

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Briefing & Breakfast with Legislative District Staff Meeting Notes

Thursday, July 14, 2016

8:00 am – 9:30 am

South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Torrance, California 90501

SBCCOG Board Member and City of Lawndale Councilman Jim Osborne chaired the meeting and called it to order at 8:13 am and proceeded with the flag salute. The following individuals introduced themselves:

Elected Officials and Board Members

Don Brann, El Segundo
Patrick Furey, Torrance
Jim Osborne, Lawndale
Bernadette Suarez, Lawndale
Olivia Valentine, Hawthorne
Mark Waronek, Lomita

Legislative Representatives

Joey Apodaca, Congressman Lieu
Tom Brewer, Assemblymember Hadley
David Hadley, Assemblymember
Lara Larramendi, Congresswoman Hahn
Brian Mineghino, Assemblymember Rendon
Fernando Morales, State Senator Allen
Sarah Patterson, Assemblymember
O'Donnell
Robert Pullen-Miles, Assemblymember
Burke

City Staff

Deborah Holland, Lawndale
Eleanor Barthe-Jones, Torrance
Amanda Shelden, Lawndale

Other Agencies

Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG
Javiera Cartagena, SCAG
Natalie Champion, SBCCOG
Charles Gale, MWDC
Angie Gibride, CA Water Service
Jeff Kiernan, League of CA Cities
Josh La Farga, LiUNA Local 1309
Rosemary Lackow, SBCCOG
Steve Lantz, SBCCOG
David Leger, SBCCOG
Marilyn Lyon, SBCCOG

SBCCOG Program Update

Jacki Bacharach provided a program update and discussed five different initiatives of the SBCCOG. She mentioned the South Bay Broadband Feasibility Study, a program funded by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board analyzing the establishment of a broadband system across the South Bay. Ms. Bacharach discussed the Homeless Services for the South Bay, in collaboration with People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) and the various case management services and outreach being conducted, leading to 307 unduplicated contacts and linkages to services, including primary care, substance abuse and mental health. Additionally, there have been 5 interim housing placements and 3 permanently housed individuals.

Regarding the Green Building Challenge, Ms. Bacharach shared information regarding the participants to date including businesses and cities and mentioned the Green Building Challenge Recognition Event on September 28 at the

Automobile Driving Museum in El Segundo. The South Bay Travel Pal, a free, web-based, trip-planning tool, was also discussed, including the 190 registrations and outreach activities to date, accessible at www.southbaytravelpal.com. Lastly, Ms. Bacharach reviewed the SBCCOG opposition position on Metro's proposed sales tax and highlighted the upcoming SBCCOG events. Charles Gale of MWDC asked about the funding structure of the Metro Sales Tax and projects, with Ms. Bacharach mentioning Proposition A and C not having a sunset clause. Steve Lantz of the SBCCOG mentioned the half-cent that goes through 2039 is Measure R and discussed Measure M which will have no sunset and will add a ½ cent when Measure R sunsets.

The SBCCOG Program update PowerPoint presentation is on the SBCCOG website at:

http://www.southbaycities.org/sites/default/files/legislative_staff/PRESENTATION_SBCCOG%20Leg%20Briefing%20Updates%207.16.pdf

City Issues Identified for Discussion & Dialogue

Councilman Jim Osborne requested comments regarding city issues and mentioned the issue of illegal fireworks and how law enforcement cannot intervene when such fireworks are ignited on private property. Assemblymember Hadley discussed how he wants to hear more on this from the county and cities and how they deal with this issue. Deborah Holland of Lawndale stated that the city imposes a fine for illegal fireworks.

State Offices

Assemblymember David Hadley spoke about his opposition to Measure M or X in its current form, since it's a permanent tax with no sunset. He stated the need to deal with transportation issues at the County level since the majority of the Board of Metro is appointed and some are elected as County supervisors and city elected officials. He stated that the public should have a chance to weigh-in on this issue for all the reasons outlined in Ms. Bacharach's presentation. He further discussed the rush to place this measure on the ballot in November since it's a Presidential election year and how this negatively impacts the South Bay. Steve Lantz inquired about [SB 522: Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority](#) and other legislative measures to change the timing of the project. The Assemblymember shared there were no legislative measures beyond the Mendoza measure and that there are discussions around transportation funding more broadly. Moreover, Assemblymember Hadley stated that he has been a member of the 1st Extraordinary Session Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Development for 13 months, during which time there has only been one hearing and zero bills heard by the Committee. He shared that Measure M is the only near term legislation on transportation currently. Assemblymember Hadley reinforced that the South Bay is underrepresented on the Metro Board and that its representation needs to increase, especially in lieu of the trend to appoint nonlocal elected officials on regional bodies.

Assemblymember Hadley shared that he supported Senator De León "[No Place Like Home](#)" initiative, a plan to assist local communities in preventing and addressing homelessness. Regarding cap and trade and carbon tax, he mentioned that both provide businesses with an incentive to change their production processes for energy efficiency. However, the complexity of both makes it difficult to do well, including the political realities of competing influences

on how cap and trade funding gets distributed. He mentioned that improving carbon emissions at the ports should be a priority and that he is an opponent of the high-speed rail plan, since the return on investment, in terms of carbon-reduced per dollar, is inefficient. Steve Lantz mentioned the shortfall of revenue generated from the cap and trade program at less than 10 percent and how this could cause an opportunity to replace the program. Assemblymember Hadley mentioned the carbon credit auction conducted in May by the Department of Finance sought to generate \$500 million in revenue to the state, but only received \$10 million and another auction that was recently cancelled due to a lack of bids. Furthermore, Assemblymember Hadley discussed how cap and trade expires in 2020 and the legislators are trying to determine the next steps, since many businesses who have invested in credits through 2020 are not participating in purchasing more credits because the program expires soon.

Senator Ben Allen's Office representative Fernando Morales discussed bills signed into law including SB 254: Campaign Finance: Voter Instruction and SB 1038: Community Colleges – Employees. The following bills are still in appropriations: SB 450: Elections: Sample Ballots, SB 778: Automotive Repair, SB 916: Teacher Credentialing. Mr. Morales stated that Senator Allen also supports the "No Place Like Home" initiative. In regards to Metro and transportation, Mr. Morales shared that the Senator is listening to the various COGs and reviewing the inequities brought forth. The Senator sits on the Transportation and Housing Standing Committee and has been noticing hesitation from the federal and state level regarding increasing funding for transportation. Mr. Morales mentioned that the Senator coauthored SBX1: Transportation Funding.

Assemblymember Autumn Burke's representative Robert Pullen Miles stated that the Assemblymember has 14 bills in appropriations including, AB 2616: California Coastal Commission, which would add two new members to the commission representing diverse and low income communities; AB 2722: Transformative Climate Communities Program that gives \$250 million to coordinated green house gas reduction projects and provides a local economic workforce and environmental health benefits. Other bills discussed by Mr. Miles include AB1393: California Pollution Control Financing Authority that focuses on investing in small business to afford green energy vehicles; AB 2218: Gambling which increases the window to 60 days for casino application approval; AB 2448: CalWORKS that allows participants to earn a diploma and maintain CalWORKS benefits.

Assemblymember Patrick O' Donnell's Office representative Sarah Patterson shared that the Assemblymember is the Chair of the Education Committee. Some of his education legislation include AB 2815: Pupil Attendance that deletes the requirement for a county board of education to approve a contract between a school district and the county superintendent of schools for the supervision of attendance of pupils in the school district; AB 2656: Pupils Diploma Alternatives which deals with eliminating the proficiency examination fee for foster youth; AB 2862: Pupil Instruction: Visual and Performing Arts which recommend revisions to the visual and performing arts content standards in certain subjects to the state board. Ms. Patterson shared that the Assemblymember is interested in making the Long Beach College Promise a statewide project and that the Assemblymember has taken into consideration the

SBCCOG and other influencers position on Measure M or X and the impacts of transportation on the South Bay.

Representative Brian Mineghino of Assembymember and Speaker Anthony Rendon's Office thanked the SBCCOG for having him in attendance and stated he was present to listen to the concerns of the cities, since one of the Assemblymember's priorities is to engage with cities as the member of the 63 district.

Federal Offices

Congresswoman Janice Hahn's Office representative Lara Larramendi discussed Frontier Communications takeover of Verizon and issues with services and equipment repair of landlines. Regarding transportation, the Congresswoman supported Metro's submission of three projects to improve the I-110, I-405 interchange, the Freight Advanced Traveler Information System and SR 71 freeway conversion by the Pomona/Diamond Bar area and was disappointed since these projects did not receive the first round of grant funding, which totals \$800 million. In response, the Congresswoman has put together a delegation letter with other members of Congress that will be sent tomorrow to remind Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx regarding the regions importance to the rest of the nation and the importance of funding this region's transportation priorities. Additionally, Ms. Larramendi discussed H.R. 563 – Honoring Our WWII Merchant Mariners Act of 2015 that would recognize the Merchant Marines' service during World War II with \$25,000 for each surviving Mariner. Moreover, the Congresswoman is spearheading H.R. 2534 – SCAN Act that would implement 100% scanning at two US Ports and prove the current technology's ability to keep up with the pace of commerce. Ms. Larramendi announced that the Congresswoman's Pipeline Reform provision that focuses on better protecting communities from oil spills and accidents was signed into law by President Obama.

Congressman Ted Lieu's Office representative Joey Apodaca shared a statement by Congressman Lieu regarding the killings of police officers in Dallas. Mr. Apodaca discussed the unveiling of the Draft Master Plan for the West LA VA Medical Center, which calls for 1,200 units of permanent supportive housing throughout the property. The Congressman introduced legislation to authorize the leasing authority to get the construction completed and passed through the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Mr. Apodaca shared that the bills the Congressman introduced, the Fiscal Year 2016 Department of Veterans Affairs Seismic Safety and Construction Authorization Act that authorizes \$35 million to the West LA Veterans Affairs for seismic reconstruction and retrofitting. He emphasized the prioritization of veteran homelessness at the federal level, with a particular focus on Los Angeles since it has the largest population of homeless veterans.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Adjourn

There being no further business Jim Osborne adjourned the meeting at 9:38 am until Thursday, October 13, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

