



WESTSIDE CITIES

- BEVERLY HILLS
- CULVER CITY
- LOS ANGELES
- SANTA MONICA
- WEST HOLLYWOOD
- COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Date: March 19, 2009

To: Chair and Members of the Governing Board,
Westside Cities Council of Governments

From: Gordon R. Anderson, Interim Executive Director

Subject: Executive Director/Facilitator’s Report #17

A. AB 32 & SB 375

I attended several meetings on AB32 and SB375 conducted by different agencies, most notable The League of California Cities (The League). The following link (<http://www.cacities.org/index.jsp?displaytype=11&story=27615>) is to video discussions of AB32 and SB375 along with the presentation material provided by The League on its website under [Climate Change & SB375 Updates](#).

The COG Sustainability Committee is beginning to discuss both these pieces of legislation. The Committee will endeavor to highlight issues of importance to the individual Westside cities and seek to identify opportunities for the Westside cities along with neighboring COGs to identify and work together on joint projects. For example, the COG Sustainability will be brought into discussions that have begun with the South Bay COG (SBCOG) and the City of Santa Monica and City of Culver City on a grant application the SBCOG is developing to the AQMD to fund a demonstration project to explore the cost-effectiveness of using medium speed electric vehicles for short, “local” trips taken in a community. The SBCOG would like the WSCCOG to jointly submit and coordinate the efforts in the Westside communities.

B. STIMULUS PACKAGE CLARIFICATON AND PROJECT READINESS

Each of the Westside cities is working with Metro on understanding the Stimulus Package and clarification on the funds. The COG has informed Metro staff that it is not prepared to take on the role of coordination or a clearinghouse, if you will, for this effort, as is being done in other COGs. However, I have asked to remain informed and when every necessary I will coordinate discussions among the Westside cities, for example, the COG Transportation Technical group coordinated with Metro on the Call For Projects 2009 for a presentation that included all the key Call For Projects 2009 staff at Metro that was held in Culver City last month.

It is already known that project readiness is an important requirement of the Stimulus Package. We also recognize that partnerships on projects in the future will enhance our ability to get things important to the Westside funded, this will is especially key on energy and sustainability funds that will become available from State energy efficiency funding, the PUC and Edison.

C. MEMBERSHIPS -- ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

Last year, the COG Executive Director was directed to look into the COG becoming a member of ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability ([ICLEI](#)). The COG has been informed that COGs cannot become members of ICLEI as this time, “as they are not local governments.” However, ICLEI hope to have something to offer COGs in the near future. It is not clear if that will include membership or just technical services packages for COGs.

This determination is different from the information the COG’s previous executive director received from ICLEI. I will continue efforts to gain clarity on COG membership in the organization.