

**SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022
HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM
(RECORDING AVAILABLE ONLINE: <https://youtu.be/H3lktH-oxTE>)**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Drew Boyles called the SBCCOG Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:14 pm.

II. VERIFY QUORUM

In attendance were the following voting elected officials:

Drew Boyles, El Segundo	John Cruikshank, Rancho Palos Verdes
Olivia Valentine, Hawthorne	Christian Horvath, Redondo Beach
Stacey Armato, Hermosa Beach	Bea Dieringer, Rolling Hills
Bernadette Suarez, Lawndale	Steve Zuckerman, Rolling Hills Estates
Barry Waite, Lomita	George Chen, Torrance
Hildy Stern, Manhattan Beach	Alfonso Ruiz-Delgado, LA County D-2

Also in attendance were the following non-voting elected officials:

Bill Uphoff, Lomita

Also, in attendance were the following persons:

Chuck Schaich, Torrance	Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG
Tim Jonasson, Palos Verdes Estates	Kim Fuentes, SBCCOG
Jessalyn Waldron, LA County D-2	Steve Lantz, SBCCOG
Sarah Patterson, SCAG	David Leger, SBCCOG
Mark Dierking, Metro	Natalie Champion, SBCCOG
Lindsey Lastra, LA County Dept of Public Health	Colleen Farrell, SBCCOG
Charles Gale, Metropolitan Water District	Ronson Chu, SBCCOG
Gus Meza, West Basin MWD	Jonathan Pacheco Bell, SBCCOG
EJ Caldwell, West Basin MWD	Laurie Jacobs, SBCCOG
Gregory Reed, West Basin MWD	Steven Sawyer, Charter

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

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

IV. BROWN ACT DECLARATION

Pursuant to AB 361, the Board of Directors finds that a statewide state of emergency remains in force and State and local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing. Therefore, this meeting is being held virtually as meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. (*attachment*) – **Approved**

MOTION by Board Member Cruikshank, seconded by Board Member Horvath, to **APPROVE** the Brown Act Declaration. No objection. So ordered.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Ms. Bacharach asked that the Board consider adding a support letter for CalCities' budget request and approve signing on to the Climate Resilience Budget Letter.

MOTION by Board Member Armato, seconded by Board Member Horvath to **ADD** the two letters to the agenda. No objection. So ordered.

Ms. Bacharach also noted that there are several changes to the Legislative Matrix and asked that it be pulled from the consent calendar and be discussed as part of the Legislative Committee report. There was no objection to removing it from the consent calendar.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VII. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. April 28, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes** (*attachment*) – **Approved**
- B. MOU Contract Renewal with Metro for Board Deputy Staffing** (*attachment*) – **Approved**
- C. Measure M Funding Agreement for Planning Activities for the South Bay Local Travel Network** (*attachment*) – **Approved**
- D. FY22-23 Measure M MSP Annual Program Update Amendment** (*attachment*) – **Approved**
- E. Modifications of Contract with Energy Coalition re: the SoCal Regional Energy Partnership** (*attachments*) – **Approved**
- F. XEROX – Office I.T. Equipment Replacements** (*attachments*) – **Approved**
- G. Legislative Matrix** – (*attachment*) – **Removed from Consent Calendar and discussed under item IX-**
- H. Monthly Reports – Received and filed**
 - 1. Transportation Report (*attachment*)
 - 2. City Attendance at SBCCOG meetings (*attachment*)
 - 3. Media Report (*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. South Bay Workforce Investment Board

The Legislative Matrix (item VII-G) was removed and was discussed under item IX-G.

MOTION by Board Member Valentine, seconded by Board Member Cruikshank, to **APPROVE** Consent Calendar Items A-F and H. No objection. So ordered.

VIII. PRESENTATIONS

A. Drought Update: Water Supply & Local Drought Response Actions

Charles Gale, representing Metropolitan Water District (MWD), presented a brief update on water supply issues facing Southern California. Mr. Gale provided a brief overview of MWD and their role as the water wholesaler to the Southern California region. He explained that currently, 50% of water comes from local sources, 30% from the State Water Project, and 20% from the Colorado River Aqueduct. He also briefly reviewed the extensive drought currently taking place in much of the western United States and its impact on our water sources. He highlighted the impacts on water supply to the State Water Project and Colorado River Aqueduct and how MWD has started to work with their customers, including West Basin Municipal Water District, to conserve more water as supply restrictions take effect. For more detail, Mr. Gale's presentation is available here: https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/PRESENTATION_MWD-Helping-Californians-Respond-to-Historic-Drought.pdf

Mr. Reed, General Manager for West Basin Municipal Water District (WBMWD), provided an overview of the impacts on supply issues to WBMWD and its customers. He reviewed WBMWD's success in water conservation over the past several decades, highlighting that we use the same amount of water today as we did in the 1970's despite over 1 million additional residents today. He went on to showcase WBMWD's extensive water recycling programs and initiatives to help cities and residents conserve more water such as turf replacement rebates and educational efforts. Mr. Reed's presentation is available here:

https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION_Drought-Action-SBCCOG.FINAL_.ejc_.pdf

https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION_Heal-the-Bay-for-SBCCOG-Board-Meeting.pdf

B. Service Planning Area 8 Update

Ms. Lastra discussed some of the recent COVID-19 statistics and current protocols, highlighting that cases are increasing and masking is recommended for everyone, but is required in high-risk settings.

Ms. Lastra also reviewed the Curtis Tucker Center for Community Wellness which offers a location for the community to gather, find resources, and participate in wellness activities. Residents can access physical activity classes, nutrition and health resources, and other support services, all at no cost. She also encouraged cities to consider partnering with the Center on programs. For more detail on the programs

available, Ms. Lastra's presentation is available here: https://southbaycities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PRESENTATION_LAC-Board-Presentation-Handout.pdf

IX. TRANSPORTATION REPORTS

A. Metro Report

Mr. Lantz provided the following updates from the Metro Board of Directors meeting:

- Measure M Subregional Equity Program (SEP) guidelines were adopted but a spending plan has not yet been developed. The SEPs are scheduled for funding in 2043, but the South Bay and other subregions are asking that the funding be accelerated. The South Bay has identified the SEP as a funding source to help complete the Centinela Grade Separation project, a critical project to implement prior to the 2028 Olympics.
- Metro approved applying for \$51M in Cap and Trade funding for the Crenshaw Line project and free-fare initiative, but the breakdown of how much each might receive is not yet determined. Mayor Butts asked Metro staff to develop a report on the Crenshaw Line operating needs beyond the next year as he believes operating that line should be a priority over free-fare initiative funding.
- Metro approved the no-project alternative for the I-710 Freeway project. After a decade of planning and input from the community, the Metro Board did not believe additional capacity would benefit the burdened communities around the corridor. Instead, Metro will use the \$750M and state/federal matching funds to benefit the surrounding communities and reduce impacts of the current freeway.
- Metro approved an \$8.8 billion budget. They approved one amendment made by Supervisor Solis to use \$30M surplus on a highway project for non-highway projects. Although it does not have a direct impact on the South Bay, it sets the precedent for using surpluses from major highway projects on non-highway project elements.
- Metro delegated authority to its CEO to take any actions necessary if the Sheriff fails to meet his obligations in providing security for the Metro bus/rail system. Metro has contracted with LASD, LAPD and LBPD to provide security services to its system, and the Sheriff has recently agreed to extend services for 1 year. However, the Metro Board felt it was important to maintain a contingency plan should the Sheriff back out. LASD, LAPD, LBPD are only allowed to enforce penal code violations and cannot enforce Metro Code of Conduct violations, so Metro is also increasing its Ambassadors program to deal with those increasing issues.

B. Transportation Committee Report

Mr. Leger reported that Metro staff presented on the Crenshaw-LAX operating plan issue and informed the Committee that they will not be making a recommendation on an operating plan until early 2023. This means that the SBCCOG does not need to take a position on the proposed operating plan at this time and can get further updates from Metro staff over the coming months. Metro staff plans to present an update to the Committee in September.

C. Comment Letter to Metro on I-405 Comprehensive Multi-Modal Corridor Plan (attachment) – APPROVED

Mr. Leger explained that this letter is in response to Metro's draft I-405 CMCP which is a document that looks at a multitude of solutions to the I-405 freeway congestion issues throughout the county. In order to qualify for SB1 Solutions for Congested Corridors funding, an adopted CMCP must be in place, and a project must be included in the project list in the document. Metro has engaged in extensive stakeholder outreach to develop the CMCP and the letter provides feedback on the draft plan.

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

X. SBCCOG PROGRAM ACTION ITEMS, REPORTS AND UPDATES

A. Nominating Committee report – NOMINATIONS OPENED

Ms. Bacharach reported that nominations for Board officers would be opened tonight. A nominating committee met and is recommending John Cruikshank for Chair, Cedric Hicks for 1st Vice Chair, and Rodney Tanaka for 2nd Vice Chair. The Committee is also recommending a return to 4 at-large Steering Committee members who have committed to attend meetings in person. They felt that this would help ensure adequate participation to hold in-person meetings as well as help build the pool of potential future officers. Ms. Bacharach noted that the Board elected to remove the at-large members last year as they felt it was no longer needed. She added that in the last 5 years, all 4 at-large members only participated in one or two Steering Committee meetings

and at no point made the difference between having a quorum or not and that it would be staff's recommendation that the 4 at-large members are not needed.

Chair Boyles noted that he was out of town for the second Nominating Committee meeting and fully supports the slate of officers but does not necessarily feel the at-large Steering Committee members are needed.

Board Member Valentine shared that the Nominating Committee felt that getting the commitment of 4 Board Members to serve in-person at the Steering Committee could be helpful.

Board Member Cruikshank added that he was honored to be nominated to serve as Chair, and that he would agree with staff's recommendation on the at-large members to the Steering Committee.

Board Member Uphoff noted that if participation hasn't been an issue, the Board might not need to go back to identifying at-large Steering Committee members.

MOTION by Board Member Valentine, seconded by Board Member Suarez, to **APPROVE** moving forward with nominating 4 at-large Steering Committee members.

Ayes: Valentine, Armato, Suarez, Waite, Stern, Horvath, Ruiz-Delgado

Nays: Boyles, Cruikshank, Zuckerman, Chen

Motion passes. So ordered.

Chair Boyles officially opened nominations from the floor.

B. Hybrid Meetings (*attachment*) – Approved

Ms. Bacharach explained that staff felt the Board should approve a policy by which a determination can be made to hold a meeting in a hybrid or fully virtual format. The Steering Committee recommended that if 4 in-person RSVPs for Steering or 8 for Board meetings are received at least 3 days prior to the meeting, the meeting could be held in a hybrid format. However, if less than that was received, the in-person portion would be cancelled, and the meeting would be held virtually only. Ms. Bacharach added that for this meeting, only 2 in-person RSVPs were received.

MOTION by Board Member Horvath, seconded by Board Member Valentine, to **APPROVE** the hybrid meeting policy. No objection. So ordered.

C. Alert South Bay

Ms. Bacharach reported that the City Managers have agreed that the SBCCOG could temporarily take over Alert South Bay operations as they identify a new Area G Coordinator, but that ultimately the program should be operated by Area G. She also added that Lawndale has decided to join Alert South Bay and that they are currently determining how that impacts costs for other cities.

D. SCAG REAP

1. Housing Education Program REAP project activities plan (*attachment*) – APPROVED

Mr. Pacheco Bell provided an overview of the program, explaining that the project consists of a series of 10 housing education units to teach about state laws, density, designing sustainable affordable housing to meet RHNA, and more. This program is for elected officials, planning staff, commissioners, and more. The units will be held via Zoom and recorded. 3 key activities are needed: 1) convening of an advisory committee for content development; 2) formation of a bench of experts to speak; 3) developing a housing education webpage. Experts will be paid an honorarium of approximately \$1,000, and all costs are covered through the SCAG REAP grant. Mr. Pacheco Bell asked for any SBCCOG Board members interested in participating on the advisory committee to reach out to him.

Board Member Suarez asked if this is specific to RHNA or housing in general. Mr. Pacheco Bell explained that it's broadly about housing but is also envisioned to detail RHNA as well.

MOTION by Board Member Horvath, seconded by Board Member Cruikshank, to **APPROVE** the activities plan. No objection. So ordered.

Mr. Pacheco Bell went on to provide a brief update on the SB330 REAP project which developed a form for cities to use to track units required for replacement as part of SB330. He explained that the law requires new housing developments replace on 1:1 ratio any affordable units that were displaced by the redevelopment. This form will help cities and developers keep track of protected units throughout the development review process.

E. FY22-23 Draft Budget Process (attachment) – APPROVED

Ms. Bacharach explained that the SBCCOG Board normally reviews a draft of the budget in May and provides feedback so that the final budget can be approved at the June meeting. However, due to changing accounting staff and the hiring of a new Administrative Officer who need to be involved in the budget development process, the Steering Committee is recommending a modified process for this year. They are recommending that staff present the budget in June to the Steering Committee and that if significant revisions are required that could not be made prior to the June Board Meeting, that the Board would adopt a continuing resolution and the budget would be formally adopted in July. SBCCOG Legal Counsel has confirmed that this plan would be acceptable if needed.

MOTION by Board Member Suarez, seconded by Board Member Armato, to **APPROVE** the Steering Committee's recommended FY22-23 budget process. No objection. So ordered.

F. Homeless Services

Mr. Chu reported that Torrance will be holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for their pallet shelter project at City Hall on June 29th. He also reported that 11 participants have engaged in the Client Aid program so far for a total of \$6,000 and that of the 11, 8 have already been housed and 3 are awaiting placement.

Ms. Jacobs reported that in May, 2 homeshare matches were made. One was in Rolling Hills Estates where a 26-year-old moved out of his home and into the home of an elderly lady. Ms. Jacobs also shared that she is participating in the program and is renting a room from an elderly San Pedro resident. She added that she plans on journaling the experience so she can share a first-hand perspective when presenting the program to others.

Mr. Chu provided an anecdote about a local person experiencing homelessness who suffered from mental health issues. She was approached for services numerous times and was very resistant. She had been put on multiple 3-day holds but when released would always end up back on the streets. However, during her last hold, Department of Mental Health submitted her to a court-ordered intervention that put her into a center for an extended period of time. This stabilized her mental health to a point where she accepted services and is now working to stay off the streets. He shared this story as an example of why conservatorship may be appropriate for many experiencing mental illness and why we tend to see the same people experiencing homelessness on the streets. With limited extended-stay beds and current laws, it's difficult to hold somebody long enough to break the cycle like they did for the person in his story.

Board Member Valentine asked Mr. Chu what the percentage is of people experiencing homelessness with mental health issues. He noted that the official number is around 1/3 with some varying degree of mental health issues, but the true number is likely higher. He also added that becoming homeless can greatly deteriorate one's mental health and that longer periods of homelessness lead to deeper mental health issues.

G. Legislative Committee Report

a. Report on Regional Housing Trust Fund status

Board Member Armato reported that she and Mr. Leger have spoken before several city councils as they discussed support in concept for housing trust legislation. So far, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills Estates, and Torrance have all supported. Rolling Hills considered the item but voted to take no position.

Earlier in the week, the SBCCOG was informed by Senator Allen's office that SB 1444 would be the South Bay Regional Housing Trust formation bill, which is on the agenda for support.

b. Support SB 1444 – South Bay Regional Housing Trust formation (attachment)

Ms. Bacharach took this time to review the legislative matrix and highlighted some of the recent updates. She explained that bills in red were those that had died, one of which was the SBCCOG's micromobility rebate bill. She also noted that recent amendments to AB 1737 looked to address many of the concerns raised by the Park and Recreation Directors, and that if they did, the SBCCOG's position would change from Oppose to Monitor. Staff is currently working to contact them to determine if their opposition still stands.

MOTION by Board Member Valentine, seconded by Board Member Cruikshank to **APPROVE** the legislative matrix. No objection. Abstention by Board Member Suarez on AB 1771. Motion passes. So ordered.

Ms. Bacharach also asked that the Board consider supporting the CalCities budget request at this time and to authorize staff to submit a support letter.

MOTION by Board Member Waite, seconded by Board Member Armato, to **APPROVE** submitting a support letter for the CalCities budget request.

Ms. Bacharach also shared that the SBCCOG will be submitting a \$5 million request from the state surplus to the legislators to help implement the SBCCOG Work Program. Letters of support from cities would be greatly appreciated.

Ms. Bacharach noted that Board Member Huff had asked the staff to consider recommending a Board position on the CPUC Net Metering issue. She explained that SBCCOG staff met with a County expert and learned that the issue is incredibly complex. Because of this, staff recommends the SBCCOG is not ready to take a position due to the nuances of the issue. She reminded the Board that the SBCCOG previously submitted a letter to the CPUC asking them to work with stakeholders, which they have been doing.

H. SBESC Projects and Programs

a. South Bay Environmental Services Center Report *(attachment)*

Ms. Fuentes reported that the SBCCOG is working to implement the California Green Business Program in the cities of El Segundo, Hawthorne, and Torrance, and offered business walk opportunities for members from those cities. She also shared that CivicSpark fellows have submitted 7 energy benchmarking reports to the state on behalf of SBCCOG cities.

I. South Bay Fiber Network

Ms. Bacharach announced that two new sites in Lomita should begin service in June, followed by a Hawthorne site in July. Staff is currently working to identify sites for the balance of funding available.

She also shared that the SBCCOG is working with other service providers to do a pilot program in Torrance to provide wireless internet to underserved businesses around the Torrance Airport. She asked that each city coordinate with the SBCCOG on their broadband initiatives as there could be strength in numbers.

J. Local Travel Network

Ms. Bacharach announced that SBCCOG staff will be recommending the Board approve a contract in June for technical assistance on the development of street markings/wayfinding signage. A presentation to the Redondo Beach City Council is tentatively scheduled for June 14th.

K. Senior Services

Mr. Chu reported that there was a great meeting earlier in the week. At the next meeting, there will be a presentation by SCAN Health on pro-bono services that they provide.

L. SPA 8 Working Group

Board Member Stern shared that there have been 2 working group meetings since the Board last met, with one focusing on domestic violence prevention which was incredibly informative. The other meeting focused on the DA's programs that provide assistance and resources for victims of violent crimes. The group meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at 9am.

M. Other

None.

XI. 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://southbaycities.org/event/board-of-directors-meeting-77/>.

- A. 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
- B. Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County – no oral report**
- C. Air Quality Management District (Joe Buscaino & Stephano Padilla) – no oral report**
- D. Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (Bill Brand/Eric Alegria) – no oral report**
- E. KHHR (Hawthorne Airport) Committee re: Community Impacts (Olivia Valentine) – no oral report**
- F. California Association of Councils of Governments (Britt Huff) – no oral report**
- G. Metro Service Council (Don Szerlip) – no oral report**
- H. South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce (Olivia Valentine) – no oral report**
- I. South Bay Aerospace Alliance (Olivia Valentine/Rodney Tanaka) – no oral report**

XII. UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Drew Boyles adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm to Thursday, June 23, 2022, at 6:00 pm.

David Leger, SBCCOG Staff