



## **WESTSIDE CITIES**

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

## **REGULAR MEETING OF THE WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

### **Revised/Approved Meeting Notes**

**Thursday September 20, 2007**

**Hosted By: City of West Hollywood**

11:45 AM Lunch  
12:15 PM Business Meeting

Plummer Park Community Center  
Room 6  
7377 Santa Monica Boulevard  
West Hollywood, CA 90046

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Beverly Hills:** Council Member Linda J. Briskman. Staff: Rod Wood, Katie Lichtig, David Lightner, Scott Miller, Cheryl Friedling, Aaron Kunz, Maria Rychlicki, Daniel Cartagena
- Culver City:** Council Member Scott Malsin. Staff: Jerry Fulwood, Steve Cunningham, Shelly Wolfberg, Bill LaPointe,
- Santa Monica:** Mayor Richard Bloom, Council member Kevin McKeown. Staff: Gordon Anderson
- West Hollywood:** Council Member John Heilman. Staff: Paul Arevalo, Joan English, David Wilson, Lisa Belsanti
- Los Angeles:** Council Member Bill Rosendahl. Staff: John Wickham (Office of the Legislative Analyst), Norman Kulla (CD11), Jay Greenstein (CD5), Stephen Cheung (Mayor's Office), Jenn Ma-Pham (CD11)
- Other Attendees:** Jody Hall Esser (Executive Director/Facilitator)  
Michael Jenkins, Counsel to the COG

Pam O'Connor (Metro Chair), Laurie Newmen (State Senator Sheila Kuehl), Flora Gil Krisiloff (Supervisor Yaroslavsky), Jody Litvak (Metro), Claudette Moody (Deputy to Metro 1<sup>st</sup> Chair O'Connor), Ann Marie Wallace (League of CA Cities), Christine Jerian (SCAG), Samantha O'Neil (SM Chamber), Jason Weiner (Westside Economic Collaborative), Peter Indall (Intern West Hollywood)

**1. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME**

The meeting was called to order at 12 noon. Council member John Heilman welcomed those in attendance to Plummer Park and commented on the multipurpose nature of the facility.

**2. INTRODUCTIONS AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT**

All present participated in self introductions. Voting members present were identified as Chair/Council Member Briskman (BH); Mayor Bloom (SM); Council Member Heilman (WeHo); Council Member Rosendahl (LA); and Council Member Scott Malsin (CC).

**3. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION:**

Michael Jenkins, Counsel to the COG advised that the agendaized Closed Session items were to be continued to the Board meeting in November.

**4. RECONVENE: APPROVAL July 19, 2007 MEETING NOTES**

Council Member Heilman moved and Council Member Malsin seconded approval of the July 19, 2007 Meeting Notes as corrected to reflect that Norman Kulla was present at the meeting. The motion passed with 4 members voting yes and 1 member (Bloom) abstaining as he was not present at the meeting in July.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**(A) Confirmation of Mr. Joe Stitcher as the WSCCOG's Third Representative to the Westside/Central Service Sector Governance Council**

**(B) Executive Director/Facilitator's Report.**

It was moved by Council Member Heilman and seconded by Council Member Malsin to approve the Consent Calendar; the motion passed unanimously.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**(A) Receipt and File of Draft Independent Auditor's Report for FY 2006-07, Draft Representation Letter and Draft SAS 112 Letter of No Material Weakness**

The Chair called for questions: there were none. It was moved by Council Member Heilman and seconded by Council Member Malsin to Receive and File the Draft Audit for FY 2006-07 and related documents and to return final

documents to the Board for receipt and file in November. The motion passed unanimously.

**(B) Authorization to Augment Salary of the Deputy to the Southwest Corridor Representative/Metro Board Chair**

Mrs. Hall Esser provided a summary of the staff report and attachments. It was moved by Council member Heilman and seconded by Mayor Bloom to: Approve the recommended increase to the compensation of the Deputy to the Southwest Corridor Representative/Metro Board Chair, for the 2007-08 fiscal year, from the current \$73,288 received from the MTA to \$100,000;

1. Agree that the increase be divided between the South Bay and Westside Cities Council of Governments by percentage of population in the combined COG areas with the South Bay cities contributing \$21,117 and the Westside Cities contributing \$5,585;
2. Approve an amendment to the WSCCOG Budget for the 2006-07 FY to include \$5,585 for the WSCCOG's share of the increase salary for the Deputy; and
3. Agree that compensation for the 2008-09 FY be revisited as part of the WSCCOG's 2008-09 Budget deliberations.

The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**(C) Continued Discussion RE Whether to Retain with Current Committee Assignments or Change Representation on Standing WSCCOG Committees**

The concept, carried over from the previous meeting so that all member cities might have representatives present, was discussed at some length. It was noted that with the County of Los Angeles joining the COG, Committees could be increased to three members. The Members agreed with Council member Malsin that it is important to provide an opportunity for all members to become familiar with and to participate in Committee proceedings. Council members Heilman and Rosendahl and Mayor Bloom expressed their preference for volunteer rather than forced rotation of Committee members. Chair Briskman suggested the opportunity to serve be pointedly raised at the COG's Annual Meeting. It was agreed by consensus that committee membership would continue on a volunteer basis and that the opportunity/importance of all Board Members becoming familiar with Committee issues would be highlighted by the staff/Executive Director whenever Committee assignments/membership is agendaized.

**(D) Proposed Meeting With Senator Boxer to Discuss “Federal Assistance” Needed to Address Homeless Issues**

Mayor Bloom provided background regarding a discussion that had taken place at the August Homeless Issues Committee Meeting with Corey Jackson, Field Deputy to Senator Boxer, and Mr. Jackson’s following up with him and Jody Hall Esser.

Council Member Heilman questioned whether the issues discussed should be expanded if the proposed meeting takes place. A summit including Senators Boxer and Feinstein as well as the Westside’s representatives to the US House of Representatives was suggested.

Chair Briskman suggested a small but informal meeting with the selected elected representatives.

Mayor Bloom expressed his desire to specifically address transportation and homeless issues. He suggested a two-pronged approach be pursued: 1) a meeting with senior staff in the Senators and US Representatives offices while we also; 2) move forward to arrange a meeting with Senator Boxer.

Council Member Malsin suggested adding a field tour to the meeting with senior staff.

With regards to a specific project to present to the Senator for federal assistance, Flora Gil Krisiloff suggested that the spring 2007 briefing packet prepared by LA City and LA County and presented to the Congressional Delegation in Washington D.C. would provide a valuable base for discussion. The members concurred.

By consensus, the Members unanimously agreed to refer details regarding arranging both a meeting and field tour with COG Board members and senior (US Senate and House of Representatives) staff be referred to the City Managers/Executive Management and Facilitator; that details regarding a proposed specific project to present to Senator Boxer be referred to the Homeless Issues Committee; that project recommendations be returned to the Board for consideration; and that a meeting with the Senator be arranged to present same.

**(E) Status Report RE Adopting A WSCCOG 2007-08 Legislative Agenda**

Mrs. Hall Esser summarized the staff report prepared for this item and noted a status report update would be on the Board agenda in November.

**(F) Status Report RE Revising the WSCCOG Work Program for 2007-08**

Mrs. Hall Esser summarized the staff report prepared for this item and noted a status report update would be on the Board agenda in November.

**(G) Authorization to Amend the Agreement with Mary JoAnne “Jody” Hall Esser to provide Facilitation Services through December 31, 2007; and**

**(H) Approval of Revised Annual Budget for FY 2007-08**

Michael Jenkins, Counsel to the COG advised that the cover sheet for the September agenda did not include these two agenda items but that full staff reports for these items had been distributed with the agenda packets and posted on the COG’s website.

He advised the purpose of this item was to ensure staffing/facilitation services to the Board while the recruitment process for a new Executive Director continues; and to amend the budget, within funds available, to reflect payment for the continued services.

It was moved by Council Member Malsin and seconded by Council Member Rosendahl:

1. That the Governing Board authorize the Chair to execute an amendment to the agreement between Mary JoAnne (“Jody”) Hall Esser and the Westside Cities Council of Governments;
2. That the agreement provide for an increase in maximum fee of \$16, 500 including a revised fee of \$2500 per month for the months of October 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007, plus an additional maximum of \$500 for reimbursables and \$1000 for special hourly services;
3. That the agreement will terminate after one-month’s overlap to provide transition assistance to the new Executive Director, exhaustion of authorized fee or notice of contract termination as provided in the contract for services executed on September 21, 2006, whichever comes first; and
4. That in all other respects, all other provisions of the 2007 (existing) agreement shall be included in the amended agreement.
5. That the Board approve an amendment to the WSCCOG Annual Budget for FY 2007-08 to increase Facilitation Services to be provided by JHE Services to \$16, 500.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

## **7. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **(A) August Meeting Notes, Report and Recommendations from the COG Homeless Issues Committee**

Mayor Bloom summarized the Notes from the August meeting of the Homeless Issues Committee. He called on Council Member McKeown to assist in providing context to the agenda item involving a dialogue with safety service providers serving the homeless. Council Member McKeown noted that the item had originally be agendized out of concern for better understanding the services/interaction of safety service personnel and to better understand where local government needs to place additional resources.

### **(B) MTA Southwest Cities Corridor and Westside Central Service Sector Report.**

Pam O'Connor, Metro Board Chair, advised that the first meeting of Metro's Ad-Hoc Congestion Pricing Committee was held. This committee, one of two created during her tenure as chair, will look at innovative, yet achievable ways to address congestion issues in Los Angeles County. Metro Director and Duarte Mayor John Fasana is chairman and the Committee members include Metro Director David Fleming and Metro Director/Supervisor Michael Antonovich. Ms. O'Connor will also sit in on meetings.

She noted that Congestion Pricing is an issue on a fast timeline for the Board. It is hoped that a Technical Feasibility Study will begin within the next few months and be completed within a year. Committee members want to ensure that this issue is fully discussed by all stakeholders. She urged the COG to consider arranging for a presentation on Metro efforts in this regard within next few months. She noted that a recent Texas Transportation Institute Study on traffic identifies Los Angeles County as the most congested metropolitan area in the country.

Ms. O'Connor advised that the first meeting of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Sustainability will take place next week. This meeting, on September 26, from 12:30 to 2, will look at what Metro is doing now and ways the agency can improve on issues raised by AB 32. She advised that she has asked Big Blue Bus to represent the Municipal Operators on the Committee and hopes to have a representative from the South Bay cities on the Committee as well.

Ms. O'Connor advised that on day one of two days of meetings underway by standing Metro Committees, the Planning and Programming Committee proposed changing the way in which the reimbursement to operators for the EZ Pass is calculated. Operators will either benefit from this change or receive the same amount as previously. The bottom line, no one loses. The item passed

the Committee and will most likely be considered on the Consent Calendar at next week's Board meeting on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. O'Connor advised that earlier in the day, a Metro Security Board Workshop was conducted. The workshop reviewed the current Metro Contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, recent recommendations from an APTA Peer Review Panel, and recommendations from staff on a path forward for security services for Metro. She noted that the Sheriff's Department contract expires next year.

Lastly, Ms. O'Connor noted that the regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on September 27, 9:30 a.m. That meeting will include deliberations on the 2007 funding of the Call for Projects.

Jody Feerst Litvak, Metro Regional Communications, noted that an additional Rapid Bus providing service on Olympic Boulevard from downtown to Century City would commence in early December.

Jody Hall Esser noted that as a result of recent changes to the COG's representation on the Westside/Central Service Sector Governance Council, arrangements are being made to ensure regular reports on Sector meetings.

### **(C) August Meeting Notes, Report and Recommendations from the COG Transportation Committee**

Chair Briskman summarized the Meeting Notes from the August meeting of the Transportation Committee. She also distributed and called attention to the "leave behind" WSCCOG Transportation Priority Projects Advocacy Packet prepared at the direction of the Committee; and invited all electeds to attend future Committee meetings.

Jody Hall Esser noted that the August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting notes would be revised to reflect that Shelly Wolfberg was not at the meeting; and that consideration of amended conditions of support for adding the Green Line to LAX to the COG's list of priority transportation projects was continued to the Committee's meeting in October so that representatives of the City of Los Angeles could be present.

### **(D) Intergovernmental Relations:**

#### **(1) League of California Cities Briefing on State Fiscal and Legislative Issues**

Ann Marie Wallace, league of CA Cities, thanked Michael Jenkins, Counsel to the COG for his voluntary service to the League for the past two years. She provided two handouts for receive and file and highlighted AB 414 (Jones), AB (70) Jones, disbursement of Prop 1B funds and commented on ACA8.

- (2) Pending Legislation Including Update Regarding SB886 Increasing Municipal Representation on SCAQMD Board; Request for WSCCOG Position on SB375 RE MPO's to develop growth scenario within RTP's and deny transportation funding eligibility projects not aligned with scenario.**

Claudette Moody reported on the status of SB 886. Jody Hall Esser noted that the City of Beverly Hills had requested COG member cities carefully review and take action on SB375 and copy the other member cities on any action taken.

- 8. RECEIVE/ FILE AND PROVIDE DIRECTION RE: CORRESPONDENCE**
- A. BH Council Meeting Minutes Reconfirming Support for Westside Subway Extension Project: See Agenda Item F-14**
  - B. West Hollywood Resolution Reconfirming Support for Westside Subway Extension Project**
  - C. SM Council Meeting Minutes Reconfirming Support for Westside Subway Extension Project: See Agenda Item 1-G**
  - D. CC Council Meeting Minutes Reconfirming Support for Westside Subway Extension Project**
  - E. Letter from Upward Bound**
  - F. Budget Report July 31, 2007; Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for August 31, 2007; Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for August 31, 2007; and Budget Report for August 31, 2007. and**
  - G. Letter from Jennifer Ma-Pham to Jody Hall Esser RE Prop. 63 Distribution**
  - H. Briskman Letter to O'Connor**
  - I. Briskman Letter to Bloom**
  - J. Briskman Letter to Ghielmetti**
  - K. Leave Behind WSCCOG Transportation and Infrastructure Priority Projects Advocacy packets**
  - L. League of Ca Cities "Legislative Session Winds Down" hand out**
  - M. League of CA Cities Sample letter to the Governor Requesting a Veto of AB 414**

Moved by Malsin, seconded by Bloom and unanimously approved to receive and file all documents presented.

**9. EVENT REMINDER AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jody Litvak reminded all of upcoming Westside Transit Corridor Scoping Sessions and the November 1 closure of the public comment period.

Council Member Malsin noted an upcoming event celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Culver City. Council member Malsin noted that Carol Gross, Culver City Vice Mayor and Alternate to the Board was not at the meeting because she was attending an RTP Land Use Workshop session being conducted by SCAG. He commented on the importance of the RTP and the COG's attention to this document/process.

Chair/Council Member Briskman noted that the City of Santa Monica had passed an Ordinance banning smoking in all outdoor dining establishments and thanked the City of West Hollywood for setting an example for all to consider in this regard.

Council Member McKeown announced that copies of the City of Santa Monica's Sustainable City Progress Report Card are available. Mayor Bloom added that this self assessment has revealed that the City has made progress in some areas and that there are others where much improvement can be made.

## **10. DISCUSSION RE CALENDARING OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

### **(A) Confirmation future COG meeting dates and locations:**

<b>November 15, 2007</b>	<b>Beverly Hills</b>
<b>January 17, 2008</b>	<b>Culver City (Date TBD)</b>
<b>March 2008</b>	<b>Los Angeles (Date TBD)</b>
<b>May 2008</b>	<b>Santa Monica (Date TBD)</b>

### **(B) Items for future agendas:**

#### **(1) November 15, 2007 Meeting**

- (a) Continued Discussion RE Topics, Timing and Location of an Annual Issues Conference**
- (b) Recommendation from Transportation Committee RE Revised Conditions of Support for Addition of Green Line to LAX as Number Four on the WSCCOG's List of Transportation and Infrastructure Improvement Projects.**
- (c) Approval of Revised By-laws**
- (d) Presentation on Homeless Community Court Pilot Project**
- (e) Establish Board and Committee Meeting Dates for 2008 Calendar Year**

#### **(2) Future Meetings**

- (a) January 2008: Action of Member Cities RE Addition of Green Line to LAX as Number Four on the WSCCOG's**

**List of Transportation and Infrastructure Improvement Projects.**

(b) ***Spring 2008***: Discussion and Q&A with COG Counsel RE Form 700's due March 31.

The Chair called for comments, suggested changes and draft agenda additions. Future meeting dates, locations and topics were noted. No additions/changes were requested.

**11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Claudette Moody thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve and for its consideration and action on the agenda item relating to her position salary.

Jason Weiner, Westside Economic Collaborative reminded all of the Westside Economic Summit planned to take place on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Skirball Cultural Center.

Christine Jerian, SCAG, reminded all of the upcoming RTP workshops, participation and comment opportunities.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM. It was noted that the next Board meeting will take place on November 15, 2007 in Beverly Hills

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Meeting Notes Prepared and Submitted By:

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Jody Hall Esser, Facilitator

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November 15, 2007