

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Legislative Committee

June 8, 2022

Meeting Notes

(Held virtually via Zoom)

COMMITTEE CHAIR ARMATO BEGAN INFORMATIONAL ITEMS AT 5:01 P.M. – NO QUORUM

I. Welcome / Self-Introductions

In attendance were the following voting SBCCOG Board Members:

Stacey Armato, Chair (Hermosa Beach)

Bea Dieringer (Rolling Hills)

Rodney Tanaka (Gardena)

Also in attendance:

Jacki Bacharach (SBCCOG)

Ronson Chu (SBCCOG)

Jonathan Pacheco Bell (SBCCOG)

Charles Gale (MWD)

II. Public Comment – no public comments received.

III. May 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Dieringer asked for two minor revisions to the May Meeting Minutes. The revised minutes will be presented to the Committee in July for approval.

IV. Update on SBCCOG Proposals for Legislation

A. South Bay Regional Housing Trust – SB 1444

Committee Chair Armato reported that city support is still being gathered. SB 1444 has been introduced by Senator Ben Allen and was co-authored by Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi. A fact sheet is being prepared by Senator Allen’s staff and will be distributed upon completion. The bill was heard in the Assembly Local Government Committee earlier in the day and was approved on the consent calendar. Committee Chair Armato explained that because SB 1444 was introduced significantly later in the session, there are concerns that there would not be a funding opportunity during the current budget negotiation. Senator Allen’s staff will look into how Senator Portantino is requesting state funding for the proposed Burbank Glendale Pasadena Regional Housing Trust.

Committee Member Tanaka shared that he recently met with Senator Allen and briefly discussed the housing trust. He noted that Senator Allen is very supportive of the effort.

B. Micromobility/NEV Legislation – AB 2074, AB 2432

Ms. Bacharach reported that AB 2074, the micromobility rebate bill, did not make it out of the house of origin by the deadline and therefore is dead for this session. She noted that it is not completely surprising given an interaction she had with Assemblymember Transportation Committee Chair Laura Friedman. Ms. Bacharach explained that she was at a meeting earlier in the year and mentioned the CARB e-bike rebate program should be expanded to include all micromobility devices.

Assemblymember Friedman expressed some hesitation and thought the e-bike rebate should be rolled out first to see how it goes.

Ms. Bacharach went on to report that AB 2432 is moving forward through the Senate. She explained that Assemblymember Muratsuchi’s office reached out to see if the SBCCOG had any objection to

consolidating AB 2432 with a similar bill for a community in the Lancaster area of LA County. She noted that the bill number would remain AB 2432, but instead of it only applying to South Bay cities, it would be amended to apply to any city within LA County. The SBCCOG would support such an amendment as it would simply expand the authority to adopt NEV plans beyond the South Bay.

V. Advocacy

A. Legislative Matrix

1. Support- SB 1416: Mental Health Service: Gravely Disabled Persons
2. Support- SB 852: Climate resilience districts: formation: funding mechanisms

Ms. Bacharach noted that the Legislative Matrix will be going to the Steering Committee since there was no quorum at the meeting. She went on to ask Mr. Chu to provide a brief overview of a meeting the SBCCOG had with CalCities regarding SB 1416.

Mr. Chu explained that whenever there are proposals for conservatorships or care courts, there are a group of organizations who always object, such as the ACLU and Western Poverty Law Center. He shared that their concern is based on anything curbing an individual's civil liberties, and by nature, a conservatorship is a curb of civil liberties. SB 1416 is endorsed by National Alliance on Mental Illness. He detailed a case of a local individual experiencing homelessness who had severe mental health issues and was very resistant to services. She was ordered by the court into a conservatorship which allowed her mental health issues to stabilize at which point she was open to services. She is now getting processed into a shelter and is no longer living on the streets.

Committee Member Dieringer shared that she fully supports SB 1416.

SB 1186 –

Committee Member Dieringer also asked the SBCCOG to take an oppose position on SB 1186. This bill would require all cities to allow medicinal cannabis deliveries. There is also language that would allow a person to petition the state to force cities to allow more delivery services into the city if they find that it is not adequately accessible. She reminded the Committee that when cannabis was legalized, there was extensive work done to allow for local control and this bill would strip a significant portion of that away. Ms. Bacharach will add this bill to the Legislative Matrix.

SB 15 -

Committee Member Dieringer proposed a change in position on SB 15 which would incentivize conversion of idle big-box retail property into housing. She identified language in the bill that would require cities to adopt a by-right policy in order to qualify for the grant funding being made available by the bill. Ms. Bacharach will bring a revised recommendation for the position to the Steering Committee.

B. Issues for Consideration: Mobile Home Park rent cap issues

Mr. Chu explained that state tenant protections do not include mobile home park residents. A mobile home park owner in Torrance is proposing significant rental increases and many seniors living at the park could be displaced. Torrance is considering actions they could take to help prevent the situation. Ms. Bacharach will bring the item to the Steering Committee for further discussion.

VI. SBCCOG Work Program state budget request

Ms. Bacharach reported the SBCCOG submitted a \$5M budget request from the State budget surplus to create a South Bay Center for Sustainable and Resilient Neighborhoods to help implement city climate action plans; implement a regional organic waste program; education for electric vehicles and events to support the local travel network to encourage cleaner mobility; implement neighborhood digital centers that brings services to disadvantaged communities. Letters of support are being requested from cities, but personal calls to legislators are also recommended. She explained that all the legal deadlines to submit requests have passed, but negotiations are still underway on the state budget and trailer bills. It's important to show South Bay legislators that this is a priority for the SBCCOG and its members.

VII. July 14th Legislative Briefing Discussion

The Committee discussed if the meeting should be virtual or in-person. The Committee was supportive of either but preferred in-person if it would not jeopardize participation by either the legislators or SBCCOG members. In regard to the format, the Committee felt that previous formats worked well. Questions will be developed and sent to the legislators in advance. Committee Chair Armato also suggested that time limits be reiterated.

VIII. Announcements / Adjournment

Committee Chair Armato concluded informational discussion at 5:51 p.m. The next Legislative Committee July 13, 2022, at 5:00 p. m.