

SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012
SBESC THEATER
20285 S. WESTERN AVE, TORRANCE, CA 90501

SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

FLAG SALUTE - LED BY CHAIR ELLEN PERKINS

Following the Open House of the SBESC/SBCCOG's new location in Torrance, Chair Perkins called the South Bay Cities Council of Governments to order at 6:00 p.m. In attendance were the following voting members:

Julie Ruiz-Raber, Carson
Dan Medina, Gardena
Daniel Juarez, Hawthorne
Jeff Duclos, Hermosa Beach
Ralph Franklin, Inglewood
Robert Pullen-Miles, Lawndale

Jim Gazeley, Lomita
David Lesser, Manhattan Beach
Ellen Perkins, Palos Verdes Estates
Pat Aust, Redondo Beach
Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates
Susan Rhilinger, Torrance

Other Elected Officials

Jim Dear, Carson
Jim Goodhart, Palos Verdes Estates
Steve Diels, Redondo Beach
Tom Brewer, Torrance

Also in attendance were the following persons:

Stan Myles, AQMD
Ivanna Lastra, CSU Long Beach
Hamilton Cloud, Congresswoman Waters
Alan Clelland, Iteris, Inc.
Jeffrey Kiernan, League of California Cities
Roderick Diaz, Metro
Alan Patashnick, Metro
Bronwen Trice, Metro
Mike Bohlke, Metro Director O'Connor
Judy Smith, Palos Verdes Estates
Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG
Suzanne Charles, SBCCOG

Nicki Coronado, SBCCOG
Kim Fuentes, SBCCOG
Marcy Hiratzka, SBCCOG
Rosemary Lackow, SBCCOG
Steve Lantz, SBCCOG Consultant
Catherine Showalter, SBCCOG
Wally Siembab, SBCCOG
John Parsons, SBWIB
Matt Horton, SCAG
Marvin Jackmon, SCE

CONFIRM POSTING OF THE AGENDA BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION by Board Member Pullen-Miles, seconded by Board Member Gazeley, to **approve** the Consent Calendar as submitted. No objection. So ordered.

- A. January Board Meeting Minutes (attachment) – Approve**
- B. Dues & Assessment for FY 12-13 (attachment) - Approve**
- C. Legislation of Interest: AB 1627 (Dickinson) - Environmental quality: building standards: vehicle miles traveled (attachment) - OPPOSE**
- D. Report of Time Critical Actions Taken by Steering Committee (attachments) – Receive and file**

PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**LAX Rail Access Issues**

Roderick Diaz of Metro presented updates of the Metro Green Line to and within LAX airport. He provided a project overview fact sheet, alternatives analysis outline, and comment form which asked people to explain their preferences of all the choices he covered. Board Member Goodhart asked if Metro had considered moving sidewalks to facilitate walking. Mr. Diaz answered that Metro has considered elevated walkways but did not incorporate that into the cost, since that is an airport function. Jacki Bacharach stated that Metro is doing a separate study from LAWA. At some stage, the two groups are going to have to collaborate. She explained that the analysis that Metro is doing doesn't represent all of the people that will be accessing the airport – just the transit riders. An analysis of all riders might have different outcomes. Mr. Diaz said that LAWA is aware of Metro's study, and that institutional and financial questions will be what make this successful or not. Light rail alternatives do not need to be discussed by both agencies. Each agency is cognizant of its respective role. Chair Perkins said that she is concerned about the uncertain funding for these two separate processes. Mr. Diaz said that Metro has three funding alternatives, and at the end of the environmental draft process, it will be decided which funding source will be used. Board Member Mitchell and Mr. Diaz compared SFO airport and its transportation options to LAX and Metro's options. She asked what the obstacles of tunneling would be. Mr. Diaz said that jet fuel lines, sewer lines, and pedestrian tunnels could be compromised. Board Member Medina asked what would happen if LAWA does not want to compromise. Mr. Diaz said that Metro needs LAWA's cooperation, and that they cannot move ahead without it. If Metro and LAWA cannot work together, Metro will not be able to commit to a project on LAX grounds, and will just continue with more rail infrastructure adjacent to the airport. Metro is trying to get people to the airport terminals and is not focusing on transportation between terminals. Internal people movers behind secured lines are not Metro's focus.

MOTION by Board Member Franklin, seconded by Board Member Aust, to **authorize** a letter to be sent to Metro Chair Antonio Villaraigosa that supports continued study of a broad range of modal and route alternatives being considered in the "LAX Metrorail Connection" Alternative Analysis. No objection. So ordered.

TRANSPORTATION REPORTS**A. Metro Report by Board member Pam O'Connor**

Mike Bohlke gave the update on behalf of Director O'Connor. One issue Mr. Bohlke wanted to present was AB2405 (Blumenfeld), authorizing alternative fuel vehicles to use express lanes without being subject to a toll. Supervisors Knabe and Ridley-Thomas and Director O'Connor believe that this will undermine the congestion mitigation pilots on 110 and 10. Board Member Mitchell reported that SCAG's Legislative Committee is opposing this. A second issue of interest is AB1446 (Feuer), which authorizes MTA to impose transactions and use tax without a limitation as to its duration, subject to voter approval. This would affect Measure R projects. Perhaps the SBCCOG Board can take a position on this in May or June?

B. Service Council report by Ralph Franklin, Chair

Issues discussed at the last service council meeting included:

- Concerns about the Metro Blue Line: Lieutenant Diane Holloway reported that 6,000 quality-of-living citations were written, and 73 felony arrests were made between Long Beach and Downtown LA since January 2012.
- Before Metro opens the Exposition Line, the SBCCOG/city staff can take a test ride. A date will be arranged.. By July 2012, there will be 150 new buses in the fleet.
- Board Member Goodhart said that on March 1, there was a quarterly working group meeting for the Harbor Gateway Transit Center(HGTC). In attendance were Steve Lantz, Gardena and Torrance Transit, and Sector Council members. Metro will increase the headway of the Silver Line and this will affect the HGTC. Caltrans transfer of property to Metro: the transportation center still belongs to Caltrans and the relinquishment to Metro still has to go to city of LA and then to Metro. This is the required jurisdictional process. Otherwise, the revamping of the property is moving along nicely. The HGTC will be graffiti-free because there will be a laminate on the building exteriors. Solar panels are in the works. CHP has jurisdiction because Caltrans still owns it. Not yet sure if Sheriff, police, or CHP will be in charge of 911 calls. Jacki announced that the SBCCOG is accepting nominations for new sector council reps. The Steering Committee votes, then the Board, and then Metro makes the selection.

C. SBCCOG report by Steve Lantz, Transportation Consultant

Mr. Lantz said that cities need to look at their Measure R projects and see whether they have been affected by loss of Redevelopment funds and how. He also mentioned a transit-oriented development grant through Metro, and how the City of Inglewood received a few. Lawndale, Hawthorne, and Redondo Beach will jointly apply for a joint station area analysis. Mr. Lantz and Jacki are working with Director O'Connor and Mike Bohlke to plan the Expo tour. Jacki asked how many of the Board Members would be interested in attending, and seven of the Board Members raised their hands. Jacki said that the Expo Line Tour will be announced soon.

SOUTH BAY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CENTER UPDATES

Catherine Showalter and Jacki Bacharach gave the following updates:

- CPUC will entertain bridge funding for the next 2 years – 2013-2014. Project implementation plans may be submitted for consideration. The CPUC values government partnerships and since the South Bay met its goals for 2011, we should be considered for further funding. Congratulations to the Cities of Gardena and Redondo Beach, which have recently reached the Silver Tier of the Energy Leader Program.
- A list of the SBESC's upcoming events was distributed.
- The SBCCOG/SBESC is hiring for 2 positions (Environmental Services Analyst and Environmental Program Specialist). Job descriptions were distributed.
- PACE commercial financing is now available through Energy Upgrade California for businesses
- We've asked Mayors to send letters to local business employers about vanpooling. This has resulted in some leads.

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Pat Aust thanked Jacki Bacharach and her staff for finding the new Torrance location.
- Ralph Franklin thanked Grace Farwell of the SBESC for presenting at the Inglewood District 4 town hall meeting in February and for bringing Energy Upgrade California coupons. The presentation was televised and a DVD was given to the SBCCOG.
- Julie Ruiz-Raber announced that Cesar Chavez Day will be celebrated in the City of Carson from 1-5 pm on March 31. She also announced that Carson has a new City Clerk, Donesia Gause.
- Jim Goodhart announced that George Bird is the new Mayor and Jim Goodhart is now Mayor Pro Tempore for the City of Palos Verdes Estates.
- Dan Medina announced that the City of Gardena now has a fleet of 53 hybrid buses and the State of California bestowed an award on the City for this achievement. These new vehicles have reduced emissions and lowered maintenance costs by 75%!

- David Lesser thanked the SBCCOG for the successful General Assembly in February, and commented that he appreciated the theme of emergency preparedness.
- Pat Aust reported that Redondo Beach is the oldest member city of the SBCCOG. The City's 120th birthday will be celebrated on April 29 at Dominguez Park.
- Jacki Bacharach reminded everyone that Form 700s need to be filed by April 2. Members will be fined if these forms are not submitted. Original signatures are required – they cannot be copies.

SBCCOG UPDATE AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. New Office Space

Jacki Bacharach thanked her staff for helping set up the new Torrance office location. She explained that the "SBESC Theater" may be reserved three times per month. Board meeting and Legislative Briefings will definitely be held in this space. Jacki explained that this new location is attracting new volunteers, and that the SBCCOG plans to utilize their different skills more proactively and offer more challenging assignments.

B. General Assembly- Lesson Learned

Jacki Bacharach reported that the 2012 General Assembly yielded the largest attendance that the SBCCOG has ever had. Catherine Showalter announced that the SBESC staff will be CERT trained. Board Member Franklin commented that the General Assembly was outstanding, but the training for Elected Officials at the end of the day was a little long. He also appreciated the self-serve lunch in the same room as the speakers. Board Member Mitchell said that she liked the round tables versus classroom seating. She noted that the timing was a little off (the event ran ahead of schedule before lunch was ready) and that there must be a more effective way to get people into the exhibit hall. Board Member Pullen-Miles reported that he very much enjoyed the emergency facts that were scattered on the tables, and that he re-used them in a game he facilitated at a meeting. Board Member Goodhart suggested that in the future, the SBCCOG should have dual control over the current and next presenter's presentations. Transitioning between speakers needs to be improved.

C. South Bay Sustainable Strategy

1. The following updates were given regarding Local Use Vehicles and other EV issues:

- 2 new vehicles arrived this month: sedan and pickup.
- 35 homes have driven LUVs.
- A new focus group video has been posted on the SBCCOG website.
- SCAG and CEC: SBCCOG is a participant. UCLA Luskin Center is the consultant for this research project regarding charging infrastructure. We hope to get a Notice to Proceed in May (our portion of the contract.)
- The SBCCOG will host a vendor fair for cities. A date is being selected.
- Steering Committee requested that information on car-sharing be solicited from vendors.

2. Compass project and others pending The SBCCOG/SCAG have selected a consultant.

D. Staffing for Regional Water Quality Control Board Municipal Representative

Jacki Bacharach announced that there will be a meeting next week in San Fernando Valley for all COGS to discuss this issue. Jacki reported that Torrance City Manager, LeRoy Jackson agreed to be the point person to represent our region. Mr. Jackson has asked Torrance's city attorney for an opinion on cities funding RWQCB staff and the attorney concluded that cities should not be supporting the compensation for the staff supporting the RWQCB. Dan Medina added that two seats will open on this water board soon.

- E. Jacki Bacharach acknowledged the Offices of California Senators Wright and Lieu, Assemblymember Lowenthal, and the City of Carson for the scrolls that were presented to the SBCCOG in recognition of its new offices in the City of Torrance.

AGENCY REPORTS**A. League of California Cities**

Board Member Goodhart gave the report: LA Division meeting on February 25. That meeting agenda mentioned the joint planning session of COGS and League, in regards to the RWQCB staffing issue. There was discussion of a strategic planning session - Date TBD, hosted by facilitator. CA Forward Ballot Measure: League has not taken a position yet, but momentum has been building for a while. Robert Hertzberg would like the League to support this measure. Support is being rallied to get this on the November ballot. Jeff Kiernan reported that the League's lobbyists are following bills that affect local control, mainly the Speakers Bill (AB1585), which contains many of the League's amendments. Other hot topics include RDA dissolution, and economic development (brownfield clean up and transit issues). Mr. Kiernan announced the Division Meeting on April 5 at USC. Legislative Action Days will be on April 25 and 26 in Sacramento.

B. South Coast Air Quality Management District

Stan Myles distributed an AQMD newsletter which promoted the advisory meeting on April 19, Clean Air Award nominations, and Lawnmower exchange in Inglewood.

C. SCAG & Committees

Board Member Mitchell announced that her monthly report will be sent electronically, following the meeting. She appointed Wally Siembab to the Air Quality Management Plan Technical Committee. Joint meeting of SCAG's policy committees yesterday, and the Regional Transportation Plan was approved to go to Regional Council on April 4. She encouraged city councils to attend SCAG's General Assembly at Bonaventure Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles on April 4-5. Matt Horton added that this event is free for elected officials. Special and flat fees for this event at the Bonaventure hotel or validated parking at SCAG.

1. Transportation Committee

Board Member Diels reported that a motion was made to include some South Bay recommendations in the adopted RTP. Having COGS at the table will now be a requirement. Boards Member Diels will give the report to Jacki.

D. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

Board Member Duclos announced that Mark Gold left Heal the Bay. There is also an ongoing project for Malibu Lagoon (controversial issue.)

E. South Bay Cities City Managers' Association

Jacki Bacharach reported that the City Managers' Association had a guest speaker from the Port of LA at their last meeting regarding how the Port can help chambers or small businesses.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Jacki Bacharach announced that on April 11, Edison will host a tour of its Emergency Operations Center. Marvin Jackmon of SCE added that the tour is from 10am-12 pm and lunch will be provided. He said that this event has helped other regions prepare for emergencies.
- Mr. Jackmon will keep the SBCCOG informed of any local upcoming lamp exchanges.
- Chair Perkins announced the SBCCOG's upcoming Legislative Briefing in the SBESC Theater in Torrance on April 12.

APRIL SBCCOG COMMITTEE MEETINGS & WORKING GROUPS

Consult web site for specific times and places – www.southbaycities.org

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was ordered adjourned by Chair Perkins at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcy Hiratzka, Recording Secretary