



X: Inactive (missed last 3 meetings in a row)
Inactive Membership is automatically re-instated by attending a meeting

SBCCOG BOARD MEETINGS: ATTENDANCE 2021

City	Feb - 21	Apr - 21	May - 21	Jun - 21	Jul - 21	Aug - 21	Sep - 21
Carson	Dear	Hicks	Hicks	Hicks		Hicks	
El Segundo	Boyles	Boyles	Boyles	Boyles	Boyles	Boyles	
Gardena	Tanaka	Tanaka	Tanaka	Tanaka	Tanaka	Tanaka	
Hawthorne	Valentine	Valentine	Valentine	Valentine	Valentine	Valentine	
Hermosa Beach	Armato	Armato	Armato	Armato	Armato	Armato	
Inglewood	Butts	Faulk	Butts	Butts	Butts	Butts	
Lawndale	Suarez	Suarez		Suarez	Suarez	Suarez	
Lomita	Gazeley Waite	Gazeley	Gazeley	Gazeley	Gazeley		
Los Angeles	Buscaino				X	X	
Manhattan Beach		Stern	Stern		Stern	Franklin	
Palos Verdes Estates	Roos	Roos		Roos		Roos	
Rancho Palos Verdes	Cruikshank	Cruikshank	Cruikshank	Cruikshank	Cruikshank	Cruikshank	
Redondo Beach	Horvath	Horvath	Horvath	Horvath	Horvath	Horvath Obagi	
Rolling Hills	Dieringer	Dieringer	Dieringer	Dieringer	Dieringer	Dieringer	
Rolling Hills Estates	Zuckerman Huff	Zuckerman Huff	Zuckerman Huff	Zuckerman	Zuckerman Huff	Huff	
Torrance	Chen	Chen	Chen Furey	Chen	Chen	Chen	
County of Los Angeles-2nd District	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	
County of Los Angeles- 4th District	LaMarque	LaMarque	LaMarque	LaMarque	LaMarque		

Number of Active Agencies	17	17	17	17	16	16	16
Quorum Required (50% +1)	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Number of Agencies Attending	16	16	15	15	15	15	

**SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2021
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Boyles experienced connectivity issues and asked 1st Vice-Chair Cruikshank to begin the meeting. 1st Vice-Chair Cruikshank called the SBCCOG Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

II. VERIFY QUORUM

In attendance were the following voting elected officials:

Cedric Hicks, 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	Britt Huff, Rolling Hills Estates
James Butts, Inglewood	George Chen, Torrance
Bernadette Suarez, Lawndale	Sonia Lopez, LA County D-2
Joe Franklin, Manhattan Beach	

Other elected officials in attendance:

Zein Obagi, Redondo Beach
Jack Walser, Torrance

Also, in attendance were the following persons:

Stephano Padilla, AQMD	Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG
Jeff Kiernan, CalCities	Kim Fuentes, SBCCOG
Mike Saffell, Gardena Police Dept	Steve Lantz, SBCCOG
Dr. Silvia Prieto, LA County Public Health	David Leger, SBCCOG
Nancy Rodriguez, LA County Public Health	Natalie Champion, SBCCOG
Ara An, LA County D-2	Colleen Farrell, SBCCOG
Alfonso Ruiz-Delgado, LA County D-2	George Wentz, HR Green
Cecil Rhambo, LAWA Police Dept	Jonathan Pacheco Bell, Sagecrest
Keith Kauffman, Redondo Beach Police Dept	Fernando Ochoa, Public
Sarah Patterson, SCAG	Jubilee Byfield, Public

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 announced a minor change to the Consent Calendar noting that the Rancho Palos Verdes had paid their annual dues and the special assessment.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. July Board Meeting Minutes (*attachments*) – Approved**
- B. Request for Destruction of Records (*attachment*) – Approved**
- C. Actions of Steering Committee since last Board meeting (*attachment*) – Received and filed**
- D. Legislative Matrix with bills of interest (*attachment*) – Received and filed**
- E. Dues and Assessments Received – Received and filed**
- F. 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. South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce (Olivia Valentine)
- c. South Bay Workforce Investment Board (Chris Cagle)

MOTION by Board Member Hicks, seconded by Board Member Horvath, to **APPROVE** the Consent Calendar. No objection. So ordered.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

A. Service Planning Area 8 Update

Dr. Silvia Prieto provided an update on COVID-19 conditions in Los Angeles County. She shared that the County recently surpassed the grim figure of 25,000 deaths due to COVID-19. Dr. Prieto went on to explain that the CDC is now recommending a 3rd vaccine dose for those who are immune compromised. She also highlighted high transmission rate of the Delta variant and the efficacy of the vaccine, sharing that in LA County hospitals, of patients in for COVID-19, there was one vaccinated person for every 29 unvaccinated. For more detail, Dr. Prieto's presentation is available online here:

https://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/board_directors/meeting/PRESENTATION_Service%20Planning%20Area%208%20Update%20for%20SBCCOG%208.21.pdf.pdf

B. Policing Post George Floyd

Board Member Butts moderated a discussion between LAWA Police Chief Cecil Rhambo, Gardena Police Chief Michael Saffell, and Redondo Beach Police Chief Keith Kauffman on policing in a post-George Floyd world.

Board Member Butts began by asking how the George Floyd incident impacts each Chief and their department.

Chief Saffell: although the Gardena Police Department has been holding over 100 annual community meetings for several years, it recommitted itself to continued improvement in all areas and listening more. The Chief shared that police officers field all types of issues and also act as service providers in many ways.

Chief Rhambo: LAX Airport is a little different from a city in that the police department almost serves as an ambassador and is very service oriented like Gardena. The department did change policies including the banning of the carotid artery chokehold and the mandatory reporting of all uses of force outside of policy. The Chief also spoke to officers about stepping in for their partner to help settle them down if a situation arises.

Chief Kauffman: Due to previous efforts, Redondo Beach did not have change much, besides banning the carotid chokehold. The department did add even more transparency efforts than before and also began educational efforts about why certain policies are in place. That helped elected officials and others better understand the background of certain situations. He noted that community confidence in the police department went up immediately after the George Floyd incident, likely because the officers are part of the community and are out in front of the community not only in times of emergency.

Board Member Butts asked if each Chief feels an arrest and charging decision is impacted by the race of a defendant and if so, what is done to address that?

Chief Rhambo: As somebody who grew up in the Los Angeles community, people of color do tend to get overcharged and end up copping to charges that often end their ability to get gainful employment or hinder them some other way in life. Focusing on intervention/prevention programs, increasing relationships between police and youth, and working with previously incarcerated people can help officers understand how these decisions impact a life.

Chief Saffell: In Gardena, there is also an audit process to ensure arrests are based on probable cause. Supervisors are also very involved in the process.

Chief Kauffman: Implicit bias training is continuously provided to make sure that the information is very fresh. The department also fitted every officer with a body camera and updated the policy to state that cameras shall record incidents.

Board Member Butts asked about rogue officers and the code of silence in many departments, touching on a recent incident where South Bay police officers spray painted swastikas in a person's car.

Chief Kauffman: A lot has been done to improve this, but Chiefs must be able to hold their officers accountable. The LA County Chiefs Association supports the declassification of bad cops. Unfortunately, officers are likely aware when their colleagues are bad actors. In hindsight, there are usually clues all over the place after an incident like George Floyd where people ask how the officer was ever allowed to be in that position.

Chief Rhambo echoed what Chief Kauffman shared and noted that little things like stickers on lockers or jokes at a briefing can all be clues to those bad individuals.

The Chiefs agreed that allowing a cop to be rewarded for being a "cop's cop" permeates that through the ranks and that Chief should be cognizant of what is being rewarded and celebrated within the department.

Board Member Butts asked if the pandemic has led to a noticeable increase or decrease in crime in the community.

Chief Rhambo: There was a minor increase in property crime. The pandemic did provide an opportunity to help bring the unhoused population down.

Kauffman: During the height of the pandemic, calls for service were so low that there was almost a day with no calls. However, as things have begun to return to normal, crime is about 25% above 2020 levels, mainly property crimes and vehicle thefts/burglaries.

Chair Boyles thanked Board Member Butts for moderating and asked what the city councils can do to help get rid of the bad actors in the departments. Chief Kauffman explained that it's something that everyone seems to agree needs to be made easier, but the sides are very far apart.

Board Member Obagi asked how the department responds to resident demands for things like traffic enforcement when they are spread so thin. Chief Saffell shared that in Gardena, they say "if it's important to you, it's important to us". There are also other discretionary resources that could be used, even if the police force is thin. Chief Rhambo added that engaging in PSAs and multijurisdictional efforts can help.

For the full dialogue, please visit <https://youtu.be/mTET606Qtgl>

VIII. TRANSPORTATION REPORTS

A. Metro Report

Board Member Butts reported that there was no Metro Board meeting in August. The City of Inglewood entered into a JPA with Metro to apply for federal funding for major projects such as the Inglewood Transit Connector.

Ms. Bacharach shared that the COG directors met with Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins and noted how highly the directors thought of her. Stephanie plans to meet quarterly with the group and has an open-door policy.

B. Letter to Governor supporting state funding for Inglewood Transit Connector Project (attachment) – APPROVED

Mr. Lantz shared that this letter urges the Governor to specifically include funding for the Inglewood Transit Connector in the California Comeback Plan.

MOTION by Board Member Tanaka, seconded by Board Member Horvath, to **APPROVE** the letter. No objection. So ordered.

IX. SBCCOG PROGRAM ACTION ITEMS, REPORTS AND UPDATES

A. Contract Extensions that were just received and did not go to the Steering Committee:

1. Magellan Advisors for SBFN (attachment) – APPROVED

Ms. Bacharach explained that the contract has been month to month recently. This new contract would be for SBFN construction management and technical assistance while the staff considers an RFP for next steps on the SBFN. The contract would be for 10 months through June 2022 at \$58,000.

Board Member Dieringer asked to confirm that the funding is coming from the grant funding for the project. Ms. Bacharach confirmed.

MOTION by Board Member Armato, seconded by Board Member Butts, to **APPROVE** the contract. No objection. So ordered.

2. JP Marketing for website re-design (attachment) – APPROVED

Ms. Bacharach noted this is a no-cost time extension. Ms. Fuentes added that the extension allows additional time to complete the content migration and ensure bugs are worked out after launch. The website is scheduled to launch in September.

MOTION by Board Member Butts, seconded by Board Member Dieringer, to **APPROVE** the contract extension. No objection. So ordered.

B. New Contract with Sagecrest Planning & Environmental for Services of Regional Planner (attachment) – APPROVED

Ms. Bacharach reported that the SBCCOG tried to hire somebody but was unable to find a quality candidate. Sagecrest was highly recommended by the City of Hermosa Beach. Jonathan Pacheco Bell was recommended for the position. The contract is for 10 months to have Mr. Pacheco Bell work no more than 20hrs/week with Community Development Directors and the REAP projects. Ms. Bacharach introduced Mr. Pacheco Bell who then gave a brief background, including 15 years of experience as a regional planner for LA County.

Board Member Cruikshank thanked Mr. Pacheco Bell for being at the meeting and asked what he believes his role will be, particularly as cities are going through their housing plans. Mr. Pacheco-Bell explained that he hopes to be a resource for the SBCCOG and the go-to person to address all things planning related.

MOTION by Board Member Cruikshank, seconded by Board Member Armato, to **APPROVE** the contract. No objection. Abstention by Board Member Suarez. So ordered.

C. Strategic Planning Session Update

Chair Boyles gave an overview of the session and shared how great it was. Groups were formed around different focus areas to develop SMART goals. The focus area groups will be discussed in detail at the September Steering Committee meeting.

D. Legislative Visits and Advocacy, County Redistricting

Ms. Bacharach reported that the SBCCOG continues to monitor the LA County redistricting efforts.

E. Legislative Committee

Board Member Armato shared the Committee's first meeting will take place at 4pm on September 2nd.

F. South Bay Fiber Network

Ms. Bacharach shared that work orders 1-3 are wrapping up work, but some construction remains. Even more attention is now being paid to next steps including transportation applications and economic development strategies.

G. Homeless Services

Ms. Bacharach reported that Ronson Chu has been hired to fill the Senior Project Manager position. He previously worked at LAHSA, is a Redondo Beach resident, and is very passionate about homeless services. He came very highly recommended and will start September 7th.

Ms. Bacharach also shared that the cities rose to the occasion and submitted \$3.5M in project applications for the Innovation funding. Staff realized that the application process wasn't great and would like to meet with city applicants after Mr. Chu starts to give them the opportunity to clarify their proposed projects.

Finally, Ms. Bacharach asked Ms. Farrell to share the media kit that was created for the HomeShare South Bay program. Ms. Farrell explained that the kit includes images and other materials for the Board to post on their own social media channels since it has been sent to city staff for sharing through city channels.

H. Senior Services

Ms. Bacharach shared that although he is not a gerontologist as was Ms. Farwell, Mr. Chu has agreed to work on senior issues as well.

Board Member Huff shared that the meeting will take place Tuesday, September 28 at 9:30am via Zoom.

I. SPA 8 Working Group

Board Member Armato noted there was not much to report and that the first meeting is still being scheduled. The recent surge has put extra burden on Beach Cities Health District which has been heading up the working group.

J. September Board meeting – virtual or in person or hybrid?

Chair Boyles proposed a virtual meeting and received no objection.

K. Other

Board Member Dieringer shared that SB9 was passed by the Assembly earlier and could go back to the Senate following week. Efforts to stop the bill must now be aimed at the Senate and Governor.

X. AGENCY REPORTS

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-74>

A. Air Quality Management District (Joe Buscaino & Stephano Padilla) – no oral report

B. SCAG Committee

- 1. SCAG Regional Council (Drew Boyles, Mark Henderson, James Gazeley)
- 2. Transportation Committee (James Gazeley, Christian Horvath) – no oral report
- 3. SCAG Energy and Environment Committee (Britt Huff)
- 4. Community, Economic, & Human Development (Mark Henderson, Drew Boyles, Frank Zerunyan) – no oral report

C. Metro Service Council & Ridership Report (Don Szerlip) – no oral report

D. KHHR (Hawthorne Airport) Communities Network Committee (Olivia Valentine) – no oral report

E. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (Bill Brand/Eric Alegria) – no oral report

F. South Bay Aerospace Alliance (Olivia Valentine/Rodney Tanaka) – no oral report

G. California Association of Councils of Government – CALCOG (Britt Huff) – no oral report

XI. UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Boyles: the El Segundo Art Walk will take place Saturday from 3-9pm

Board Member Huff: the annual Rolling Hills Estates city celebration will take place September 25th.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Boyles adjourned the meeting at 7:47 pm to Thursday, September 23, 2021, at 6:00 pm via Zoom.

David Leger, Assistant Board Secretary