts the issue on the FAA as they control the air traffic, but there seems to be a disconnect between that and their understanding that increased air traffic at LAX will exacerbate the issue. However, LAWA staff noted they share the same concerns and will help advocate for the city with the FAA. Board Member Buscaino offered his assistance as the President of the National League of Cities. He recently met with Transportation Secretary Buttigieg and noted the Secretary's experience as a Mayor brought a certain understanding of municipal issues to the position.

MOTION by Board Member Cruikshank, seconded by Board Member Dear, to **APPROVE** the letter. No objection. Board Member Buscaino abstained. So ordered.

B. Research re: more local control re: health regulations

a. Supervisor Hahn's Motion on the SPA boundaries (attachment) – APPROVED

Board Member Armato explained that the SBCCOG has been coordinating with Supervisor Hahn's office regarding better collaboration between SPAs and the cities/COGs in their area. Board Member Armato noted that she is recommending support for Directive 3 of Supervisor Hahn's motion that would instruct County staff to come back in 90 days with recommended protocols on how to better include COGs within the existing SPA structure. Ms. Bacharach added that the motion contains more than just Directive 3, however the recommendation to support by Board Member Armato is only for Directive 3.

MOTION by Board Member Horvath, seconded by Board Member Boyles, to **SUPPORT** Directive 3 of Supervisor Hahn's motion. No objection. Board Member La Marque abstained. So ordered.

b. Service Planning Area 8 Update

Dr. Kurian from SPA 8 provided the Board an update on recent changes to the Health Officer orders and vaccine distribution. She highlighted that as of February 19th, over 15% of LA County residents over the age of 16 had been vaccinated with at least one dose. She reiterated that vaccine supply is still the biggest bottleneck. Dr. Kurian's presentation is available online here for more details: https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/PRESENTATION_2.25%20Dr.%20Kurian%20LA%20COUNTY%20DPH.pdf

C. General Assembly

Board Member Horvath provided a brief overview of the GA planning. Ms. Fuentes announced that there have already been over 340 RSVPs with most indicating they are interested in participating because of the program.

D. South Bay Fiber Network

Ms. Bacharach announced that the SBCCOG office began the process of connecting to the SBFN over the weekend. Additional construction is still needed, but it is progressing. She added that PUC Commissioner Guzman-Aceves testified at an Assembly Budget Committee hearing recently and noted the innovative nature of the SBFN and urged the State to consider funding similar projects to help broadband implementation/rollout. Ms. Bacharach shared that the project is gathering more and more interest and she is being sought out to speak at several upcoming events.

E. Senior Services

Board Member Huff shared that she has been hearing from senior centers that vaccine registration sites are becoming more user friendly and available to seniors. She also urged the Board to continue sharing information about the HomeShare South Bay Program.

Ms. Farwell added that the SBCCOG is revisiting the Age Friendly network and is looking into becoming an age-friendly region. AARP is soliciting grant proposals and applications are due April 15th. Please contact Ms. Farwell for more information.

F. Homeless Services

Ms. Bacharach informed the Board that an item and recommendation by the Steering Committee were inadvertently left off the Board agenda regarding the Client Aid program. The item was distributed to the Board and Board Member Horvath made a motion to add the item to the agenda. The item is also available online here:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/HANDOUT_1.21%20Client%20aid%20proposal%20and%20financial%20assistance%20form.pdf

MOTION by Board Member Horvath, seconded by Board Member Boyles, to **ADD** the Client Aid item to the agenda. No objection. So ordered.

Ms. Bacharach explained that the Client Aid program is funded through the Measure H innovation funds the SBCCOG received and can be used for limited situations to help pay for back rent, moving expenses, hotel stays for job and service interviews, etc. City staff will submit the request for assistance to Ms. Farwell who will work with PATH to provide the funding, if eligible. For example, if a homeless individual had a job interview and needed to stay in a hotel room to clean up and prepare for the interview, this funding could be requested.

Chair Valentine asked Ms. Farwell how the funds will be distributed. Ms. Farwell explained that due to the fact the program is brand new, the recommendation is to not put any per city limits in place at this time. If it becomes clear that one city is utilizing a disproportionate share, the policy will be reevaluated to ensure equity.

MOTION by Board Member Horvath, seconded by Board Member Dear, to **APPROVE** the Client Aid proposal. No objection. So ordered.

Ms. Farwell also reported that beginning March 1st, there will be two Safe Parking sites in Board Member Buscaino's district, as well as a Pallet Shelter site opening up near Harbor College that will house 75 units.

G. Opportunities to Serve and Annual Form 700s

Ms. Bacharach reminded the Board that annual Form 700s are due and asked them to return theirs electronically if possible. She also shared that there are opportunities to serve on the SCAG Regional Council for Board Member Gazeley's seat representing Carson, Torrance, and Lomita. The seat is up for reelection. There are also three seats up for reelection on the Metro South Bay Service Council.

H. Office Warming gifts from members – no update provided

I. Other

Ms. Bacharach announced that Ms. Champion will be out on maternity leave beginning March 1st and will return in June.

X. AGENCY REPORTS

A. LA Sanitation Districts re: SB1383/Organic Waste

Ms. Rosales provided the Board a brief presentation on LA County Sanitation Districts' organic waste treatment program that can help cities meet SB 1383 organic waste reduction targets by diverting food waste into the LACSD system. Through a complex process, LACSD converts food waste into natural gas that can be used to fuel CNG vehicles.

For more detail, the presentation is available online here:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/PRESENTATION_Food%20Waste%20Recycling%20Program.pdf

NOTE: Oral reports are only made to clarify or amplify written attachments. All reports that were submitted or handed out are available online here: <https://www.southbaycities.org/committees/board-directors/board-directors-meeting-69>

B. SCAG Committees

1. Community, Economic, & Human Development (Mark Henderson, Drew Boyles, Frank Zerunyan & Mark Waronek) – no oral report
 2. Energy and Environment (Britt Huff) – no oral report
 3. Transportation (James Gazeley) – no oral report
- C. Air Quality Management District** (Joe Buscaino & Denny Shaw) – no oral report
- D. South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce** (Olivia Valentine) – no oral report
- E. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission** (Bill Brand/vacant) – no oral report
- F. South Bay Aerospace Alliance** (Olivia Valentine/Rodney Tanaka) – no oral report
- G. California Association of Councils of Governments** (Britt Huff) – no oral report

XI. UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Bacharach reported that that 7th Annual Legislative Meet and Greet will be taking place February 26th from 8:30am – 10:00 am via Zoom.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Valentine adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm to Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom until further notice.

David Leger, Assistant Board Secretary