

SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2011  
PENINSULA CENTER LIBRARY

**SELF-INTRODUCTIONS**

**FLAG SALUTE - LED BY CHAIR JUDY MITCHELL**

Chair Mitchell officially called the South Bay Cities Council of Governments to order at 6:25 but a forum did not become present until 7:30 p.m.

In the interim, Mike Bohlke, Jim Goodhart, and Steve Lantz gave the Transportation Report.

In attendance were the following voting members:

Cliff Numark, Torrance  
Dan Medina, Gardena  
Dan Rosenfeld, County of Los Angeles  
Jim Goodhart, Palos Verdes Estates

Judy Mitchell, Rolling Hills Estates  
Julie Ruiz-Raber, Carson  
Pat Aust, Redondo Beach  
Robert Pullen-Miles, Lawndale

**Other Elected Officials**

Susan Seamans, Rolling Hills Estates

**Also in attendance were the following persons:**

Alan Patashnick, Metro  
Brian Raber  
Debbie Weiser, U.S. Geological Survey  
Greg Grammer, Rolling Hills Estates  
Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG  
Jeff Chernick, Ride Amigos  
Jeff Kiernan, League of California Cities  
John Parsons, SBWIB  
Marcy Hiratzka, SBCCOG

Marilyn Lyon, SBESC  
Matt Horton, SCAG  
Mike Bohlke, Metro  
Rosemary Lackow, SBCCOG  
Stan Myles, SCAQMD  
Steve Lantz, SBCCOG  
Suzanne Charles, SBCCOG  
Viggen Davidian, Iteris

**CONFIRM POSTING OF THE AGENDA BY THE CITY OF ROLLING HILLS ESTATES**

Jacki Bacharach confirmed that the agenda was properly posted in the City of Rolling Hills Estates.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF ANY CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Jacki Bacharach explained that there was one change to the agenda - an urgency item that came up just that afternoon that had a deadline requiring immediate action. She said that last month, Ride Amigos, under the Century City Transportation Management Association, gave a presentation on their services; a wide range of web-based tools to provide ride sharing information. Ms. Bacharach said that on May 25, 2011, she was contacted by Jeff Chernick, CEO of Ride Amigos, who discovered a Federal, 5 year, revenue-generating grant opportunity for the South Bay Cities in regards to alternative methods of transportation. She said that due to the strict requirements of Federal grant applications, the SBCCOG needed to establish a lead city to apply for the grant. Torrance and Redondo Beach have been asked but have not yet confirmed. Kim Fuentes is waiting for a confirmation from city personnel at Torrance before the SBCCOG can move forward. Ms. Bacharach reported that the grant proposal is due on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and it has to go through Caltrans first. The Caltrans deadline passed but they will accept the application by May 27, at the latest.

**MOTION** by Board Member Goodhart, seconded by Board Member Numark to add this urgency item to the agenda. **The Board voted and 2/3ds was met.**

Jeff Chernick gave a brief presentation of how Ride Amigos plans to work with the SBCCOG, should SBCCOG receive the grant. Ride Amigos already has a similar grant with the City of Pasadena (Metro's Call for Projects Grant) CEO for Ride Amigos Corp on the grant. The grant application was already written, and just needed to be customized with the South Bay's information. He gave a brief history of the company and demonstrated a ride sharing plan customized to South Bay cities. Ride Amigos finds every possible route/modes for the region requesting it. Incentives and point programs will be encouraged, and healthy competition will hopefully promote ride sharing or biking. Ride Amigos is AQMD-certified.

**MOTION** by Board Member **male voice**, seconded by **female voice**, to approve **the SBCCOG working with Ride Amigos on this grant.** No objection. So ordered.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**MOTION** by Chair Mitchell, seconded by Board Member **female voice**, to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. No objection. So ordered.

- A. April Board Meeting Minutes (attachment)-** Board Member Medina found an error from the minutes of the April Board Meeting. In the Board Member Announcements section, April 30<sup>th</sup> had been recorded as "The City of Gardena's 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday," when it was actually the City's 25<sup>th</sup> Cinco de Mayo Celebration Parade. Chair Mitchell found that Rob Beste's name had been misspelled as well. The recording secretary apologized for the oversight and sent the revised minutes which reflect these changes to Jacki Bacharach on May 27, 2011. Approve
- B. Memorandum of Understanding with Los Angeles County for Participation in the California Long Term Energy Strategic Plan Program** (attachment) - Approve
- C. Measure R South Bay Hwy Program Phase 1 No-net-change Task and Budget Reallocation within Iteris Contract** (attachment) - Approve
- D. Support for AB 1312 (Smyth) and Legislative status** (attachment) – Approve
- E. Nominating Committee Report** (attachment) – Jacki Bacharach said that El Segundo is currently an inactive city. Unless an El Segundo delegate attends the Board Meeting in July, the City cannot have a representative on the SBCCOG's Steering Committee. Approve
- F. 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financial Report** (attachments) – Receive and File

### **PRESENTATION**

- A. Lessons Learned for Southern California from Recent Major Earthquakes in Chile & Japan - Presentation by Debbie Weiser, geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey**

Ms. Weiser is currently working towards her Ph.D. in Geology at UCLA. She also works for the US Geological Survey and explained the fundamentals of seismology and the possible damage that (Southern) California can experience from future earthquakes. She explained that living in a basin and close to a fault (like in Southern California) will ensure longer and more damaging shaking, but that the Pacific Plate boundaries of Southern California do not have the type of earthquake fault associated with the vertical motion that causes large tsunamis. Our fault is on land, not off shore. Ms. Weiser spoke of the "Great California Shakeout" which is an annual statewide earthquake-preparedness drill that is to occur on October 20, 2011. The drill is based on scientists' predictions of what would occur during and after a magnitude-7.8 earthquake along the San Andreas Fault. Ms. Weiser said that people need to make the distinction between a moderate disaster and an unthinkable catastrophe. She encouraged policy makers to work with fire departments and community residents to prepare for such an earthquake. She compared the results of the Chilean and Japanese earthquakes to the projected damage that Southern California could face and emphasized that mental and moral support will also be needed besides financial support. Since California is a multi-hazard state (landslides, fires, floods, and earthquakes) there must be a widespread distribution

of communication, transportation and access, water pressure, hospital functionality, and staffing, following a catastrophic earthquake. Ms. Weiser showed how to make use of [www.Myharzards.calema.ca.gov](http://www.Myharzards.calema.ca.gov), which calculates how much damage an area could experience. Jeff Kiernan of the League of California Cities asked if small earthquakes release energy and decrease the chance for a large earthquake. Ms. Wesier said that while this might be true, damage can be occurring elsewhere, so it is not safe to rule out a serious earthquake. Board Member Goodhart asked if California's building codes are going to be upgraded to prepare for "The Big One" and Ms. Wesier said that it takes a long time to upgrade codes and that she was unsure of how the government intends to carry this out. She said that building codes are meant to save lives, not to keep buildings standing after an earthquake. Board Member Medina asked about the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, and if the generators are high enough to avoid being damaged, as the Fukushima generators were in Japan. Chair Mitchell said that the plant's protective measures include a reinforced tsunami wall 30 feet above sea level, erected between the plant and the adjacent ocean.

**B. Draft 2011-2012 Budget (attachments)**

**For review – to be adopted at the June meeting**

Jacki Bacharach gave a brief description of the draft budget on page 25 of the attachment packet. She said that it is not for adoption yet; the Steering Committee must approve it and then it will come back on the Consent Calendar of the June Board Meeting Agenda. Suzanne Charles of the SBCCOG was present to answer any questions. The SBCCOG has absorbed into the budget, a service that was retracted (charging cities a stipend to view salaries and comparables on a special website.) The SBCCOG has lowered the assessment for Climate Action Planning by twenty-five percent. Invoices have already gone out for assessments approved by Steering Committee. The SBCCOG is now using its reserved funds. Unforeseen income is usually received but that did not happen this year. The Board should anticipate the SBCCOG taking some overhead in applying for grants. This issue is going to come to Steering Committee on June 13, 2011.

**TRANSPORTATION REPORT**

**A. Metro Board member report by Mike Bohlke**

Mr. Bohlke gave the following highlights from the Metro Board meeting on May 26, 2011:

He distributed the Fiscal Responsibility Policy for Measure R Capital Project Contingency Funds, which states that financing must not adversely impact second and third-decade projects. It will ensure that escalation money is available from a contingency fund as projects become live.

The Proposed FY 2012 Budget for \$4,145 million dollars was passed.

The RIDLEY-THOMAS MOTION regarding the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor (Leimert Park/Vernon Station and Undergrounding of Park Mesa Heights) did not pass. The Second Supervisorial District advocated for redirecting monies to fund the inclusion of a Leimert Park/Vernon Station and undergrounding the segment of the Crenshaw Line from 48th to 59th Streets by having the project included in the baseline. The Metro Board voted down the undergrounding but does support a Leimert Station, provided that the bids for Preliminary Engineering come in under \$1.7 million dollars. The Metro Board is already losing Federal and State funds for Measure R and felt that it was best to include this project after savings become secured. Mr. Bohlke brought a copy of this motion and stated that the vote was 9 to 3. Chair Mitchell commented that she read that Leimert Station would be less than a mile from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Station. Mr. Bohlke responded that the aforementioned motion included a possible retrofitted at-grade (G) station at 48<sup>th</sup> Street, as a compromise.

The 405 closure is scheduled for July 16 and 17, 2011. Metro anticipates a backup of 28 miles in both directions. Board Member Medina inquired how Metro plans to promote this closing of the 405 and mitigate the anticipated backup. Mr. Bohlke said that press conferences and radio broadcasts will soon occur, in addition to amber alert signage and the press release posted on Metro's website.

The Green Line extension EIR is on schedule. The Administrative Review is scheduled for August of 2011.

**B. Metro Governance Council report by Ralph Franklin, Chair**

Board Member Goodhart gave the report as Board Member Franklin was unable to attend the meeting. The current contract between Metro's South Bay Regional Council and the Carson Community Center expires in July. Monthly meetings are held there, but attendance has been low because the Community Center is difficult to get to from bus stops and other modes of public transportation. 3 new meeting sites are being investigated: Torrance City Hall, Gardena Transit, and Inglewood City Hall. Regarding the Artesia Transit Center, the portable restrooms have already been defaced!! There is the possibility of changing the name of the Artesia Transit Center because there is also a Blue Line station named Artesia. Jacki Bacharach inquired if Metro is requesting suggestions for the station's new name and Board Member Goodhart said that he does not know how Metro plans to move forward on this yet.

**C. Measure R Update**

Steve Lantz, Transportation Consultant to the SBCCOG, reported that over the last month, the SBCCOG has been working closely with Metro on a draft of the funding agreement, and it was given to the SBCCOG's Infrastructure Working Group on May 25, 2011. The SBCCOG has also resolved the last of the outstanding issues of duplication concerns. The county will allow the SBCCOG to re-scope the ITS projects. Doug Failing, former Caltrans District Director and Metro's current Executive Director of Highway Programs, expressed an interest in assisting the SBCCOG with this, to better coordinate Caltrans', cities', and Metro's needs. An example is the integration of sophisticated fiber optic information systems in cities and on PCH, which will make traffic control more efficient. Viggen Davidian of Iteris, Inc. emphasized the coordination that is necessary when reconfiguring traffic signal systems in a multi-jurisdictional region. He said that enhancing existing systems to maximize traffic efficiency needs to be a region-wide cooperation from the County, cities, and the COGs that are affected. Mr. Lantz continued by saying that the Executive Committee of the Infrastructure Working Group reviewed the policies that drove the first draft of the implementation plan and Iteris was asked to restructure it. Mr. Lantz concluded by speaking about cross containment. He said that in the implementation plan there is an annual process which identifies accurate estimates of project costs. Some of the project estimates are outdated. The Infrastructure Working Group will insert this new requirement of updated cost-estimates before projects are added to the plan. MTA is using the SBCCOG's program as a pilot as a new way to manage projects. Doug Failing wants to make sure that the SBCCOG is monitoring the progress of projects and their risk analysis each month. Cities need to prepare a risk register before a project is started (insurance, engineering drawings, transferring appropriate risks to contractors, etc.). Mr. Failing is going to put together a format and cities will report their financials quarterly. Mr. Lantz said that money becomes available on July 1, 2011 and Chair Mitchell asked if the SBCCOG will be the first in line to receive Measure R money. Viggen Davidian said that a project in Glendale beat the SBCCOG to the front of the line but the magnitude of that project (Fairmont Av Grade Separation at San Fernando Road) is incomparable to any South Bay cities Measure R projects.

**SOUTH BAY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CENTER UPDATES (attachment)**

**A. Update on current programs and activities**

Marilyn Lyon, Program Manager for the South Bay Environmental Services Center, submitted a written report. The current list of SBESC events was distributed, along with more Energy Upgrade California brochures. Ms. Lyon reported that Los Angeles County is announcing a summer enhancement of \$2,000 until Labor Day. The County is also launching Energy Champions, a fundraising opportunity for non-profits. Board Member Medina asked if there is an electronic version of the brochure for Energy Upgrade California. Ms. Lyon said that she would procure electronic brochures, and mentioned the capability of branding the brochures with each city's logo. She requested that anyone who was interested contact her directly.

**BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Medina- Gardena Cinco de Mayo Car Show Fundraiser on June 11, 2011 from 10am to 2pm at the Normandie Casino

### **SBCCOG UPDATE AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **A. SB 375 status**

Jacki Bacharach said that much discussion at SCAG has revolved around the Regional Transportation Plan. She said that the SBCCOG has been talking to planning committees and technical working groups about performance measures. Both the Gateway and Orange County Council of Governments took delegation of the SBCCOG's Sustainable Communities Strategy and have submitted drafts strategies of their regions. Lastly, Ms. Bacharach mentioned SCAG's involvement with Regional Housing Needs Assessments (RHNA) and highlighted the City of Hermosa Beach's example of replacement housing being built in commercial zones.

#### **B. LUV update**

Ms. Bacharach reported that the SBCCOG will host its second focus group for LUV testers on June 7, 2011. She said that she received a white paper draft today about lessons learned about the LUV Program.

### **AGENCY REPORTS**

#### **A. League of California Cities (Jeffrey Kiernan)**

Mr. Kiernan received word that a move to pass a bill through assembly to abolish Redevelopment may occur on May 26, 2011. He encouraged the South Bay Cities to take a support position on Rod Wright's SB 286 (CRA's package of redevelopment reform measures.) Mr. Kiernan also mentioned several action alerts: oppose AB 438, support SB 184, oppose AB 1087, oppose AB 455. He concluded by stating that the hot-bill list updates was sent to city managers on May 26, 2011.

#### **B. South Coast Air Quality Management District (Judy Mitchell & Stan Myles)**

Mr. Myles submitted a list of upcoming meetings and timeline regarding the Draft AQMD Energy Policy. He also distributed a brochure called *Financial Incentives for Purchasing Lower-Emission Heavy-Duty Engines*. Mr. Myles thanked the City of Inglewood for allowing SCAQMD to hold on of its Go Green Expos and Lawnmower Exchanges at Hollywood Park. Mr. Myles concluded by stating that at the SBCCOG Board meeting in June, the CEO of SCAQMD, Mr. Barry Wallerstein, will be in attendance.

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

Mr. Horton said that SCAG in the middle of planning three workshops for July. He reported that at SCAG's General Assembly that was held on May 5, profiles of cities in the SCAG region were produced for display, and if any city would like their profile, please let him know. Jacki Bacharach added that SBCCOG website also posted the profiles.

#### **D. South Bay Workforce Investment Board (John Parsons)**

Mr. Parsons distributed the SBWIB's Third Quarter Summary for 2010-2011. He promoted the SBWIB's STEM Symposium at CSU Dominguez Hills on June. Mr. Parsons reported that approximately 1,000 high school students would be in attendance, as well as 50 business, including SBESC. He spoke also of the high school intern that the SBWIB has provided to the SBESC.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Jacki Bacharach: The next Brown Bag Seminar with Attorney, Mike Jenkins, will occur on June 9.
- Jacki Bacharach: On June 22, 2011, the Los Angeles Section of the American Planning Association will be awarding the South Bay Sustainable Strategy with a 2011 Comprehensive Plan, Large Jurisdiction 'Award of Merit' for this project. The location will be the Egyptian theater in Hollywood, and Ms. Bacharach said that she had one extra ticket if anyone was interested in attending.
- Jacki Bacharach: On July 14, the SBCCOG will host a Legislative Breakfast for elected officials and field deputies of Legislative offices. Location TBA.

- Jacki Bacharach: There will be a Climate Action Planning workshop on July 19, 2011, where a toolbox of measures for CAP improvements will be available. Location TBA.

**JUNE SBCCOG COMMITTEE MEETINGS & WORKING GROUPS**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Next meeting – Thursday, June 23, 2011. There being no further business, the meeting was ordered adjourned by Chair Mitchell at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy Hiratzka  
Recording Secretary