

SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2012  
SBESC THEATER  
20285 S. WESTERN AVE, TORRANCE, CA 90501

Chair Franklin called the South Bay Cities Council of Governments to order at 6:00 p.m.

**SELF-INTRODUCTIONS**

**FLAG SALUTE - LED BY CHAIR RALPH FRANKLIN**

He announced that SBCCOG Executive Director, Jacki Bacharach, was out of town, and that Deputy Executive Director, Kim Fuentes, would take over Jacki's duties for this meeting. In attendance were the following voting members:

Julie Ruiz-Raber, Carson  
Suzanne Fuentes, El Segundo  
Dan Medina, Gardena  
Ralph Franklin, Inglewood  
Jim Osborne, Lawndale  
Jim Gazeley, Lomita  
David Lesser, Manhattan Beach

Jim Goodhart, Palos Verdes Estates  
Jim Knight, Rancho Palos Verdes  
Pat Aust, Redondo Beach  
Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates  
Tom Brewer, Torrance  
Dan Rosenfeld, LA County SD2

Other Elected Officials

Steve Diels, Redondo Beach  
Matt Kilroy, Redondo Beach  
Mike Gin, Redondo Beach

Also in attendance were the following persons:

Dr. Phil Fine, AQMD  
Stan Myles, AQMD  
Greg Stevens, GSE Solutions LLC  
Jeffrey Kiernan, League of CA Cities  
Pam O'Connor, MTA  
Alan Patashnick, MTA  
Allison Richards, MTA  
Stephanie Wiggins, MTA  
Mike Bohlke, MTA Director O'Connor  
Eric Brown, Parsons Brinckerhoff

Kim Fuentes, SBCCOG  
Marcy Hiratzka, SBCCOG  
Rosemary Lackow, SBCCOG  
Dan Rodman, SBCCOG  
Lisa Rodriguez, SBCCOG  
Catherine Showalter, SBCCOG  
Steve Lantz, SBCCOG Transp. Consultant  
John Parsons, SBWIB

**CONFIRM POSTING OF THE AGENDA BY THE CITY OF TORRANCE**

Kim Fuentes 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 Medina, seconded by Board Member Aust, to **approve** the Consent Calendar as submitted. No objection. So ordered.

- A. June Board Meeting Minutes (attachment) – Approve**
- B. Task Order 1.2 – Siembab Corporation Master Agreement (attachment) – Approve**
- C. Policy for SBCCOG representatives on outside boards (attachment) – Approve**
- D. Legislation of Interest (attachment) – Receive and file**

Chair Franklin informed the Board that the SBCCOG sent letters to the South Bay legislative representatives regarding the impact on cities from implementation of the redevelopment legislation. Board Member Goodhart requested that legislative field staff be prepared to speak at Legislative Briefings on issues that are important to South Bay Cities.

**PRESENTATIONS****Metro ExpressLanes - FasTrak® Transponder**

Preceding the Board Meeting, the SBCCOG invited the Metro ExpressLanes van to provide information on switchable FasTrak® transponders to Board Members and the public. Stephanie Wiggins, Executive Officer of Metro's Congestion Reduction Demonstration Initiative, gave a program overview of the ExpressLanes pilot program. This \$290 million dollar program will offer the first high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes in LA County. The goal is to move more people, as opposed to moving more vehicles. 25 miles of existing high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes will be converted to HOT lanes, with the intention of maximizing existing freeway capacity. This program will be monitored on corridors on the 110 (at the 105 direct connector) and 10 freeways. Metro's thinking is that the more people there are in HOT lanes, the fewer people in the regular lanes, creating a better traffic flow. Solo drivers with FasTrak transponders can pay a toll to use the HOT lanes, and this system may be used on all toll roads in California. Toll rates will vary within a range, based on traffic levels in the HOT lanes to ensure average speeds of 45mph, but the maximum toll rate per mile is \$1.40. If a SigAlert occurs, customers' accounts will automatically be credited. This technology can be moved from vehicle to vehicle, and multiple license plates can be assigned to an account. Eligible carpools, vanpools, and motorcycles with FasTrak can use the HOV lanes toll-free. Naturally, enforcement (photo and CHP involvement) of this new system will be closely monitored. Ms. Wiggins concluded by announcing the details of where and how to purchase the transponders (it costs \$40 to open an account, with a \$3/month maintenance fee.) Board Member Lesser asked for an explanation on behalf of existing carpools who now have to pay the monthly maintenance fee of \$3. Miss Wiggins said that, according to research, over 80% of carpools will pay this additional fee. Some want a non-toll-related incentive, so Metro created a carpool loyalty program- the maintenance fee may be waived by taking 4 one-way trips. Board Member Mitchell asked if zero-emission vehicles will have to pay on the HOT lanes. AB2405 requires that Zero-emission vehicles will only have to pay for the first year of the pilot, but they will not be tolled to access the HOT lanes after that. Board Member Knight asked how Metro plans to monitor and report back the results of the pilot. Ms. Wiggins said that Metro is required by state law to report its findings on the pilot. Metro is collecting pre and post deployment data. December 2014 is when Metro is scheduled to report to Sacramento. In the meantime, Metro will survey users and hold public hearings. Mayor Gin of Redondo Beach asked if users may combine discounts, and Ms. Wiggins replied that users cannot do this. Chair Franklin asked what single drivers should do if they have a transponder and are in traffic going less than 45 mph. Miss Wiggins answered that changeable signs will change to "HOV only," indicating that single drivers who are not already in the HOT lanes must remain in the regular lanes. Single drivers who are already in the HOT lanes may remain there. Chair Franklin also asked if buses, limos, municipal vehicles, and law enforcement vehicles will have to pay. Miss Wiggins said that Metro is working with emergency and law enforcement departments so that they do not have to have transponders.

**Air Quality Management Plan Update**

Dr. Phil Fine, Planning and Rules Manager for the South Coast Air Quality Management District, gave a presentation on AQMD's 2012 Air Quality Management Plan - a blueprint for how to meet and maintain federal air quality standards, required by the State. The plan, which projects as far as 2032, focused on further implementation of the ozone plan, attainment demonstrations of 24-hour PM2.5, and analyzing Basin air quality trends. The research showed that transported emissions are greater than local emissions, and that the sources that contribute the most PM2.5 include on-road motor vehicles, off-road mobile sources, and residential fuel

combustion, and farming. Dr. Fine listed AQMD's PM2.5 strategy approach and explained the PM2.5 control measures to be attained by 2014 (including wood burning curtailment.) Currently, this plan is a draft; the adoption hearing will take place in October 2012, and will then be submitted to CARB and the EPA for approval. Board Member Knight asked if AQMD has authority over ports. Dr. Fine said not technically, but that AQMD has authority over indirect sources. Board Member Knight also asked how AQMD separates dust particles from PM2.5. Dr. Fine said that AQMD has an exceptional events policy (for things they cannot control, like the Santa Ana Winds.) Board Member Osborne asked how AQMD plans to enforce PM2.5 control measures for wood burning; people's homes will be cold. Dr. Fine said that if a home does not have another heating source, qualifies as low-income, or is situated above 3,000 feet, they may use their fireplaces. AQMD is trying to educate the public about this particular source. Board Member Goodhart added that some new zoning codes do not allow fireplaces, but lawnmowers and weed whackers are not mentioned. Dr. Fine said that the latter two are PM2.5 contributors and AQMD has some authority to change this. Their lawnmower exchange is one way to mitigate these emissions, but it's a small fraction contributor. There is also a fireplace gas-log incentive for residents.

### **TRANSPORTATION REPORTS**

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

Director O'Connor reported that on July 25, Metro held its ribbon cutting ceremony for the ExpressLanes Pilot Program. Today, the MTA board discussed the Measure R extension. On July 23, MTA's Measure R Oversight Committee met to discuss the Fasana Motion. On August 6, the Oversight Committee's findings will be discussed.

#### **B. Service Council report by Ralph L. Franklin, Chair**

Chair Franklin reported that Metro stresses safety and he distributed information on how passengers can keep their electronics from being stolen when on the rail or bus lines.

#### **C. Measure R Oversight Committee Report (Jim Goodhart)**

Board Member Goodhart reported the following:

1. City of Hawthorne has completed the first SBHP project: Improvements to Rosecrans Ave. at the I-405 included the addition of an east and west lane, new curbs and gutters with ADA accessible curb cuts, new signal systems and video surveillance of key intersections, street reconstruction using rubberized asphalt for main lanes and concrete for curb lanes.
2. Quick reminder: Cities should include Metro and COG logos on construction signage and invite Metro and the SBCCOG to groundbreaking and ribbon cutting events.
3. Three workshops have been completed for lead agencies covering:
  - Planning progress on the South Bay Intelligent Transportation System network
  - Proposed project evaluation criteria and performance monitoring of the South Bay freeway and arterial highway system
  - Project management best practices
  - Risk Management overview
4. Preparation of the South Bay Highway Program Implementation Plan Update is underway:
  - Consultants are meeting with the SBCCOG Infrastructure Working Group and lead agencies to update current projects and projected cash flow needs
  - Discussions are occurring between the SBCCOG and Carson regarding the potential use of SBHP Measure R funds to replace \$9 million in lost redevelopment funding for a previously fully-funded and ready-to-construct Carson project at Wilmington and the I-405 freeway.
  - Cities have submitted new projects for potential funding in 2016-17 and beyond
  - The FY 2013-14 budget request is due to be approved by the Board in November to meet Metro's December deadline. The SBHP Update, which will contain the upcoming five years of projects and will document changes to policies and procedures, will be completed by Feb. 2013.

### **SOUTH BAY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CENTER UPDATES**

#### **A. Quarterly Report from SBESC Engineer Greg Stevens on City Projects**

SBESC engineer, Greg Stevens of GSE Solutions LLC, explained the results of his recent efforts with electric savings for South Bay Cities. He anticipates a 3-year projection of 5,116,630 kWh saved, which is higher than the original savings goal. The gas savings has already exceeded its goal of 30,000 therms, and is projected to be over 95,000 therms by the end of 2012. Together, these savings mean \$694,399 in utility incentives that go back to the cities, a savings of \$811,000 in annual energy costs, and a reduction of 4,000 tons of CO2 emissions (the same as 784 passenger vehicles). Mr.

Stevens emphasized that incentive applications must be approved before construction begins and a pre inspection takes place. He congratulated the City of Torrance for moving up a tier in the program to the Silver Level in the energy leader program. As the current cycle ends, Mr. Stevens plans to transition to the next cycle by means of comprehensive energy audits and retro-commissioning, as well as offering technical and financial training workshops to city staff and commercial buildings. Board Member Ruiz-Raber asked if this program measures businesses too, and Mr. Stevens answered that only municipal facilities are measured, but the SBESC has outreach materials geared toward residential and business. Board Member Ruiz-Raber also asked if this service was free to cities, and Mr. Stevens said that services are paid for by the SBESC so it is free for cities. Board Member Fuentes commented that the City of El Segundo has an indoor pool and asked about a heater incentive from The Gas Company. Mr. Stevens said that it will not be as big a rebate as if the pool were outdoors, but the calculated incentive program offers a dollar per therm saved. He thanked Board Member Knight for setting up an energy audit in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, where several lighting opportunities were discovered. Board Member Knight remarked that the City Manager had said that the City had completed an energy audit, but that was not accurate. Let this be a good lesson to other cities. Mr. Stevens mentioned that he is involved with the Council for Affordable Street Lights (CASL), an organization that helps cities purchase their streetlights from the utility companies. Steve Lantz added that a member of this organization will be speaking to the SBCCOG's Infrastructure Working Group on August 22.

**B. Update on programs and activities**

Catherine Showalter spoke about the Beacon Award Champion designation that the SBCCOG received from the Institute for Local Government. The SBCCOG is the first program champion in the entire state. The Beacon Award itself is only open to cities and counties before.

**SBCCOG UPDATE AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Kim Fuentes announced that the SBCCOG's Local Use Vehicle (LUV) Program is coming to an end. The SBCCOG is currently developing its demobilization plan and writing the final report. She also mentioned that the Economic Development Directors had formed a Economic Development Promotion Subcommittee. Representatives from Torrance, Gardena, El Segundo, and Carson met to discuss a joint South Bay exhibit at the Sept. 2012 International Council of Shopping Centers Conference in San Diego. The group determined that if every participating city contributes \$1,000 it would cover the exhibit expenses and fund a banner and tablecloth with all of the South Bay city names and logos which could be used for this event and in the future. Cities are encouraged to send their literature if they cannot attend and Carson staff will see that it is displayed at the exhibit.

**BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Board Member Diels announced that he will soon be sworn in as the LA Division President of the League of California Cities. Jeff Kiernan has flyers for this installation dinner (Northrop Grumman in El Segundo.)
- Chair Franklin announced that SCAG's Regional Council will be dark in August.

**AGENCY REPORTS**

**A. League of California Cities (Jim Goodhart & Jeffrey Kiernan)**

Jeff Kiernan reported that the League's Policy Committees are reviewing 5 propositions that will be on the November ballot: Prop 30, 31, 34, 35, and 36. Mr. Kiernan also reported that portions of the Brown Act were recently suspended. As a result, cities are no longer required to post agendas 72 hours in advance or make all meetings open to the public. He also promoted the League's Annual Conference in San Diego on September 5-7. Board Member Goodhart added that at the recent LA Division Board meeting, a new legislation currently being considered in Sacramento was discussed. The bill is AB 2451 regarding death benefits, and the League will officially oppose soon. Board Member Goodhart also announced that the LA County Board of Supervisors passed (3 to 2 vote) the County's Water Quality Funding Initiative, which has been presented to the SBCCOG's Infrastructure Working Group earlier this year. Board Member Goodhart gave an update on the issue at the Regional Water Quality Control Board, regarding Mary Ann Lutz' staff, and said that an assessment from 5 cities in LA County (including the Gateway Cities COG) has been collected.

**B. South Coast Air Quality Management District (Judy Mitchell)**

Board Member Mitchell promoted the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee's 5 local workshops which are being offered for city staff. She encouraged South Bay Cities to attend the Long Beach workshop and mentioned that there are funds available for cities' fleets!

**C. SCAG Committees (Matt Horton)**

**1. Energy and Environment (Judy Mitchell, Jeff Duclos)**

Board Member Mitchell reported that the committee was given the same presentation that the SBCCOG Board received this evening (AQMD's Air Quality Management Plan.)

**2. Transportation (Steve Diels, Dan Medina)**

Board Member Diels reported that the San Onofre generating station operations are suspended at the moment and the community does not want it to reopen. The station is at a 200-megawatt deficit. This committee is dark in August.

**3. Regional Council (Judy Mitchell, Dan Medina, James Gazeley)**

Board Member Mitchell mentioned that the new Regional Council President is particularly in favor of economic development. She and Pam O'Connor also reported on the legislature enabling Measure R to be on the ballot in November

**D. Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Report (Mary Ann Lutz)**

Chair Franklin spoke about Mary Ann Lutz' request for a letter of support for reappointment. He stated that he does not believe that the SBCCOG should endorse this appointment because the SBCCOG also does not endorse South Bay Cities' Councilmembers when they run for reelection. Board Member Kilroy suggested nominating a representative to send her a non-specific letter to that effect. Board Members Aust and Ruiz-Raber suggested that the SBCCOG do what it has done in the past, which is to not take a position on a non COG appointment. Board Member Diels added that since the State is so adversarial to cities, it could hurt the SBCCOG to send its support. Board Member Goodhart suggested that if the SBCCOG does send a letter, it should run by Mary Ann Lutz first, so the action is not counter intuitive. Board Members Ruiz-Raber and Diels agree that the SBCCOG should not send a letter of support due to the SBCCOG's policy of not endorsing candidates that are not COG representatives.

**MOTION** by Board Member Brewer, seconded by Board Member Medina, to **take no action** in response to the request for a letter of support. So ordered. **Ayes: 12, Nays: 1, Abstain: 0**

**E. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (Mike Gin/Jeff Duclos/Ellen Perkins)**

Mayor Gin reported that the next meeting will be on August 16. He announced that cities (Public Works Depts) need to start applying for water project funding. He asked the cities to please let him, Board Member Duclos, or Board Member Perkins know if they have a project in mind. Tsunamis will be an upcoming presentation at SMBRC meetings. Board Member Knight asked for results of Dr. Luce's campaign for more SMBRC funds and Mayor Gin said that Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, and a few other South Bay Cities have allocated some funds for this organization.

**F. South Bay Workforce Investment Board (John Parsons)**

Mr. Parsons reported that the SBWIB contributed funds for the Centinela Valley High School District and Inglewood High Schools to provide summer teaching jobs for teachers during the off-season.

**UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Kim Fuentes mentioned the Metro Art Tour that the SBCCOG has arranged for the morning of August 8.
- Board Member Ruiz-Raber reported that she met President Obama at a political event in Florida.
- Board Member Fuentes announced that a date will soon be set to dedicate El Segundo's new beach facility.
- Kim Fuentes mentioned the LARC Sustainability Forum on August 15-16; (2 SBCCOG presenters).
- Catherine Showalter added that a SoCal Edison Lamp Exchange will occur on August 18 at 8:00 am at the Kmart in Carson (500 Carson Town Center).
- Board Member Knight congratulated Chair Franklin on running a very efficient first SBCCOG Board meeting.

**AUGUST SBCCOG COMMITTEE MEETINGS & WORKING GROUPS**

Consult web site for specific times and places – [www.southbaycities.org](http://www.southbaycities.org)

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Franklin at 8:10 p.m. until August 23, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcy Hiratzka, Recording Secretary