



WESTSIDE CITIES

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

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

Approved Meeting Notes

Thursday November 15, 2007

11:45 AM Lunch
12:15 PM Business Meeting

Hosted By: City of Beverly Hills
Beverly Hills City Hall
Municipal Gallery, 1st Floor
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills 90210

Parking: Civic Center Parking lot
adjacent to City Hall

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Beverly Hills:** Council Member Linda J. Briskman and Council Member Nancy Krasne. Staff: David Lightner, Noel Marquis, Cheryl Friedling, Aaron Kunz, Julie Kahn, Maria Rychlicki, Daniel Cartagena, Kathy Van Osten,
- Culver City:** Council Member Scott Malsin and Vice Mayor Carol Gross. Staff: Steve Cunningham, Shelly Wolfberg
- Santa Monica:** Council Member Pam O'Connor. Staff: Gordon Anderson, Carol Swindell, Kate Vernez, Stacy Rowe, Setareh Yavari
- City of LA:** Council Member Bill Rosendahl. Staff: Norman Kulla (CD11), Jay Greenstein (CD5)
- County of LA:** Staff: Flora Gil Krisiloff (Supervisor Yaroslavsky)
- West Hollywood:** Council Member Abbe Land. Staff: David Wilson, Christof Schroeder
- Other Attendees:** Jody Hall Esser (Executive Director/Facilitator)
Michael Jenkins, Counsel to the COG

Laurie Newmen (State Senator Sheila Kuehl), Jody Litvak, (Metro), Claudette Moody (Deputy to Metro 1st Chair O'Connor), Christine Jerian (SCAG), Jason Weiner (Westside Economic Collaborative)

1. CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 by Beverly Hills Council Member and WSCCOG Chair, Linda Briskman. Chair Briskman welcomed all to the Beverly Hills City Hall.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Briskman started self-introductions. Voting members present at the meeting were identified as Council Member Abbe Land representing the City of West Hollywood; Council Member O'Connor representing the City of Santa Monica; Council Member Rosendahl representing the City of Los Angeles; Council Member Malsin representing the City of Culver City and Council Member/Co-Chair Briskman representing the City of Beverly Hills.

3. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION:

Moved by Land, seconded by O'Connor to recess to Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 at 12:20 PM

4. RECONVENE

Meeting was reconvened at 12:40 PM

5. APPROVAL September 20, 2007 MEETING NOTES

Moved by Land, seconded by O'Connor approve the Revised September 20, 2007 Meeting Notes distributed for review. Motion passed unanimously.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

(A) Executive Director/Facilitator's Report

(B) Tentatively Scheduled Board/and Committee Meeting Dates for 2008 Calendar Year

Moved by Land, seconded by Rosendahl to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion passed unanimously.

7. NEW BUSINESS

(A) Receive and File: WSCCOG 2006-2007 Audit and Related Document

Moved by Land, seconded by Malsin to Receive and File the 2006-07 Audit and Related Documents. The motion passed unanimously.

(B) Approval of Revised WSCCOG By-laws

Moved by Land, seconded by Malsin to Receive and File the 2006-07 Audit and Related Documents. The motion passed unanimously.

(C) Status Report Re: WSCCOG 2007-08 Legislative Agenda

Co-Chair Briskman provided a brief report regarding the status of preparation of the Draft 2007-08 Legislative Agenda; noted that she would be meeting with staff later that day to finalize and that the Draft would be scheduled for review by the Board at the January meeting.

(D) Authorization to Enter into a One Year Agreement with Mary JoAnne “Jody” Hall Esser (jhe services) for Part Time Executive Director Services

Moved by Malsin, seconded by Briskman to Enter into a One Year Agreement with Mary JoAnne “Jody” Hall Esser (jhe services) for Part Time Executive Director Services. A roll call vote was conducted; all five voting member present voting “Yes”. The motion passed unanimously.

The Members congratulated Mrs. Hall Esser and thanked her for her willingness to continue her relationship with the organization. Mrs. Hall Esser thanked the Board for the opportunity to continue to serve and advance the business of the COG.

8. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

(A) October Meeting Notes, Report and Recommendations from the COG Homeless Issues Committee and Related Items

Jody Hall Esser and Vice Mayor Caro Gross reviewed highlights from the October meeting of the Homeless Issues Committee and referred those present to the Meeting Notes included with the agenda packet.

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

Council Member and Metro Chair Pam O’Connor provided the Southwest Cities Corridor and Westside Central Service Sector Corridor Report. She advised that The Metro Board would be meeting on November 29 at 9:30 to discuss:

1. Funding for Expo Phase 1 Project increase of \$145 million
2. Proposition 1B funding for transit modernization projects; including a motion to fully include the Municipal Operators;
3. Work toward identifying a congestion pricing project to submit in application to the Federal Government and to work toward accessing state funding; and
4. Adoption of the 2008 Metro Federal and State Legislative Program which includes initiatives to raise funds for transportation on a local level.

Ms. O’Connor noted that the Metro Committees and Board will not be meeting in December, but that in January, the Metro Planning and Programming Committee will be hearing staff recommendations on the

Update to the Long Range Transportation Plan. The January meeting is scheduled for January 16, at 11:00 AM; this time is the new starting time for that Committee.

Ms. O'Connor advised that the next Live Chat is scheduled on December 12, 2007, at noon, and will focus on Sustainability and Transportation -- in January, given the change in the Planning and Programming Committee schedules, the Live Chats will begin at 12:30 p.m.

She noted that Both Westside and Crenshaw studies on transit projects for those corridors have completed scoping work. Staff and consultants are reviewing all the input received. "Screening" reports identifying what Alternatives will continue through each study for further evaluation should be available and presented to the Board in early '08.

Regarding the Westside Central Service Sector Governance Council, Ms. O'Connor advised that the new Metro Rapid line 728 would start in December with service from downtown LA to Century City; and that Supervisor Burke has appointed Shelby Jordan to the Governance Council. However, even with this appointment two vacancies remain on the Council.

She concluded by advising that she was proud to announce that Jacki Bacharach, Executive Director of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments, has been named Person of the Year by the Metro Citizens Advisory Committee. Ms. Bacharach will be presented with this honor at the November 29, Board meeting.

Council Member Rosendahl reported on the Venice Boulevard Rapid Bus and the \$27M request to the federal government for a line on Wilshire. Brief conversation ensued regarding preferences for an at-grade versus above-grade route for Expo Phase II.

Scott Malsin thanked Chair O'Connor and Metro Staff for their assistance in getting the aerial station in Culver City moved from Phase II to Phase I of the Expo project.

The upcoming November 29th Metro Board meeting was discussed. All member cities were requested to have elected representatives present; letters of support regarding the Expo project were requested to be addressed to Chair O'Connor; Carol Gross requested talking points to guide the brief comments that would be permitted.

The relationship between the Long Range Transportation Plan, the Regional Transportation Plan and the Regional Comprehensive Plan were discussed. Scott Malsin suggested the RCP be agendaized for future discussion.

Jody Litvak commented on the significant amount of public participation involved in the scoping sessions for what Metro calls the Westside Transit Corridor Extension project.

(C) October Meeting Notes, Report and Recommendations from the COG Transportation Committee and Related Items

Due to the length of the agenda, Chair Briskman referred the Members to the Committee meeting notes included with the agenda packet.

Chair Briskman noted that there would not be a Transportation Committee meeting in December and suggested all attend the Homeless Issues Committee meeting set for Dec. 13th at 9:30 AM at the Main Library in Santa Monica in order to become more familiar with that Committee's efforts and discussions.

(D) Intergovernmental Relations:

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

No report was given – the League representative was not able to attend the meeting.

(2) Reuse of VA Buildings/Grounds for Homeless Veterans

No report was given – there was no new information to provide the Members on this subject.

(3) Pending Legislation

All were cautioned to watch expected ballot measures on the use of eminent domain.

(E) Presentation by City of Santa Monica Re: Homeless Community Court Pilot Project

Council Member O'Connor introduced Stacy Rowe, Human Services Administrator.

Stacy Rowe provided a report to the Members on the Santa Monica Homeless Community Court. She reviewed history of court programs in general, background on the program in Santa Monica, program goals and participating agencies; project funding, costs, staffing and in-kind contributions; statistics of service to date and selected measures of program operation/success. Ms. Rowe concluded her presentation with "lessons learned" and factors critical to the success of the program to date. Ms. Rowe provided handouts of her presentation, offered to address any questions Members or city staff might have.

The Chair thanked Ms. Rowe for her thoughtful, thorough and informative presentation.

9. RECEIVE/ FILE

The following items were approved for Receive and File by consensus of the Members:

- (A) Chair Briskman's letter to Metro dated 10/29/07 RE Support and Scoping of Westside Subway Extension Project
- (B) Letter from West Hollywood City Manager Paul Arevalo to Metro dated 10/29/07 RE Support and Scoping of Westside Subway Extension Project
- (C) WSCCOG Financial Statement as of 10/31/07
- (D) Flier RE Westside Transit Subway Summit to take place on November 19th from 3-5 PM to be hosted by LA City Council Members Rosendahl, Weiss, Wesson and LaBonge
- (E) September 12, 2007 letter from Carol Inge, Metro Chief Planning Officer, to WSCCOG Board RE Congestion Pricing
- (F) Proposed Draft contract with Jody Hall Esser.
- (G) Revised Approved Sept. 20, 2007 Board Meeting Notes

10. EVENT REMINDER AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (A) Revised date for the "Thank You to Assemblyman Ted Lieu" set for 12/14/07, from 4:30 to 6:30 PM Sponsored by SBCCOG. Location: South Bay Energy Savings Center.
- (B) Council Member Land announced the "Home Walk" to take place in West Hollywood on Saturday Nov. 17th.
- (C) Council Member Rosendahl invited all to attend the Westside Transit Subway Summit to take place on November 19th from 3-5 PM to be hosted by LA City Council Members Rosendahl, Weiss, Wesson and LaBonge. He thanked Flora Gil Krisiloff for her help in getting the Winter Shelter up and running; advised favorable locations had been found for the comprehensive service center; advised of the problem created by the proliferation in the use of campers as homes and said he was looking to the Santa Barbara model to address this problem; and he thanked Santa Monica Councilman Shriver for his support in getting the three buildings on the WLA VA campus for use for homeless veterans.
- (D) Flora Gil Krisiloff commented on the collaborative City of LA/County of LA effort to address Skid Row. She said that permanent housing for the chronically homeless is key to solving the area problem and noted that Supervisor Yaroslavsky is committed to this effort. She advised that 50 of the longest-term homeless--individuals at-risk of dying in the street--are being identified for an intensive collaborative effort of assistance including a cost/benefit analysis of efforts to assist them versus the consequences of not doing so.

- (E) Carol Gross commented on the Cold Weather Shelter program in Culver City, in the Armory owned by the City and leased to the National Guard for one dollar a year. She advised that the City had learned that the Armory is charging \$390 per night to LAHSA to operate the Shelter and the City is looking into what they can do to stop this charge. She advised that the Planning Commission's approval of the Upward Bound House project in Culver City has been appealed; the appeal will be heard by the City Council in January. Pam O'Connor noted that a similar project is located in her neighborhood in Santa Monica, has just celebrated its 10th anniversary, and has been a "good neighbor project" with a positive track record.
- (F) Chair Briskman invited all to the special holiday events planned in Beverly Hills and distributed a reminder and event description card. She also advised that ads of October 1, 2007, indoor and outdoor dining in Beverly Hills is now smoke free and business is better than ever.
- (G) Vice Mayor Gross advised that earlier in the year, Culver City expanded its non-smoking ordinance to prohibit smoking in city parks.

11. DISCUSSION RE CALENDARING OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(A) The Members agreed by consensus to the following tentatively scheduled future Board meeting dates and locations:

January 17, 2008	Culver City
March 20, 2008	City of Los Angeles
May 15, 2008	Santa Monica
July 17, 2008	County of Los Angeles
September 18, 2008	West Hollywood
November 20, 2008	Beverly Hills

(B) The Members agreed by consensus to the following agenda items for the January and March 2008 meetings of the Governing Board:

January 2008

1. WSCCOG Legislative Agenda for 2007-08
2. Continued discussion: updating WSCCOG Work Program
3. Topic, timing and location of Annual Issues Conference
4. Special 10 AM Strategy Session to include state and federal lobbyists representing WSCCOG members to discuss advancing the COG's priority transportation projects. It was agreed a staff conference call would be arranged by the

Executive Director to plan for this portion of the January agenda.

5. Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) to be released by SCAG in late December 2007
6. Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP).

January or March 2008

1. Discussion and Q&A with COG Counsel Re: Form 700's (due March 31)
2. Congestion Pricing Presentation by Metro

12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jason Weiner, Westside Economic Collaborative reported on the Governor's veto of SB 922.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Meeting Notes Prepared and Presented by:

Jody Hall Esser, Executive Director

Date