



## WESTSIDE CITIES

· BEVERLY HILLS  
· CULVER CITY  
· LOS ANGELES  
· SANTA MONICA  
· WEST HOLLYWOOD

Westside Cities Transportation Committee

Thursday, June 14, 2007 9:30 a.m.

**Location:** Beverly Hills City Hall  
Room G30C (Ground Floor)  
455 No. Rexford Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210

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## Meeting Notes (Approved 7/19)

### I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m. by Beverly Hills Council Member and Committee Co-Chair Linda Briskman

### II. Follow-up to COG Meeting of 5/31:

#### A. Green Line to LAX: (1) Project Update; (2) Referral Back to the Committee for Alternative Language to the Suggested Condition RE project funding.

The purpose of the agenda item and referral back to the Committee from the Board was noted.

Norm Kulla noted it had been a pleasure to work with David Lightner of the City of Beverly Hills and said he was gifted at crafting of language to solve problems/concerns.

The final language agreed to as slightly modified at the Committee meeting and to be shared with the City managers/City Staff later that day was:

- 1. That the Green Line to LAX project is prioritized as project number four. Priorities one, two and three are the Exposition Light Rail Line to Santa Monica; Westside Subway Extension; and the I-10/Robertson/National Area Circulation Improvement Project;*
- 2. That new funding sources be sought for the Green Line to LAX project so this project does not compete for or shift funding or other resources from the Westside COG's top three priorities as listed above; and*
- 3. That the Green Line to LAX project includes discussion of its connections and benefit to the Westside Cities in its advocacy documents.*

Kate Vernez confirmed the focus was on LAX not the Torrance leg.

Mr. Kulla introduced Patrick Tomcheck of LAWA (Los Angeles International Airport). Mr. Tomcheck advised that at Council Member's Rosendahl's request a technical task force including had been resurrected including representatives from the LA City

Council, Metro, FAA, LAWA; that they had met four times and would likely meet 2-3 more times in the near future. He said the group was looking at 11 alternatives including a tunnel from the Aviation station. He said LAWA can only spend money on airport property: if can fund the proposed people mover within the airport, but not getting the Green Line to the “people mover”. He said a matrix was being developed to focus on usability but that this analysis will not preclude other alternatives.

Jody Hall Esser inquired whether or not a proportional share of project cost for improvements beyond the airport LAX property could be born by the FAA if the impact and use of streets/systems by passengers and employees access/egress to the airport could be established. Mr. Tomcheck agreed that the FAA could fund improvements beyond LAX if they agree to do so.

Co-chair Briskman reiterated the Board Chair’s request that the City of Los Angeles provide additional/supportive information, specifically: “any/all supportive data, documentation available including funding estimates/sources and ridership estimates”, to facilitate member cities’ consideration of adding the Green Line to the COG’s list of priority transportation and infrastructure improvement projects. Mr. Kulla said he understood the request and information would be forthcoming.

Staff members were asked to coordinate agendizing this item for member city consideration with the availability of the packet of supportive data to be made available by Norm Kulla. Mrs. Esser noted that if the information was not forthcoming shortly, the COG Board would not be able to consider member city feedback until the Board meeting in September.

**B. Westside Subway Extension Project: (1) Project Update; (2) Next Steps for Confirming Member City Support for Project.**

Jody Litvak was asked to clarify whether there was a problem with the COG referring to the project as a “subway” project. She said no and that while metro had not settled on a mode of transportation, if the COG felt a subway was the most approach, it should represent that point of view in its reference to the project and related materials.

She also clarified that the schedule calls for the Board to narrow alternatives in 2008, environmental analysis to follow.

Brief discussion took place between Co-chair Briskman and Westside Metro Representative O’Connor regarding the COG’s presence at future Metro Board meetings. Ms. O’Connor noted that presence at the upcoming Planning and Program Committee meeting was advised. Co-Chair Briskman requested Representative O’Connor keep the Sub-committee and COG Board advise of any/all meetings where presence would be timely and useful to further COG projects. Representative O’Connor committed to do so.

Terri Slimmer advised that the West Hollywood City Council would be considering the suggested support language/process previously referred to COG member cities by the Board, at their meeting of June 18<sup>th</sup>. She was requested and agreed to copy the other cities so reports/agenda items would be coordinated and similar.

### III. Exposition Light Rail Project Update

Kate Vernez reported that Assemblyman Waxman's staff was optimistic about securing support for the one-to-one match and that the Assembly Committee had accepted the concept for both the Gold Line and Expo projects.

### IV. Pending Legislation – AB 889 (Lieu) Green Line Authority; Status of Long Range Transportation Plan Process; AB 922 (Levine) Regional Planning Corridor; Bond Measures and Governor's Proposed Budget

Jason Weiner, WEC, inquired as to whether there had been any movement/change in the expected schedule for the Long Range Transportation Plan. Pam O'Connor advised there had not been the anticipated late summer schedule had not changed.

Jay Greenstein (CD5), briefed the members regarding progress on AB 922 (Levine). He said the bill had passed the State Assembly on June 5<sup>th</sup> with bi-partisan support. He advised his office might be looking to the COG for support and that bi-partisan support was largely the result of the fact that funding to carve out statistics for the regional planning corridor proposed would be largely absorbed by the City of Los Angeles.

Jody Litvak alerted attendees that the state budget situation was deteriorating with continued efforts mounting to grab transportation funds. She said a detailed briefing on the situation would be forthcoming to the cities before the day was out and urged contact with legislators and the Governor.

### V. Recommended Advocacy Efforts

Jody Hall Esser, Executive Director suggested, and Co-chair Briskman concurred that an overall policy framework and specific guidance regarding transportation COG priority projects be sought from the Board to facilitate advocacy efforts.

Co-Chair Briskman requested preparation of an "advocacy packet": a white folder with a printed label of the COG logo; a cover letter, and fact sheets on priority transportation projects. This packet to be a guide/reminder for COG Members and to be left with legislators.

Co-Chair Briskman inquired about printing of business cards for COG members. Kate Vernez noted Santa Monica had volunteered to print such in-house and that she was working on a common layout. She noted contact information would be through representatives/alternates home cities.

Co-Chair Briskman suggested a visit with the LA City Mayor as she noted a Transportation Delegation had not visited with him in a while. She suggested the Delegation would look to Council Member Pam O'Connor for strategic guidance to prepare for and time this meeting.

### VI. Next Steps, Confirmation of Future Meeting Dates and Future Agenda Items

Tentatively set dates for future meetings were discussed: August 9, October 11 and December 13. It was noted that the Aug. date needed to be moved. A Monday date was suggested –selected Monday to be confirmed.

Meeting times to stay at 9:30 a.m. at present.

VII. Public Comment RE Items Not On the Agenda

A Westwood to LAX Flyaway brochure was distributed. The service adds a third pick-up location, Union Station, Van Nuys and now Westwood with service to start June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Allyn Rifkin presented an overview of a study regarding converting Olympic and Pico to one-way streets from downtown to the ocean. He noted plans to follow-up on this study by convening a technical staff committee and to pursue funding for a “corridor management study”. He offered to make give a PowerPoint presentation to the COG Governing Board on the project.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM.

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**Meeting Attendance:**

Linda Briskman Council Member City of Beverly Hills and Committee Co-Chair

Pam O'Connor Council Member, City of Santa Monica and Westside Metro Board Representative

Jody Hall Esser Executive Director WSCCOG

Beverly Hills: Aaron Kunz, David Lightner

Culver City: Shelly Wolfberg, Diana Chang

Los Angeles: Norm Kulla (CD11); Jay Greenstein (CD5); Patrick Tomcheck (LAWA)

Santa Monica: Kate Vernez, Ellen Gelbard

West Hollywood: Terri Slimmer

Other: Jody Litvak (Metro); Jason Weiner (WEC); Allyn Rifkin (Consultant)