



REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**Thursday, June 8, 2023
12:00 PM – 1:15 PM**

Location for In-Person Participation:

West Hollywood Library Building - City Council Chambers
625 N San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069

Remote Participation via Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85112998714>

Livestream on YouTube:

http://bit.ly/wscocg_livestream

MEETING INFORMATION AND ACCOMMODATION

The Westside Cities Council of Governments (WSCCOG) Regular Board meeting on **June 8, 2023** will be held in-person with remote public participation via Zoom and livestreamed on YouTube. WSCCOG Board voting members are required to attend in-person to participate and vote on action items on the agenda. For any questions regarding the meeting, please contact Winnie Fong at winnie@estolanoadvisors.com or (323) 306-9856.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment on any agenda item may be made during the consideration of that item. All comments on items not listed on the agenda may be made during the time allotted on the agenda to the public. Members of the public may comment by raising a hand and being recognized by the Chair. Speakers shall confine their comments to three minutes per speaker. Unless otherwise noted in the Agenda, the public may only comment on matters that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the WSCCOG or items listed on the agenda.

Members of the public who wish to comment on matters before the Board remotely are strongly encouraged to submit an email with their written comments limited to 1,000 characters to Riley O'Brien at riley@estolanoadvisors.com by no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. *Note: E-Comments received after 12:00 p.m. will be forwarded to the Board and posted on the WSCCOG's website at www.westsidecities.org/meeting as part of the official meeting record. The email address will remain open during the meeting for providing public comment during the meeting. Emails received during the meeting will be read out loud at the appropriate time during the meeting provided they are received before the Board takes action on an item (or can be read during general public comment).

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOTING MEMBERS (2 min)

3. ACTION ITEMS (45 min)

A. [WSCCOG April 20, 2023 Board Meeting Notes](#)

Recommended Action: Approve the draft meeting notes for the WSCCOG Board meetings held on April 20, 2023.

B. [Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program \(MSP\) WSCCOG Annual Update](#)

Recommended Action: Approve updates to the WSCCOG's Measure M MSP list of projects as presented by Fehr & Peers.

C. [Metro Deputy Contract Extension for the Southwest Area Metro Board Member](#)

Recommended Action: Approve a 3-year contract extension with Michael Bohlke as the Metro Deputy to the Southwest Area Metro Board Member.

D. [Request for Regionally Equitable Distribution of Any Accelerated Measure M Subregional Equity Program \(SEP\)](#)

Recommended Action: Discuss City of West Hollywood's request and authorize submission of a support letter from the WSCCOG to Metro.

E. [Measure H City Planning Grant Remaining Funds](#)

Recommended Action: Approve allocation of unspent funds from Culver City and West Hollywood's City Planning Grants.

F. Fiscal Actions for FY 2023-24

i. [Determination of Dues and the Annual Budget for FY 2023-24](#)

Recommended Action: Approve the FY 2023-24 member dues and budget.

ii. [Annual Work Plan for FY 2023-24](#)

Recommended Action: Approve the FY 2023-24 Work Plan.

iii. [Estolano Advisors Contract Renewal for WSCCOG Executive Director Services for FY 2023-24](#)

Recommended Action: Approve a one-year contract renewal with Estolano Advisors for FY 2023-24.

G. [Election of WSCCOG Board Officers for FY 2023-24](#)

Recommended Action: Election of the WSCCOG Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary

4. [EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT](#) (5 min)

A. WSCCOG Board Appointments

- i. Call for Candidates for the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission Representative (SMBRC)

B. WSCCOG Recent Activities

C. Housing Updates

- i. WSCCOG Proposed Scope of Work for the Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) 2.0 SCAG Subregional Partnership Program
 - ii. SCAG Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Reform Draft Recommendations and Feedback Survey
 - D. Transportation Updates
 - i. Measure M Multi-Subregional Program Planning Activities Contract Agreement

5. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION (18 min)

- A. [Regional Behavioral Healthcare Services Best Practices](#) – James Corbett, Principal of Initium Health

6. LEGISLATION (2 min)

- A. [League of California Cities Update](#) – Jeff Kiernan, LA County Regional Public Affairs Manager

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. FUTURE MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Thursday, August 10 at City of Beverly Hills

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 min)

10. ADJOURN

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Instructions for Public Comments

You may submit public comments in three (3) ways:

1. **Provide public comments in-person:** Members of the Public may comment on matters on the agenda to the WSCCOG Board in person during the meeting, which will be held at:

West Hollywood Library Building - City Council Chambers
625 N San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069

2. **To listen and provide verbal comments via remote participation on Zoom:** To participate remotely on Zoom, use the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85112998714>. To make a comment during the meeting on Zoom, use the “raise hand” function located in the participants’ window and wait for the WSCCOG staff to announce your name.
3. **Submit written comments via email to:** Members of the Public who wish to comment on matters before the Board remotely are strongly encouraged to submit an email with their written comments limited to 1,000 characters to Riley O’Brien at riley@estolanoadvisors.com by no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. All written comments received after 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be announced and included as part of the official record of the meeting.

DRAFT MEETING NOTES

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023
12:00 NOON

Culver City Hall
Mike Balkman Council Chambers
9770 Culver Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Beverly Hills:** Mayor Julian Gold, M.D. (WSCCOG Chair), Vice Mayor Lester Friedman. Staff: Gabriela Yap, Cindy Owens, Stephanie Harris, Chris Paulson, Enisha Clark.
- Culver City:** Councilmember Göran Eriksson (WSCCOG Vice Chair), Councilmember Dan O'Brien. Staff: Shelly Wolfberg, Troy Evangelho, Arames White-Shearin, Larissa Hogan.
- Santa Monica:** Councilmember Oscar De La Torre (WSCCOG Secretary), Councilmember Jesse Zwick. Staff: Anuj Gupta, Jason Kligier, Achée Stevenson. David Feinberg.
- West Hollywood:** Mayor Sepi Shyne. Staff: David Wilson, Hernan Molina, Corri Planck.
- City of LA:** Staff: Jarret Thompson (Council District 5)
- County of LA:** Staff: Austin Cyr (Supervisory District 3)
- WSCCOG:** Staff: Cecilia Estolano (WSCCOG Executive Director), Winnie Fong, Riley O'Brien. Legal Counsel: Lauren Langer.
- Other:** Onnie Williams III (LA County Homeless Initiative); Jake Ettinger (Office of State Senator Ben Allen); Jeff Kiernan (League of California Cities), Erik Bagwell, Emmanuel Lopez (ECONorthwest); Erik Rodriguez (SCAG); Karen Swift (Cedars-Sinai Medical Center); Aeia Abas (LAHSA).

1. WSCCOG REGULAR BOARD MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Julian Gold (WSCCOG Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:13 p.m.

2. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOTING MEMBERS

Voting members: Mayor Julian Gold (City of Beverly Hills); Councilmember Göran Eriksson (City of Culver City), Councilmember Oscar de la Torre (City of Santa Monica); Mayor Sepi Shyne (City of West Hollywood).

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. **WSCCOG February 9, 2023 Board Meeting Notes**

Mayor Sepi Shyne (West Hollywood) moved to approve the meeting notes, and Councilmember Göran Eriksson (Culver City) seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (4-0).

B. **Metro Westside/Central Service Council Representative**

The WSCCOG received a letter of interest from our current representative, David Feinberg from Santa Monica Big Blue Bus, who expressed interest in continuing serving another 3-year term. Councilmember Oscar De La Torre (Santa Monica) moved to reappoint Feinberg as the representative, and Councilmember Göran Eriksson (Culver City) seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (4-0).

C. **Subregional Affordable Housing Funding Program Study Presentation from ECONorthwest and Discussion**

The WSCCOG commissioned a study through the SCAG Regional Early Action Program (REAP) funds to evaluate a subregional affordable housing program. Erik Bagwell from ECONorthwest presented their findings and recommendations, followed by a discussion with the WSCCOG Board to discuss and determine whether the WSCCOG should explore the establishment of a Regional Housing Trust in the Westside subregion. Current Regional Housing Trusts in the County include San Gabriel Valley COG, Gateway Cities COG, South Bay Cities COG, and a joint powers authority (JPA) between the cities of Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena. If the WSCCOG Board votes in favor of a Regional Housing Trust, then the WSCCOG staff can program REAP 2.0 funds for this fiscal year to retain a consultant to conduct activities to establish the trust, such as: Designing a funding program; facilitating the legal coordination of a joint power authority; and developing a staffing plan along with a policy and procedures manual. Cecilia Estolano (WSCCOG Executive Director) concluded the presentation by describing the WSCCOG staff recommendation to explore the establishment of a Regional Housing Trust in the Westside subregion. Following a Q&A session with ECONorthwest. Several WSCCOG Boardmembers had questions on how the Regional Housing Trust considers the cities' Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) targeted units. Councilmember Oscar de la Torre (Santa Monica) moved to approve the staff recommendation, and Mayor Sepi Shyne (West Hollywood) seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

D. **County Local Solutions Fund for Homeless Services and Housing Programs**

Cecilia Estolano (WSCCOG Executive Director) described this item as a continuation of the February Board meeting's discussion, in which the WSCCOG Board suggested an equal distribution of the County FY 2023-24 Local Solutions Fund among the four eligible cities. Winnie Fong (WSCCOG Project Director) provided a brief summary of the available funds and presented four options for allocating the fund. For the FY 22-23 Prorated Funds, totaling \$124,374, Fong described the WSCCOG staff recommendation to allocate the funds towards the feasibility study of a Westside Regional Behavioral Health Center, which is part of the work plan that the WSCCOG

Board adopted last December. For the FY 23-24 Local Solutions Fund, totaling \$1,492,500, Fong described three recommendation options for the WSCCOG Board to consider. Following a Q&A session with Onnie Williams III (LA County Homeless Initiative), Mayor Sepi Shyne (West Hollywood) moved to approve the recommendation to allocate the FY 22-23 prorated funds towards the Behavioral Health Center feasibility study, as well as equally distribute the FY 2023-24 Local Solutions Funds funds among the eligible cities. Councilmember Göran Eriksson (Culver City) seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously (4-0).

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cecilia Estolano (WSCCOG Executive Director) described the SCAG Subregional Partnership Program 2.0 Application with a May 31st due date. Vice Mayor Julian Gold (Beverly Hills) welcomed two new WSCCOG Board alternates, Vice Mayor Lester Friedman (Beverly Hills) and Councilmember John Heilman (West Hollywood).

5. LEGISLATION

Jake Ettinger (Office of State Senator Ben Allen) presented Senator Allen's legislative priorities for the 24th district, which included reducing plastic waste, repealing Article 34 restrictions on affordable housing, establishing the South Bay Regional Housing Trust Fund, addressing governance issues related to water shortages, authorizing cannabis consumption lounges, preventing electric vehicle battery waste, and expanding funding for climate resilience. Jeff Kiernan (League of California Cities) provided an update on the City Leaders Summit and its emphasis on housing and homelessness. Kiernan also noted that state and county leaders are working on legislation related to criminal justice, and that the League of California Cities hopes to continue those discussions. Hernan Molina (City of West Hollywood) concluded the legislative updates by describing local efforts to align state law on Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (EIFD) with federal terms on tax increment financing, as this would facilitate enhanced transit investment.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No WSCCOG Board Members or staff made any formal announcements.

7. FUTURE MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next WSCCOG Board Meeting will be on Thursday, June 8th, 2023, at 12:00 pm in West Hollywood.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

An in-person public participant provided a comment on the challenges faced at the end of transit lines, including the Downtown Santa Monica terminus of the E Line (Expo), and suggested investing in service hubs in those termini and other strategic locations near transit. Riley O'Brien confirmed that WSCCOG staff had not received any additional public comments as of 1:29pm.

9. ADJOURN

Mayor Julian Gold (WSCCOG Chair) adjourned the meeting at 1:30pm.



DATE: June 5, 2023

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board

FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff

SUBJECT: Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) WSCCOG Annual Update

Recommended Action

Approve updates to the WSCCOG's Measure M MSP list of projects as presented by Fehr & Peers.

Background

On January 20, 2021, the Metro Board approved the programming of \$26,151,339 in Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) funds for the WSCCOG Active Transportation/1st and Last Mile Connection Program for FY 2020-21 to FY 2023-24 (refer to [Attachment A](#) for the MSP list of projects). On October 19, 2022, the Metro Board approved the WSCCOG's first MSP annual update, which included the programming of \$966,589 in additional funds for the WSCCOG Active Transportation/1st and Last Mile Connection Program through FY 2024-25 (refer to [Attachment B](#) for the MSP list of projects).

On October 31, 2022, Metro released an updated MSP cash flow for FY 2022-23 through FY 2026-27, which identified an unallocated balance of \$13,217,727 (refer to [Attachment C](#)). WSCCOG and Fehr & Peers initiated the process for the MSP annual update in January 2023 with the Westside jurisdictions to identify proposed modifications to existing approved projects and identify new projects to program in the MSP. The new funding amount is allocated based on the same methodology adopted for the WSCCOG's MSP Project list approved in 2021, which is identified as the proportion of service population within the subregion based on the SCAG Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS) Regional Model (Baseline Year 2016).

Fehr & Peers prepared a draft list of proposed updates for the WSCCOG's MSP's annual update for the WSCCOG Board to consider for adoption before the WSCCOG submits the list to Metro (refer **Table 1** in the following page, as well as the Fehr and Peers' presentation deck in [Attachment D](#)).

Next Steps

Once the WSCCOG Board adopts the proposed MSP update, WSCCOG and Fehr & Peers will submit the information and materials to Metro for its 60-day review before it is presented to the Metro Board for final adoption in October 2023. Metro will release an updated MSP cash flow for FY 2023-24 through FY 2027-28 by the end of October in which WSCCOG and Fehr & Peers will initiate the 2024 MSP annual update in November 2023. Fehr & Peers will also update the service population data for the MSP funding allocation to align with SCAG's updated regional data from the draft 2024 Connect SoCal plan, which is scheduled to be released in Fall 2023.

Table 1: Proposed WSCCOG MSP Updated Project List and Funding Allocation by Jurisdiction (FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28)

Jurisdiction	Share of Service Population* (Pop + Jobs)	Allocation of Funds by Jurisdiction	Funding Decision
West Hollywood	4%	\$574,160	Remove Willoughby project from MSP list; allocate all programmed and available funds to Fountain Avenue Protected Bike Lane Project
Culver City	6%	\$798,364	Allocate funding to new project: Sepulveda Corridor Mobility Lane Project
Beverly Hills	6%	\$764,801	Add Rodeo Drive Station to existing project; allocate available funding
Santa Monica	11%	\$507,652	Hold funds for future programming
Los Angeles	68%	\$8,779,541	Hold funds for future programming
County	4%	\$1,698,219	Hold funds for future programming
TOTAL	100%	\$13,122,738	

**Source: SCAG RTP/SCS Regional Model, Baseline Year 2016*

Attachments

- A. WSCCOG Active Transportation/1st and Last Mile Connection Program Project List (Adopted by the Metro Board on January 20, 2021)
- B. WSCCOG Active Transportation/1st and Last Mile Connection Program Project List (Adopted by the Metro Board on October 19, 2022)
- C. Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Programs 5-Year Cashflows (October 2022)
- D. Proposed Measure M MSP Update for FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27 (Presentation by Fehr & Peers)

Westside Cities Subregion
Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Plan - Active Transportation First/Last Mile Connection Program (Expenditure Line 51)

	Agency	Project ID No.	Project/Location	Funding Phases	FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	Total Program
1	Beverly Hills	MM4801.02	La Cienega Blvd Bus Stop Improvements	PS&E Construction	\$ -	\$ 405,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405,000
2	Beverly Hills	MM4801.03	Pedestrian and Wayfinding FLM Improvements - La Cienega Purple Line Station	PS&E Construction	-	723,158	-	-	723,158
3	Beverly Hills	MM4801.04	Wilshire Blvd Bus Stop Improvements	PS&E Construction	-	486,000	-	-	486,000
4	Culver City	MM4801.05	Overland Class II and IV with Pedestrian Improvements	PS&E Construction	750,000	92,496	-	-	842,496
5	Culver City	MM4801.06	Microtransit/First Last Mile Service Program	Equipment/Vehicle	-	100,000	-	-	100,000
6	Culver City	MM4801.07	Washington Transit/Mobility Lanes + Circulator/First-Last Mile Service Program	PS&E Equipment/Vehicle Construction	742,495	-	-	-	742,495
7	LA City	MM4801.08	Brentwood Walkability Enhancements (San Vicente Blvd: Bundy to Bringham) *	PS&E Construction	-	-	-	2,561,297	2,561,297
8	LA City	MM4801.09	Connect Del Rey Stress-Free Bicycle Enhanced Corridor *	PS&E Construction	-	-	4,393,838	-	4,393,838
9	LA City	MM4801.10	Expo Bike Path Gap Closure	Construction	-	3,168,000	-	-	3,168,000
10	LA City	MM4801.11	Santa Monica to Westwood Stress-Free Bicycle Enhanced Corridor *	PS&E Construction	-	-	8,406,584	-	8,406,584
11	Santa Monica	MM4801.12	Broadway Protected Bikeway: 5th Street - 26th Street	PS&E Construction	-	550,000	-	161,471	711,471

	Agency	Project ID No.	Project/Location	Funding Phases	FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	Total Program
12	Santa Monica	MM4801.13	Colorado Protected Bikeway: 5th Street - 17th Street	PS&E Construction	-	-	150,000	350,000	500,000
13	Santa Monica	MM4801.14	Stewart & Pennsylvania Safety Enhancement Project	Construction	-	804,000	-	-	804,000
14	Santa Monica	MM4801.15	Wilshire Active Transportation Safety Project	PS&E Construction	-	128,000	-	968,000	1,096,000
15	West Hollywood	MM4801.16	Willoughby, Vista, Gardner Greenways *	Construction	-	-	1,211,000	-	1,211,000
Total Programming Amount					\$ 1,492,495	\$ 6,456,654	\$ 14,161,422	\$ 4,040,768	\$ 26,151,339

* Conditional programming approval as only high level scope of work was developed and reviewed. Future annual update process will reconfirm the programming.

Westside Cities Subregion

Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Plan - Active Transportation First/Last Mile Connection Program (Expenditure Line 51)

	Agency	Project ID No.	Project/Location	Funding Phases	Note	Pror Alloc	Alloc Change	Current Alloc	Prior Year Prog	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25
1	Beverly Hills	MM4801.02/ MM4801.03/ MM4801.04	La Cienega Purple Line Station - Pedestrian and Wayfinding FLM Improvements	PS&E Construction	chg	1,614,158		1,614,158	-		1,614,158	-	
2	Culver City	MM4801.05	Overland Class II and IV with Pedestrian Improvements	PS&E Construction	chg	842,496		842,496			842,496	-	
3	Culver City	MM4801.06	Microtransit/First Last Mile Service Program	Equipment/Vehicle	chg	100,000		100,000	-		-	100,000	
4	Culver City	MM4801.07	Washington Transit/Mobility Lanes + Circulator/First-Last Mile Service Program	PS&E Equipment/Vehicle Construction		742,495		742,495	742,495	-	-	-	
5	LA City	MM4801.08	Brentwood Walkability Enhancements (San Vicente Blvd: Bundy to Bringham)	PS&E Construction		2,561,297		2,561,297	-	-	-	2,561,297	
6	LA City	MM4801.09	Connect Del Rey Stress-Free Bicycle Enhanced Corridor	PS&E Construction		4,393,838		4,393,838			4,393,838		
7	LA City	MM4801.10	Expo Bike Path Gap Closure	Construction		3,168,000		3,168,000	-	3,168,000	-	-	
8	LA City	MM4801.11	Santa Monica to Westwood Stress-Free Bicycle Enhanced Corridor	PS&E Construction	chg	8,406,584		8,406,584	-	-		1,681,317	6,725,267
9	Santa Monica	MM4801.12	Broadway Protected Bikeway: 5th Street - 26th Street	PS&E Construction		711,471		711,471	-	550,000	-	161,471	
10	Santa Monica	MM4801.13	Colorado Protected Bikeway: 5th Street - 17th Street	PS&E Construction		500,000		500,000	-	-	150,000	350,000	
11	Santa Monica	MM4801.14	Stewart & Pennsylvania Safety Enhancement Project	Construction		804,000		804,000	-	804,000	-	-	
12	Santa Monica	MM4801.15	Wilshire Active Transportation Safety Project	PS&E Construction	chg	1,096,000	966,589	2,062,589	-	128,000	-	968,000	966,589
13	West Hollywood	MM4801.16	Willoughby, Vista, Gardner Greenways	Construction		1,211,000		1,211,000	-	-	1,211,000	-	
Total Programming Amount						\$ 26,151,339	\$ 966,589	\$ 27,117,928	\$ 742,495	\$ 4,650,000	\$ 8,211,492	\$ 5,822,085	\$ 7,691,856

Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Programs 5-Year Cashflows (October 2022)											
In Year of Expenditure Dollars											
Program	Sub-region	Ground-breaking Start Date	Unallocated Balance [a]	FY 2022 FY 2023	FY 2023 FY 2024	FY 2024 FY 2025	FY 2025 FY 2026	FY 2026 FY 2027	2022 New Total Plus Unallocated Balance	Project Development Funding Maximum [b]	Project Development Funding Unexecuted Balance
North County Subregion Total									\$ 36,375,580	\$ 475,983	\$ 475,983
South Bay Highway Operational Improvements [b]	sb	FY 2018	\$ 32,179,617					\$ 13,574,069	\$ 45,753,686	\$ 279,333	\$ 30,850
Transportation System and Mobility Impr. Prog. 2057	sb	FY 2018	\$ -					\$ 4,319,022	\$ 4,319,022	\$ 195,533	\$ -
Transportation System and Mobility Impr. Prog. 2032	sb	FY 2018	\$ 53,134,521					\$ 24,145,390	\$ 77,279,911	\$ 1,093,122	\$ 441,106
Subregional Equity Program [e]	sb	FY 2018	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,086,957	\$ 1,086,957	\$ 1,086,957	\$ 1,086,957	\$ 4,347,826	\$ -	\$ -
South Bay Subregion Total									\$ 127,352,620	\$ 1,567,988	\$ 471,956
Active Transportation Prog. (Including Greenway Proj.)	sg	FY 2018	\$ 1,134,098					\$ 2,850,555	\$ 3,984,653	\$ 129,052	\$ 56,393
Bus System Improvement Program	sg	FY 2018	\$ 2,986,514					\$ 678,703	\$ 3,665,218	\$ 30,727	\$ 28,227
First/Last Mile and Complete Streets	sg	FY 2018	\$ -					\$ 2,443,332	\$ 2,443,332	\$ 110,616	\$ 24,139
Highway Demand Based Prog. (HOV Ext. & Connect.)	sg	FY 2018	\$ 13,608,898					\$ 2,850,555	\$ 16,459,452	\$ 129,052	\$ 102,552
Subregional Equity Program [f]	sg	FY 2018	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,663,880	\$ 1,663,880	\$ 1,663,880	\$ 1,663,880	\$ 6,655,518	\$ -	\$ -
Goods Movement (Improvements & RR Xing Elim.)	sg	FY 2048									
Highway Efficiency Program	sg	FY 2048									
ITS-Technology Program (Advanced Signal Tech.)	sg	FY 2048									
San Gabriel Valley Subregion Total									\$ 33,208,173	\$ 399,446	\$ 211,310
Active Transportation 1st/Last Mile Connections Prog.	w	FY 2018	\$ 4,420,667					\$ 4,342,297	\$ 13,217,727	\$ 201,678	\$ 106,689
Subregional Equity Program [g]	w	FY 2018	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,337,793	\$ 1,337,793	\$ 1,337,793	\$ 1,337,793	\$ 5,351,171	\$ -	\$ -
Westside Subregion Total									\$ 13,217,727	\$ 201,678	\$ 106,689

Notes:

- [a] - Includes amounts needed for project development funding.
- [b] - Project development funding (0.5%) amount based on Measure M funding only.
- [c] - Includes Measure M only.
- [d] - SEP does not include funding for Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project, Westside Purple Line Extension Section 1 Project, or Eastside Light Rail Access (Pedestrian) Project.
- [e] - SEP does not include funding for Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project.
- [f] - SEP does not include funding for Gold Line to Pomona Project (FY26 & FY27).
- [g] - SEP does not include funding for Westside Purple Line Extension Section 1 Project.

Forecasts assume inflation.



Item 3B -
Attachment D

Westside Cities Council of Governments

Second Annual MSP Update

June 8, 2023



Agenda

- Overview of 2021 MSP Project List & 2022 Update
 - Funding Allocation
 - Adopted Project List
 - 2022 Updates
- 2023 Proposed revisions to MSP Project List
- Timeline & Next Steps
 - WSCCOG Board approval
 - Metro Review Period
 - Metro Board Approval

MSP Funding Allocation

- Funding allocated by proportion of Service Population (population + jobs) within the sub-region

Jurisdiction	Initial Allocation	2021 Programmed	-0.5% Program Support Adjustment	New Cash Flows (FY24-26)	2022 Programmed	New Cash Flow (FY26-27)	Total Available
West Hollywood	\$1,211,256	-\$1,211,000	-\$4,214	\$380,495	\$0	\$197,623	\$574,160
Culver City	\$1,684,991	-\$1,684,991	-\$5,862	\$529,311	\$0	\$274,915	\$798,364
Beverly Hills	\$1,614,158	-\$1,614,158	-\$5,616	\$507,059	\$0	\$263,358	\$764,801
Santa Monica	\$3,111,471	-\$3,111,471	-\$10,825	\$977,414	-\$966,589	\$507,652	\$507,652
Los Angeles	\$18,529,719	-\$18,529,719	-\$64,464	\$5,820,788	\$0	\$3,023,217	\$8,779,541
County	\$1,152,265	\$0	-\$4,009	\$361,964	\$0	\$187,998	\$1,698,219
TOTAL	\$27,303,860	-\$26,151,339	-\$94,989	\$8,577,032	-\$966,589	\$4,454,763	\$13,122,738

*Source: SCAG RTP/SCS Regional Model, Baseline Year 2016

2021 Adopted MSP Project List

West Hollywood

- Willoughby/Gardner/Vista Greenway

Culver City

- Overland Bike Lane & Ped Improvements
- Washington Transit/Mobility Lanes + Circulator
- Microtransit/FLM Service Program

Beverly Hills

- Wilshire Bus Stop Improvements
- La Cienega Bus Stop Improvements
- La Cienega PLE FLM

Santa Monica

- Broadway Protected Bikeway
- Colorado Protected Bikeway
- Wilshire Ped Safety Improvements
- Stewart & Pennsylvania Bike/Ped Safety Enhancements

City of LA

- Expo Bike Path Gap Closure
- Connect Del Rey Stress-Free BEN Corridor
- Santa Monica to Westwood Stress-Free BEN Corridor
- Brentwood Walkability Enhancements

LA County

- Did not allocate funds

2022 Updated MSP Project List

West Hollywood

- Willoughby/Gardner/Vista Greenway

Culver City

- *Overland Bike Lane & Ped Improvements*
- Washington Transit/Mobility Lanes + Circulator
- *Microtransit/FLM Service Program*

Beverly Hills

- ~~Wilshire Bus Stop Improvements~~
- ~~La Cienega Bus Stop Improvements~~
- La Cienega PLE FLM (absorbed above projects)

Santa Monica

- Broadway Protected Bikeway
- Colorado Protected Bikeway
- **Wilshire Ped Safety Improvements**
- Stewart & Pennsylvania Bike/Ped Safety Enhancements

City of LA

- Expo Bike Path Gap Closure
- Connect Del Rey Stress-Free BEN Corridor
- *Santa Monica to Westwood Stress-Free BEN Corridor*
- Brentwood Walkability Enhancements

LA County

- Did not allocate funds

2023 Funding Allocation Methodology

- Funding allocated by proportion of Service Population (population + jobs) within the sub-region

Jurisdiction	Share of Service Population* (Pop + Jobs)	Allocation of Funds by Jurisdiction	Funding Decision
West Hollywood	4%	\$574,160	Remove Willoughby project from MSP list; allocate all programmed and available funds to Fountain Avenue Protected Bike Lane Project
Culver City	6%	\$798,364	Allocate funding to new project: Sepulveda Corridor Mobility Lane Project
Beverly Hills	6%	\$764,801	Add Rodeo Drive Station to existing project; allocate available funding
Santa Monica	11%	\$507,652	Hold funds for future programming
Los Angeles	68%	\$8,779,541	Hold funds for future programming
County	4%	\$1,698,219	Hold funds for future programming
TOTAL	100%	\$13,122,738	

*Source: SCAG RTP/SCS Regional Model, Baseline Year 2016

2023 Proposed Revisions to MSP Project List

No.	Project Name	Jurisdiction	Proposed Changes
1	Willoughby/Gardner/Vista Greenway	West Hollywood	Remove from project list; unprogram funding
2	Broadway Protected Bikeway	Santa Monica	No change
3	Colorado Protected Bikeway	Santa Monica	No change
4	Wilshire Ped Safety Improvements	Santa Monica	No change
5	Stewart & Pennsylvania Bike/Ped Safety Enhancements	Santa Monica	No change
8	La Cienega & Rodeo Drive Purple Line Extension FLM*	Beverly Hills	Add Rodeo Drive Station & program all available funds
9	Overland Bike Lane & Ped Improvements	Culver City	No change
10	<i>Washington Transit/Mobility Lanes + Circulator (MOVE Culver City)</i>	<i>Culver City</i>	<i>No change – project complete</i>
11	Microtransit/FLM Service Program	Culver City	No change
12	Expo Bike Path Gap Closure	City of Los Angeles	Modify programming year
13	Connect Del Rey Stress-Free BEN Corridor	City of Los Angeles	Modify programming year
14	Santa Monica to Westwood Stress-Free BEN Corridor	City of Los Angeles	No change
15	Brentwood Walkability Enhancements	City of Los Angeles	No change
16	Fountain Avenue Protected Bike Lane Project	West Hollywood	New project & program all available funding
17	Sepulveda Corridor Mobility Lane Project	Culver City	New project & program all available funding

*Combined with projects 6 and 7.

2023 MSP Project List Update Timeline

- COG Board Approval today – June 8, 2023
- Metro Staff Review – June 12 - August 12, 2023
- Metro Board – October 18 (Planning & Programming) and October 26 (Board)



DATE: June 5, 2023

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board

FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff

SUBJECT: Metro Deputy Contract Extension for the Southwest Area Metro Board Member

Recommended Action

Approve a 3-year contract extension with Michael Bohlke as the Metro Deputy to the Southwest Area Metro Board Member.

Background

The South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) currently contracts with Michael Bohlke to serve as the Board deputy to Metro Board member James Butts who represents the South Bay and Westside subregions in the Southwest Corridor Sector. Mr. Bohlke's contract is set to expire on July 31, 2023. SBCCOG proposes to extend the contract starting August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2026 (refer to [Attachment A](#)).

Mr. Bohlke salary is \$85,000 per year, which Metro contributes approximately \$79,000, whereas SBCCOG contributes approximately \$6,400. WSCCOG's contribution to the Metro Deputy salary is \$1,832 per year. The role of the Metro Deputy includes serving as a liaison on behalf of the Board Member to the COGs, assisting COGs on administrative issues within the MTA, and attending the COG Transportation Committees or Working Group meetings.

Attachment

- A. South Bay Cities Council of Governments Draft Contract Extension with Michael Bohlke

AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN
MICHAEL S. BOHLKE AND
SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SBCCOG)

THIS AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT is made this 25th of May by and between Michael S. Bohlke (hereinafter referred to as "Consultant") and South Bay Cities Council of Governments (hereinafter referred to as "SBCCOG").

RECITALS:

A. The parties previously entered into a Consulting Services Agreement dated June 25, 2015 ("Agreement"), wherein the SBCCOG retained the services of Consultant to serve as the Metro Deputy for the Southwest Area Metro Board member

B. The parties now desire to extend the term of that Agreement which is scheduled to end on July 31, 2026.

AGREEMENT:

1. Term of Agreement

This Agreement shall be extended to cover services rendered from August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2026 and month to month thereafter unless extended by amendment or earlier terminated as provided herein.

All services shall be performed in accordance with generally accepted professional practices and principles and to SBCCOG's satisfaction.

In all other respects, the Agreement as amended is hereby reaffirmed and in full force and effect.

These parties have executed this Agreement on the day and year shown above.

SOUTH BAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONSULTANT

John Cruikshank, CHAIR

Michael S. Bohlke

ATTEST:

Jacki Bacharach, Board Secretary

EXHIBIT A
SCOPE OF WORK

The Deputy will provide staff support for the LACMTA Southwest Corridor Sector Board Member, which shall include but not be limited to, the following:

- Attend relevant MTA and MTA-related meetings, in addition to other transportation-related summits, meetings or forums which impact METRO and the region and inform the policy decision-making of the Board Member;
- Review and analyze MTA-generated reports, memos and other written material to assist the Board Member in making informed decisions on policies and programs and other items considered by the Board;
- Recommend action and strategies for the successful passage of policy items under the consideration by the LACMTA Board;
- Prepare correspondence and reports for and on behalf of the Board Member;
- Provide liaison services on behalf of the Board Member to the Councils of Governments, member cities, city staff, elected officials and other stakeholders to facilitate two-way communication, including -notification of important issues coming before the LACMTA Board and how they affect the subregions and the coordination of advocacy efforts;
- Assist Councils of Governments and member cities on administrative issues within the MTA;
- Assist in developing support for transportation projects, programs and services which benefit the cities and populace of the South Bay and Westside of Los Angeles County and the region as a whole;
- Monitor, attend meetings when necessary and report to Westside and South Bay Cities COG on relevant SCAG, AQMD and other regional agencies' policy deliberations and actions;
- Monitor and report on transportation-related activities at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach regarding good movement issues
- Assist with other projects, events and activities as required.



DATE: June 5, 2023

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board

FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff

SUBJECT: Request for Regionally Equitable Distribution of Any Accelerated Measure M Subregional Equity Program (SEP)

Recommended Action

Discuss City of West Hollywood's request and authorize submission of a support letter from the WSCCOG to Metro.

Background on SEP Funds and Related WSCCOG Decisions

In 2016, Metro established and programmed \$1.2 billion to the Measure M Subregional Equity Program (SEP). Metro has allocated approximately \$160 million in SEP funds to the WSCCOG, with most of those funds scheduled to become available after 2043. In [June 2021](#), the Metro Board adopted a motion making SEP funding eligible for programming starting in FY 2022-23 subject to project readiness criteria. Metro also noted in June 2021 that subregions may access SEP funds earlier than 2043 through a combination of inter-fund borrowing, fund exchanges with other programs and projects in their subregions, Metro Measure M bonding capacity, or other discretionary funds designated for their subregion. Metro further clarified these procedures in the SEP guidelines approved by the Metro Board in May 2022 (refer to [Attachment A](#)).

In October 2021, the WSCCOG Board voted to allocate 25 percent (\$40 million) of WSCCOG SEP funds to predevelopment activities for the Northern Extension of the Crenshaw/LAX Line (Crenshaw North). In December 2022, the WSCCOG Board of Directors voted to allocate the remaining 75 percent (\$120 million) to other projects, including at least 62.5 percent (\$100 million) of WSCCOG SEP funds for bus rapid transit and bus infrastructure, and up to 12.5 percent (\$20 million) to predevelopment activities for the proposed D Line (Purple) extension to Santa Monica.

Background on SEP Acceleration

Other subregions have recently expressed interest in programming their SEP funds before 2043. For example, in [February 2023](#), the Gateway Cities COG expressed interest in using SEP funds to cover their member jurisdictions' 3% local contribution requirements for the West Santa Ana Branch and Eastside Extension Phase 2 light rail projects. Similarly, in [April 2023](#), the South Bay Cities COG expressed interest in using SEP funds to support the construction of the Inglewood Transit Connector.

As stated in Metro's SEP Guidelines (refer to [Attachment A](#)), subregions may submit requests to Metro to accelerate SEP funds, and Metro will evaluate those requests "based on factors including

the amount of local match and the status of the project in its development process, so long as the acceleration does not negatively impact the funding of other Measure M projects and programs.” Metro’s SEP Guidelines also state that “Metro staff will evaluate the financial impact of any proposed SEP programming and consider the potential use of debt to finance the SEP that may reduce the immediate cash flow requirement.” The City of West Hollywood has expressed concern that Metro will identify debt financing and other funding sources to accelerate SEP funds for the South Bay Cities COG and Gateway Cities COG, limiting the alternative funding sources available for a future SEP acceleration request by the WSCCOG. Therefore, the City of West Hollywood drafted a letter on behalf of the WSCCOG to Metro requesting that a “proportional near-term funding be made available for WSCCOG priorities on the same schedule afforded to the other requesting subregions.” (refer to [Attachment B](#)).

Attachments

- A. Metro Measure M SEP Guidelines - Approved May 2022
- B. Draft Letter from City of West Hollywood Requesting Regionally Equitable Distribution of Any Accelerated SEP Funds

IX.i SUBREGIONAL EQUITY PROGRAM

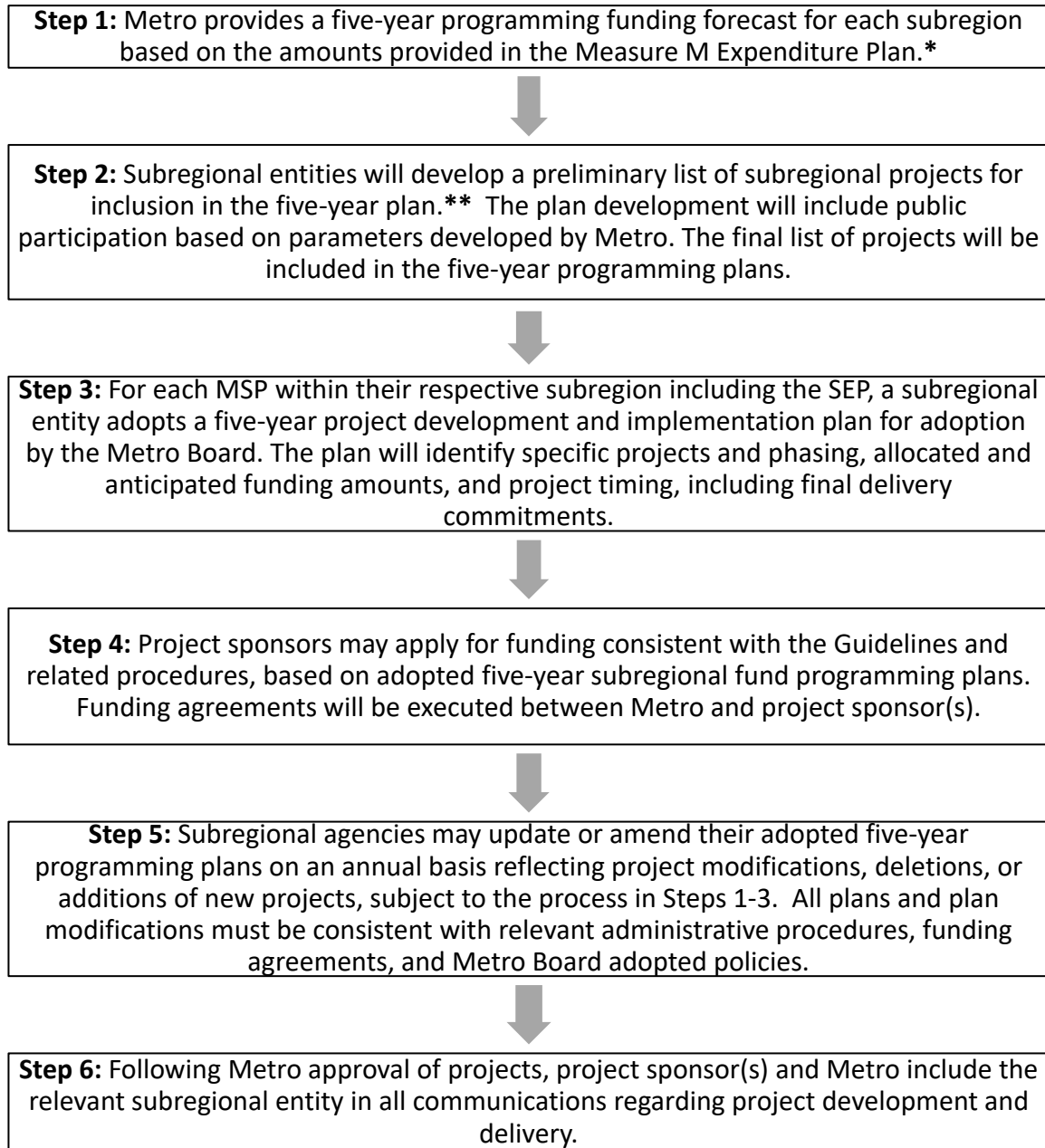
INTRODUCTION

The Subregional Equity Program (SEP) is a MSP on row 68 of the Measure M Expenditure Plan. It has Guidelines separate from the MSP Guidelines because the amount of Local, State, Federal, Other and Measure M funding is not specified, a total amount of spending for each subregion is identified, and any spending can be for either transit or highway modes as defined in the Ordinance, which includes first/last mile, active transportation, and complete streets improvements. Projects that subregions submit for this program are subject to the definitions provided in the Ordinance and these Guidelines, and are limited to capital projects.

Process

The SEP will go through a subregional program development process similar to the other subregional MSP. The amount of SEP funding available will be consistent with the most recent Long Range Transportation Plan or Short Range Transportation Plan financial forecast presented to the Metro Board, subject to any changes in Metro’s financial capacity during the intervening period from the most recent financial forecast and the distribution of SEP funding amounts. Additional funding capacity may be incorporated into the SEP from one-time funding such as the federal infrastructure bill. It will be adjusted for inflation in accordance with the Ordinance and Board motion 36.1 (Board file #2019-0598). The source of Local, State, Federal, Other and Measure M funding for the SEP, both transit and highway, will be identified in the financial forecast. Administrative and procedural details for the process may be developed upon the adoption of these Guidelines, in the event it facilitates the functioning of the program. Generally, the development process will follow the steps provided in the following table:

Table IX.i: Subregional Equity Program Project Development Process



**Metro will announce the funding forecast by year concurrently with the announcement of the other MSP funding forecasts, and the amounts will extend five years from the date of the announcement and cover the same time period as the other MSP funding forecasts.*

*** Coordination with Metro staff is required to ensure project eligibility, as determined by Metro and the applicable State or federal grant criteria. Administrative review procedures developed specific to each MSP program area (Highway, Transit modes as defined in the Ordinance, which includes first/last mile, active transportation, and complete streets improvements) will be applied to projects submitted and include plan requirements and eligible use of funds within each MSP program area.*

Resources to support the steps listed in Table IX.i can be drawn from SEP funds (subject to any restrictions on amounts funded from State or federal grants), not to exceed 0.5% of the amounts for any single year determined in Step 1 of Table IX.i. Any additional resources to support the steps in Table IX.i must be drawn from resources under the control of the subregion or its constituent cities.

Advancing Funds

Metro Staff Recommendation

The amount of SEP funding that has not already been expended or allocated by the Board to another use can be advanced if recommended by Metro staff and adequately noticed to and approved by the respective subregion pursuant to Motion 38.1 (Board file #2020-0356). This motion calls for “Subregional governing body approval of any funding recommendation and use” and “Written notice to the respective Subregional governing body and representative Board offices at least 120 days before Metro recommends the use of SEP funding to ensure adequate time for subregions to understand and approve any funding recommendations.”

Beginning June 17, 2021, Motion 48 (Board file #2021-0435) amends the “Measure R and Measure M Unified Cost Management Policy” to eliminate the SEP from consideration to address project funding shortfalls during construction. Subregions may still choose to make SEP eligible for selected Measure M projects before they enter the construction phase.

SEP funding can also be advanced and included in the five-year funding forecast described in Table IX.i. This can occur if Measure M or other local, State, federal, or other funding is made available during the five-year period due to a reduction in funds programmed for a capital project resulting from a decrease in project cost, cancellation or defunding of the project, or provision of other local funds to supplant the funds, as identified and requested by a subregion. In addition, if new local, State, federal, or other funding, that is not already programmed by Metro for another use, is made available, this could be included in the five-year SEP funding forecast and credited against the balance available.

Request by Subregion

The programming of SEP funds can be considered for acceleration if requested by a subregion and in compliance with existing Board policies, including the Measure M Early Project Delivery Strategy (EPD) from November 2017 (Board file #2017-0686) and the MSP inter-program borrowing provisions in the Measure M Final Guidelines. The EPD requires scoring of proposals to accelerate funds based on factors including the amount of local match and the status of the project in its development process, so long as the acceleration does not negatively impact the funding of other Measure M projects and programs. Metro staff will evaluate the financial

impact of any proposed SEP programming and consider the potential use of debt to finance the SEP that may reduce the immediate cash flow requirement. Metro will accept all proposals by subregions, provide recommendations, and submit the proposals and recommendations to the Metro Board for consideration, which could involve an amendment to the Measure M ordinance.

The subregions may also request SEP funding to deliver a project by borrowing, or exchanging, from another MSP that has programmed funding in earlier years, in accordance with the “Cashflow Management” section of the Measure M Final Guidelines. Metro staff will be available to provide technical assistance to the subregions in preparing any proposal to borrow SEP funds.

Supplemental Funds Requirements

If project sponsors are able to fully fund projects identified in their five-year plans, consistent with procedures established within these Guidelines with SEP funds, the project sponsor may proceed to request disbursement of those funds. However, if the project requires supplemental Metro support or funding, including Metro staff resources, then the project must comply with all requirements attached to Metro-sponsored or controlled fund sources and policies, as appropriate. For example, if a project using SEP funds is matched with discretionary fund programs managed by Metro, the project is subject to all evaluation criteria, reporting requirements or other provisions of that discretionary program. There is no minimal amount of additional Metro investment that would prevent additional Measure M policy requirements. The only exception to this rule is use of Local Return funding from sales tax measures A, C, R or M. Once the Metro supplemental funding request is made, staff will notify project sponsors of policy implications.

Projects and programs utilizing additional assistance or funding are encouraged to comply with the Metro Board adopted Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Program and the Prohibition against Discrimination or Preferential Treatment by State and Other Public Entities.

READINESS

The timing of the actual distribution of funds will be determined based on project readiness. The Timely Use of Funds principle applies to the MSP and SEP and require establishing project readiness to be able to access program funds.

Project readiness will apply to separate phases of a project. Readiness thresholds will be determined for planning, environmental, right of way, and construction, and will be defined as appropriate for each funding category as determined by Metro (i.e., Highway, Transit, Active Transportation, etc.).

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The SEP funds are subject to the cash flow parameters within these Guidelines. Project sponsors must notify Metro by the last day of February of each year of the amount of subregional funding they plan to use, by project, in the subsequent fiscal year, which for Metro begins July 1. This is needed for Metro budget purposes, and the cash flow expenditure estimate provided may differ from the initial Metro funding forecast or amounts programmed in the funding agreements between Metro and the subregions. When notice is not provided, funding availability will be on a first-come, first-served basis in the subsequent fiscal year.

Per the Cashflow provisions in Section VI, the Metro Board will consider tools that allow for expediting projects within and among subregional programs. Subregional project sponsors can elect to borrow from one MSP fund amount (including the SEP) to accelerate a project in another MSP fund of a different type that may not be available until a later year. This type of inter-program borrowing within the MSP requires approval from Metro and the affected subregion.

AUDIT REQUIREMENTS

Use of Measure M funds will be subject to audit and oversight, and all other applicable state and local laws.

REVISIONS TO PROGRAM GUIDELINES

These program guidelines may be revised by the Metro Board of Directors at any time.

Month XX, 2023

Ms. Stephanie Wiggins
Chief Executive Officer
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, California 90012

Subject: WSCCOG Request for regionally equitable distribution of any accelerated Measure M Subregional Equity Program (SEP) funds.

Dear Ms. Wiggins:

As requests from other subregions to access Measure M Subregional Equity Program (SEP) funds ahead of the schedule established in the most recent Multiyear Subregional Program (MSP) cashflows continue to be adopted and transmitted to Metro, the Authority may be directed to identify near-term funding sources to accelerate the availability of SEP funding. Recent examples of these requests include the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) request to use SEP funds as a backstop for potential federal funding of the Inglewood Transit Connector (ITC) and the Gateway Cities COG request to use SEP funding for the required 3% local contributions towards the West Santa Ana Branch (WSAB) and Eastside Extension Phase II rail projects. **If Metro does identify a near-term funding source or sources to make additional SEP funds available to any of the other subregions on an accelerated basis, the Westside Cities Council of Governments (WSCCOG) requests that proportional near-term funding be made available for WSCCOG priorities on the same schedule afforded to the other requesting subregions.**

This request is in line with the original intent of SEP funding which was introduced to make the other subregions whole after the Metro Board added an additional project to the Measure M project list in the San Fernando Valley. This original intent has been unevenly maintained since the program was established as Metro has inconsistently made SEP funds available for some subregions to address project shortfalls while asking other subregions to wait decades for their proportional shares. The approach detailed in Metro's most recent SEP guidelines and MSP cashflows attempted to rectify this issue going forward (though it did nothing to address previous regional inequities in SEP funding distribution). Recent requests from other subregions could again upset this balance. **The WSCCOG respectfully asks that a regionally equitable approach be maintained at this juncture with proportional near-term funding made available to the WSCCOG if such funding is made available for any other subregions.**

Should additional near-term SEP funding be identified, WSCCOG board-adopted priorities for SEP funding include:

- Predevelopment work on the K Line Northern Extension including project engineering and federal NEPA review (Crenshaw/LAX) – 25% (\$40 million)
- Bus rapid transit (BRT) and bus Infrastructure improvements – at least 62.5% (\$100 million)
- Predevelopment activities for the proposed D Line (Purple) extension to Santa Monica – up to 12.5% (\$20 million)

The K Line Northern Extension project, in particular, has major near-term funding needs as project engineering and federal NEPA review has not yet been funded (though the Central City Subregion has also designated K Line North as one of their three priorities for SEP funding). These unfunded next steps are needed to continue progress towards shovel-readiness after Metro’s ongoing CEQA Environmental Impact Report is complete next year. Similarly, no funding source beyond SEP funding has been identified for either Westside BRT or additional predevelopment work on the D Line Extension to Santa Monica. We appreciate your ongoing efforts to support the expansion of high-quality transit on the Westside and look forward to expanding our continued partnership with Metro on these and other shared priorities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Julian Gold, M.D.
WSCCOG Chair & Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills

Cc.
Honorable Members of the Metro Board of Directors
Honorable Members of the WSCCOG Board of Directors

Enclosures

- [WSCCOG October 2021 Action Allocating \\$40m in SEP Funding to K Line North](#)
- [LADOT Report on Priorities for Central City SEP Funding including the designation of the K Line North project as one of three priorities \(Page 11\)](#)
- [WSCCOG December 2022 Action Allocating remaining Westside SEP Funds to BRT and the Metro D Line Extension to Santa Monica \(Item 3C, Page 9\)](#)

DATE: June 5, 2023
TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board
FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff
SUBJECT: Measure H City Planning Grant Remaining Funds

Recommended Action

Approve allocation of unspent funds from Culver City and West Hollywood’s City Planning Grants.

Background

On May 24, 2023, the County Homeless Initiative (HI) notified the WSCCOG staff that the contracts for Culver City (AO-19-651) and West Hollywood (AO-19-655) for program activities to address homelessness under the City Planning grant have expired on December 31, 2022. The County confirmed the following remaining funds from the cities’ contract in **Table 1**, which the County will shift the unspent amount to the WSCCOG’s current homelessness program contract (AO-19-610). The WSCCOG recommends earmarking the remaining balance back to the cities as part of the WSCCOG’s existing contract (AO-19-610) for the program and activities listed in the table below.

Table 1: Proposed Program and Activity for the City Planning Grant Remaining Funds

Jurisdiction	Funding Amount	Program/Activity
Culver City	\$40,215	Culver City proposes to allocate the remaining funds to the City’s Motel Voucher Program, which offers emergency interim housing at local motels to Culver City unhoused clients.
West Hollywood	\$68,174	West Hollywood proposes to allocate the remaining funds to the new Holloway interim housing program, which includes program development and community engagement.
Total	\$108,389	

DATE: June 5, 2023

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board

FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff

SUBJECT: Determination of Dues to be Assessed for FY 2023-24 and Adoption of Annual Budget for FY 2023-24

Recommended Action

(1) Waive the 60-day notice requirement for the determination of member dues and adopt member dues for FY 2023-24; (2) Adopt the proposed WSCCOG Annual Budget for FY 2023-24.

Annual FY 2023-24 Member Dues

The WSCCOG By-Laws require that the COG members be advised sixty (60) days in advance of the date of a meeting at which dues are to be determined and assessed for the following fiscal year. The due amount has not changed, and the notice has passed the 60-day notice requirement. The WSCCOG staff requests that the Board approve to waive the 60-day notice requirement and keep the dues at \$23,000 paid by each member for FY 2023-24.

Proposed FY 2023-24 Annual Budget

The WSCCOG By-Laws also require the adoption of an Annual Budget by July 1 of each calendar year. The proposed FY 2023-24 Annual Budget (refer to [Attachment A](#)) corresponds to the work detailed in the proposed FY 2023-24 Annual Work Plan.

- FY 2022-23 (Estimated)
 - The budget shows the estimated revenues and expenditures from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.
 - The estimated ending assets as of June 30, 2023 show a positive balance of \$126,196.

- FY 2023-24 (Proposed)
 - The budget shows the estimated revenues and expenditures based on forthcoming board meetings, as well as planning activities programmed through various grants, such as Metro funds from Measure M, County funds from Measure M, and SCAG funds from the Regional Early Action Program (refer to [Attachment B](#) for details).
 - The projected ending assets as of June 30, 2024 show a positive balance of \$130,815. It is important to note that the proposed budget assumes the cost for WSCCOG Executive Director contracted services and the FY 2023-24 audit will remain the same as the previous fiscal year.

Proposed FY 2024-25 Annual Member Dues and Budget for Board Consideration

The WSCCOG staff recommends that the Board re-assess the annual dues and the Executive Director contract services budget in FY 2024-25. **Table 1** below shows the historical, current, and proposed annual dues per member jurisdiction. The WSCCOG last assessed the member dues eight years ago (FY 2016-17). The WSCCOG staff recommends increasing the dues in FY 2024-25 by 15 percent, or \$3,500, for a total amount of \$26,500 per member jurisdiction.

Table 1: WSCCOG Annual Dues

Fiscal Year	Per Member	Difference	% Increase	Total Dues
Historical				
FY 2007-08	\$15,000			\$90,000
FY 2008-09	\$20,000	\$5,000	33%	\$120,000
Current				
FY 2016-17	\$23,000	\$3,000	15%	\$138,000
Proposed				
FY 2024-25	\$26,500	\$3,500	15%	\$159,000

WSCCOG staff also recommends modifying the monthly budget for the Executive Director contract services from \$10,000 to \$12,000 (refer to **Table 2**). Since FY 2016-17, the WSCCOG staff roles and responsibilities have increased, which includes managing three regional working groups (transportation, housing, and homelessness), as well as various regional grants on behalf of the member jurisdictions. The proposed increase in member dues would cover the proposed budget modification for the Executive Director contract services in FY 2024-25.

Table 2: WSCCOG Executive Director Contract Services

Executive Director	Per Month	Annual
Historical		
FY 2014-15	\$12,000	\$144,000
FY 2015-16	\$15,000	\$180,000
Current		
FY 2016-17	\$10,000	\$120,000

The WSCCOG Board is not required to take action on the proposed FY 2024-25 member dues and budget at this time. However, the WSCCOG staff will provide advance notice of the proposed annual dues to the Board in February 2024 for consideration, which meets the WSCCOG By-Laws to present the dues at least sixty (60) days in advance of the date of a meeting at which dues are adopted by the Board annually in June.

Attachment

- A. Proposed FY 2023-24 Annual Budget
- B. WSCCOG Programmed Funds



**WSSCOG PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024**

	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
	<i>Estimated</i>	<i>Proposed</i>
BEGINNING NET ASSETS AS OF JULY 1	121,992	126,196 ¹
REVENUES		
Operating Revenues		
Member Dues	138,000	138,000 ²
Subtotal Operating Revenues	138,000	138,000
Projects and Programs	566,996	2,731,694 ³
TOTAL REVENUES	704,996	2,869,694
TOTAL ASSETS AS OF JULY 1	826,988	2,995,890
EXPENDITURES		
Operating Expenses		
Contract Services		
Contract for Executive Director Services	120,000	120,000 ⁴
Metro Deputy Shared Salary	1,832	1,832
Administrative		
Travel and Conferences	60	50
Board Agenda Printing	1,500	500
Board Luncheon	2,700	2,700
Website and Virtual Meeting Services	504	1,100
Audit Services	7,000	7,000
Bank Fees	200	200
Subtotal Operating Expenses	133,796	133,382
Projects and Programs	566,996	2,731,694 ³
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	700,792	2,865,076
CHANGE TO FUND BALANCE	4,204	4,618
ENDING ASSETS AS OF JUNE 30	126,196	130,815
Required 15% Contingency Reserve of Operating Revenues	38,999	39,629
Net Assets in Excess of Reserve Requirement	87,197	91,185

¹ Fund balance as of July 1, 2022 based on the FY 21-22 financial audit.

² Based on current annual WSSCOG membership dues of \$23,000 per WSSCOG member.

³ Based on estimated expenditures as of June 30, 2023. Refer to Attachment B for details of the WSSCOG Programmed Funds from the County, Metro, and SCAG.

⁴ Based on current contract with Estolano Advisors for Executive Director Services at \$10,000 per month.



**WSSCOG PROGRAMMED FUNDS
FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024**

	Total Funding Amount	Estimated Balance as of July 1, 2023	Programmed Funds	
			FY 2022-23 Estimated Expenditures ¹	FY 2023-24 Proposed Allocation ²
Projects and Programs				
Measure H County Homelessness Program ³				
Innovation Funds (FY 22-23)	1,395,000	494,196	494,196	900,804
Prorated Innovation Funds (FY 22-23) ⁴	124,375	-	-	124,375
Earmarked City Planning Grants ⁵	108,389	-	-	108,389
Regional Homelessness Coordination (FY 23-24)	45,000	-	-	45,000
Local Solutions Funds (FY 23-24)	1,492,500	-	-	1,492,500
Measure M Multi-Year Subregional (MSP) Program				
Planning Activities for Active Transpo and FLM Program ⁶	94,989	45,908	10,000	20,000
SCAG Regional Early Action Program (REAP)				
REAP 1.0 Admin and Project Management Activities ⁷	6,000	4,800	4,800	1,200
REAP 2.0 Admin and Project Management Activities ⁷	16,518	-	-	8,259
Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Framework	89,167	58,000	58,000	31,167
Total Projects and Programs	3,371,938	602,904	566,996	2,731,694

¹ Based on estimated expenditures from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

² Programmed funding available on July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

³ Based on contract with the County of Los Angeles (AO-22-610).

⁴ Funds earmarked for the Regional Behavioral Health Feasibility Study.

⁵ Funds earmarked for the cities of Culver City and West Hollywood from the City Planning Grant unspent funds.

⁶ Based on funding agreement with Metro for 0.5% of the MSP funds for planning activities (FA# 9200000000M4801.01)

⁷ Based on 5% of the WSSCOG REAP allocation for administrative and project management activities.



DATE: June 5, 2023
TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board
FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff
SUBJECT: Adoption of Annual Work Plan for FY 2023-24

Recommended Action

Adopt the proposed WSCCOG Annual Work Plan for FY 2023-24.

Background

The WSCCOG staff drafted the Annual Work Plan for FY 2023-24 for WSCCOG Board's consideration that reflects the planned activities to advance the subregional priorities related to transportation, homelessness, housing, as well as studying the feasibility of a regional behavioral health center.

Attachment

- A. WSCCOG Proposed Annual Work Plan for FY 2023-24

WSCCOG Proposed Annual Work Plan for FY 2023-24

This annual work plan contains the activities to support the WSCCOG’s priorities for FY 2023-24.

Transportation Strategic Initiative

1. Conduct Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) Annual Updates

WSCCOG staff will continue to engage with Fehr & Peers to conduct activities for the annual MSP update related to the WSCCOG Active Transportation/1st and Last Mile Connection Program. These activities include the following:

- Coordinate with Fehr & Peers and Metro staff to finalize the 2023 annual MSP update for the Metro Board adoption in October 2023
- Initiate the 2024 annual MSP update with jurisdictions starting in November 2023 after Metro releases the updated MSP cashflows through FY 2027-28
- Manage the invoice and reimbursement process for consultant services related to the annual updates
- Draft and submit progress and expenditure reports to Metro

2. Develop a Process for Accessing and Accelerating the WSCCOG Subregional Equity Program (SEP) Funds

In June 2021, the Metro Board adopted a motion making SEP funding eligible for programming starting in FY 2022-23 subject to project readiness criteria and clarified that subregions may access SEP funds earlier than 2043 through a combination of inter-fund borrowing, fund exchanges with other programs and projects in their subregions, Metro Measure M bonding capacity, or other discretionary funds designated for their subregion. In December 2022, the WSCCOG Board approved the final list of transportation priorities for the SEP funds. The WSCCOG staff will work with the Transportation Working Group to identify a process and plan to access and accelerate the SEP funds.

3. Convene the WSCCOG Transportation Working Group

WSCCOG staff will continue to coordinate and facilitate monthly meetings with the WSCCOG Transportation Working Group. Activities include the following:

- Draft agenda items and meeting notes
- Coordinate and facilitate discussion topics relevant to the subregion
- Organize presentations from public agencies and stakeholders
- Develop key actions and recommendations to policies and programs for the WSCCOG Board for consideration

4. Participate in Regional Coordination with Metro and SCAG

WSCCOG staff is often invited by public agencies to participate in meetings to provide input on transportation-related proposed plans, programs, and funding, such as the following:

- Quarterly Metro’s Policy Advisory Council (PAC) meetings
- Monthly Subregional meetings with Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins
- Metro Active Transportation Strategic Plan (ATSP) Subregional Technical Working Group

5. Advocacy and Funding Opportunities

Advance the WSCCOG's transportation project and investment priorities identified in the [2020 WSCCOG Mobility Study](#) and the 2021 Strategic Unfunded Project List through the following activities:

- Draft support letters for local, state, and federal funding
- Monitor eligible grant and funding opportunities for the Westside member jurisdictions

Homelessness Strategic Initiative

1. WSCCOG Subregional Homelessness Strategic Work Plan

In April 2022, the WSCCOG Board adopted the [WSCCOG Subregional Homelessness Strategic Work Plan](#). The WSCCOG staff will continue to work with the Westside cities and relevant stakeholders to implement the following goals and activities identified in the work plan:

- Prevent Westside residents from falling into homelessness through County grants including the Innovation Fund and Local Solutions Fund program
- Expand services and programs related to behavioral health and homelessness, including studying the feasibility of a regional behavioral health center
- Improve Data Collection and Information Sharing
 - Work with the County on how jurisdictions can access and support in better data collection and information sharing as outlined in the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness final recommendations
- Build affordable and supportive housing
 - Coordinate activities through the Regional Early Action Program (REAP) projects

2. County Grant for Regional Coordination and Grant Funding

Since 2019, the WSCCOG serves as the contract administrator for the County Measure H annual grant funding for regional coordination and cities' innovation to address homelessness. The WSCCOG staff will continue conducting the following activities to administer the grants:

- Process monthly invoices and reimbursements to the member cities for programs funded by the County Innovation Fund and Local Solutions Fund
- Draft quarterly reports to the County on the activities and status of the regional coordination and programs funded by the grants
- Work with the County Chief Executive Office (CEO) to execute necessary contract amendments for additional funding proposed for the new fiscal year, including coordinating with cities on program and budget modifications
- Initiate the programming of funds for the FY 24-25 Local Solutions Fund, including identifying potential regional solutions

3. Convene the WSCCOG Homelessness Working Group

WSCCOG staff will continue to coordinate and facilitate monthly meetings with the WSCCOG Homelessness Working Group. Activities include the following:

- Draft agenda items and meeting notes
- Coordinate and facilitate discussion topics relevant to the subregion and activities outlined in the WSCCOG Subregional Homelessness Strategic Work Plan

- Organize presentations from public agencies and community organizations
- Develop key actions and recommendations to policies and programs for the WSCCOG Board for consideration

4. Advocacy and Funding Opportunities

Advance the subregion’s homelessness program and priorities identified in the 2022 WSCCOG Subregional Homelessness Strategic Work Plan through the following activities:

- Draft support letters for local, state, and federal funding
- Monitor eligible grant and funding opportunities for the Westside member jurisdictions
- Continue to communicate and advocate for successful regional coordination and improve services, such as:
 - Multi-year, flexible funding at the City and Council of Governments (COG) level
 - Meaningful, consistent engagement with, and Representation of, Cities and COGs
 - Improved data access, transparency, and coordination
 - Clear regional governance and accountability

Housing Strategic Initiative

1. Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 1.0

WSCCOG has extended the work under REAP 1.0 through December 31, 2023 to develop regional approach to Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. Activities include identifying policies and programs to scale across the subregion through collaboration with multiple jurisdictions, peer-to-peer learning, case studies and research, and funding opportunities.

2. Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) 2.0

WSCCOG staff will submit the statement of work for REAP 2.0 by June 30, 2023, which will include retaining a consultant team to provide on-call technical assistance to support jurisdictions in implementing their housing elements, as well as a consultant to conduct activities to establish a Regional Housing Trust. This task includes designing a funding program; facilitating the legal coordination of a joints power authority; and developing a staffing plan along with a policy and procedures manual. The WSCCOG staff will monitor the activities and provide administrative and program management support for REAP 2.0.

3. WSCCOG Housing Working Group

WSCCOG staff will continue to coordinate and facilitate meetings with the WSCCOG Housing Working Group. Activities include the following:

- Draft agenda items and meeting notes
- Organize presentations from public agencies and community organizations on topics related to housing
- Develop key actions and recommendations to housing policies and programs for the WSCCOG Board for consideration
- Monitor legislation related to Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) reform

Behavioral Health Center Feasibility Study

In December 2022, the WSCCOG Board adopted a work plan to study the feasibility of a regional behavioral health center. Activities under the work plan include the following:

1. Ongoing Engagement with the WSCCOG Homelessness Working Group

The WSCCOG staff will continue to engage with the WSCCOG Homelessness Working Group to implement the activities outlined in the work plan as the Working Group members are currently involved closely with the programs and services related to behavioral and mental health in the Westside region. The Working Group will also invite key stakeholders (including other city departments, first responders, County Department of Mental Health, hospitals, and service providers) to participate in discussions and the planning process.

2. Update Landscape Scan on Current Services and Programs

The WSCCOG staff drafted a high-level landscape scan to identify current and future local efforts related to behavioral crisis and mental health services in the Westside subregion. The findings will inform ongoing discussions with the Homelessness Working Group and potential partners in building the vision for the Westside regional facility. WSCCOG staff will continue to update this information to help identify potential gaps in services that could be housed at the regional facility and/or other sites, such as Project HomeKey.

3. Engage the Legal Counsels Regarding Service Planning Areas (SPA)

The County of Los Angeles health, social, mental, and homeless services are organized by Service Planning Areas (SPA). The cities of Beverly Hills, Culver City, Santa Monica are located within the SPA 5 region, whereas West Hollywood is located in SPA 4. This poses a potential challenge for West Hollywood to access County-funded services if a proposed regional facility is located in a different SPA region. If necessary, the WSCCOG staff will engage the County Counsel and the WSCCOG legal counsel to address potential barriers for the City of West Hollywood in accessing services at the proposed Westside regional facility if it is located outside of SPA 4.

4. Brief the Westside Subregion Councilmembers and Legislators

The WSCCOG staff will brief State and Federal legislators representing the Westside subregion on the work plan and discuss potential partnership and coordinated efforts with member jurisdictions.

5. Engage with the County, Philanthropic Organizations, and Potential Partners

The WSCCOG staff will engage with the County Department of Mental Health, philanthropic organizations, hospitals, and other organizations to forge strategic partnerships, as well as identify grant and funding opportunities for a request for proposal to solicit consulting firms and organizations with subject matter expertise to develop a comprehensive behavioral health strategy and operational plan for a Westside regional facility.

6. Draft a Request for Information and Qualifications (RFIQ) for a Westside Regional Behavioral Health Center Feasibility Study

In April 2023, the WSCCOG Board approved funding from the County Homeless Initiative to retain a consultant to develop a comprehensive behavioral health strategy and operational plan for a Westside regional facility. WSCCOG staff will draft and facilitate the Request for Information and Qualifications (RFIQ) process to solicit potential individuals and/or consultants to conduct the tasks related to understanding the costs and feasibility of starting and operating a regional facility.

Administrative Activities

All administrative activities, with the exception of the Treasurer’s duties, will be performed by the WSCCOG Executive Director team. The WSCCOG staff may utilize cities’ staff when necessary. Administrative responsibilities and activities will include the following:

- Conduct all other administrative activities as stipulated in the Executive Director contract

- Facilitate bi-monthly WSCCOG Board Meetings, including producing board agenda packets and providing agenda briefings to member cities' staff
- Serve as the filing officer for the California Fair Political Practices Commission Statement of Economic Interests Form 700
- Develop the draft annual work plan and budget
- Serve as principal liaison with key federal, state, regional, and local agency entities and officials
- Monitor upcoming appointments and facilitate SCAG Regional Council elections for WSCCOG representatives
- Update and maintain the content on the WSCCOG website
- Coordinate with other COG subregional directors on regional activities
- Draft support letters for WSCCOG cities for local, state, and federal funding



DATE: June 5, 2023
TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board
FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff
SUBJECT: Estolano Advisors Contract Renewal for WSCCOG Executive Director Services

Recommended Action

Approve a contract extension with the Estolano Advisors to continue providing Executive Director services to the WSCCOG, effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Background

Since March 2014, Estolano Advisors has served as the Executive Director of the WSCCOG and advanced various strategic initiatives including transportation, economic development, sustainability, housing, and homelessness. For a summary of the Executive Director year in review of activities and completed tasks, refer to [Attachment A](#).

Estolano Advisors proposes to amend the WSCCOG Executive Director services agreement to extend the contract for one year effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 (refer to [Attachment B](#)).

Attachments

- A. WSCCOG Executive Director FY 2022-23 Year in Review
- B. Estolano Advisors WSCCOG Executive Director Contract Amendment for FY 2023-24

WSSCOG Executive Director Year in Review

July 2022 – June 2023

ONGOING ACTIVITIES	KEY MILESTONES/ACCOMPLISHMENTS
<p>Administrative</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare and conduct WSSCOG Board Meetings and conduct agenda briefings with member cities’ staff and the WSSCOG Chair 2. Manage appointments for WSSCOG representatives on various committees (SCAG, Metro, etc.) 3. Serve as the Filing Officer for Form 700s 4. Participate in quarterly SCAG Subregional Executive Director Meetings 5. Participate in monthly subregional COG Directors meetings 6. Maintain website content 7. Draft the annual budget and work plan 8. Work with the WSSCOG Treasurer to complete the annual audit 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinated with WSSCOG Boardmembers and provided technical assistance in filing the Form 700, including Assuming and Leaving Office statements 2. Released call for nominations of various appointments of COG representatives in a timely manner to avoid gaps in service 3. Managed updates on Twitter and the WSSCOG website 4. Worked with the WSSCOG Treasurer to identify a new auditor that meets the COG budget and completed the FY 2022-23 WSSCOG audit 5. Host hybrid WSSCOG Board meeting to increase public participation 6. Conducted one-on-one meetings between the WSSCOG Executive Director and the new WSSCOG Board Members for the cities of Santa Monica, Los Angeles, and the County Board of Supervisor
<p>Transportation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare and conduct monthly Transportation Working Group meetings 2. Conduct the Measure M Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) Annual Update 3. Develop criteria and process to identify list of transportation priorities for the Measure M Subregional Equity Program (SEP) funds 4. Advance the priorities and projects outlined in the 2020 WSSCOG Mobility Study and the WSSCOG Unfunded Strategic Project List 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiated the MSP annual update in Q1 2023 2. Coordinated with the Transportation Working Group to finalize the Subregional Equity Program (SEP) list of transportation priorities, which the WSSCOG Board adopted in December 2022 3. Continued to identify grants and funding opportunities for the Transportation Working Group
<p>Homelessness</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare and conduct monthly Homelessness Working Group meetings 2. Attend meetings and conferences related to homelessness 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinated with cities to process budget modifications for the Innovations Fund 2. Coordinated with the Homelessness Working Group and City Managers to

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Processed and manage reimbursements for cities for the County Homeless Initiative grants 4. Prepare quarterly progress reports to the County on the status of the grant activities 	<p>identify regional solutions and activities for the County Local Solutions Fund</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Executed the County contract amendment for the FY 2022-23 regional coordination and innovation funds 4. Identified funding opportunities for jurisdictions related to homelessness 5. Coordinated a special WSCCOG Board meeting in September 2023 with Be Well OC to discuss regional behavioral health services and infrastructure 6. Developed a work plan to study the feasibility of a regional behavioral health center, which the WSCCOG Board adopted in December 2022
<p>Housing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare and conduct the Housing Working Group meetings on an as-needed basis 2. Prepare quarterly progress reports to SCAG on the status of the grant activities related to REAP 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Worked with jurisdictions and conducted research to identify a regional approach to affirmatively furthering fair housing framework through the REAP Subregional Partnership Program 2. Worked with ECONorthwest on the REAP study to analyze housing funding opportunities and the feasibility of a Regional Housing Trust 3. Coordinated with SCAG staff to identify activities for the REAP 2.0 Subregional Partnership program 4. Monitored state and local efforts to RHNA reform

TENTH AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SERVICES AGREEMENT

This tenth Amendment to the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SERVICES AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is made and entered on this 8th day of June, 2023 by and between the WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (“WSCCOG”), a California Joint Powers Authority and ESTOLANO ADVISORS, a California corporation (“CONTRACTOR”).

RECITALS

A. WSCCOG and CONTRACTOR entered into a Services Agreement (hereinafter the “Agreement”) as of February 25, 2014, providing for CONTRACTOR to provide Executive Director services to WSCCOG, as amended on March 31, 2015, March 10, 2016, May 12, 2016, May 18, 2017, May 17, 2018, June 13, 2019, June 11, 2020, June 10, 2021, and June 11, 2022.

B. The parties now desire to again modify the Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the parties mutually agree as follows:

1. Section 2 Term of the Agreement is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

This Agreement commenced on February 25, 2014, and was renewed on March 31, 2015, March 10, 2016, May 12, 2016, May 18, 2017, May 17, 2018, June 13, 2019, June 11, 2020, June 10, 2021, and June 11, 2022. Unless extended by mutual written agreement of the parties or earlier terminated as provided below, this Agreement shall terminate on June 30, 2024.

2. The scope of work and hourly rates set forth in Exhibit A for Additional Services beyond the services set forth in Exhibit A shall be amended as follows:

EXHIBIT A

Work Plan and Budget:

- Annual Work Plan: Contractor shall lead and manage the objectives outlined in the FY 2023-24 Annual Work Plan as approved by the WSCCOG Board.
- Advocacy and Outreach: Contractor shall organize and provide advocacy efforts to further WSCCOG's programs and objectives. Contractor shall serve as liaison with key federal, state, regional, and local agency entities and officials to further WSCCOG's programs and priorities.
- Contractor shall enhance outreach efforts to member cities and surrounding communities regarding WSCCOG efforts. This shall include maintaining and updating the WSCCOG website and social media with any relevant information.
- Contractor shall develop the meeting schedule for WSCCOG Board meetings for the duration of this agreement.
- Contractor shall schedule Transportation Working Group, Housing Working Group, and Homelessness Working Group meetings, as needed during the duration of this agreement.
- Contractor shall develop policy priorities and objectives for the following fiscal year.
- Contractor shall develop an internal implementation plan to ensure that key objectives are being met and that WSCCOG leadership is informed of key milestones and benchmarks.

Administrative Support:

- Contractor shall hire, supervise and manage all related consultant services to achieve WSCCOG's goals and objectives.
- Contractor shall provide administrative support for all WSCCOG Board meetings and conference calls (i.e. agendas, minutes, etc.).
- Contractor shall provide any necessary assistance to Board members, city staff and other committees and working groups to ensure that various projects are completed in a timely and satisfactory manner.
- Contractor shall provide strategic advice and recommendations to the WSCCOG Governing Board, and shall work closely with key WSCCOG members such as City Managers and staff to advance WSCCOG initiatives.
- Contractor shall serve as the WSCCOG Filing Officer for the California Fair Political Practices Commission- Statement of Economic Interests Form 700 as required from Governing Board Members and Treasurer.

- Contractor shall manage and process invoices, reimbursements, and progress reports for grant programs related to housing, homelessness, and transportation.

Compensation:

- Additional Services shall be performed with prior approval of the Board and shall be compensated based on Estolano Advisor’s hourly rates for that year:

Except as herein amended, in all other respects the Agreement is reaffirmed and is in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the day and year first shown above.

ESTOLANO ADVISORS

By: _____
Cecilia V. Estolano, CEO

Date: _____

WESTSIDE CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

By: _____
WSCCOG Chair

Date: _____

ATTEST:

By: _____
WSCCOG Secretary

Date: _____

By: _____
WSCCOG Attorney

Date: _____

DATE: June 5, 2023
TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board
FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff
SUBJECT: Election of WSCCOG Board Officers for FY 2023-24

Recommended Action

(1) Chair calls for nominations for the position of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, (2) Close the nominations; (3) and call for the vote or declare the election by acclamation.

Background

The WSCCOG Joint Powers Agreement and By-laws prescribe that the officer position of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary shall be elected at the WSCCOG annual meeting. The term shall commence on July 1, 2023 and expire June 30, 2024. The duties and responsibilities of the officers are as follows:

- Chair** The role of the Chair of the Governing Board shall conduct all meetings of the Governing Board and perform other such duties and functions as required by provisions of applicable law, the By-laws, or by the direction of the Governing Board.

- Vice Chair** The role of Vice Chair shall serve as Chair (in the absence of the Chair) and shall perform such duties as may be required by provisions of applicable law, the By-laws, or by the direction of the Governing Board or the Chair.

- Secretary** The role of Secretary shall keep a record of all proceedings and perform the usual duties of such office.

WSCCOG Previous Board Officers

The position of these officers has been filled by the following elected officials in the previous years:

2022-23

- Chair:** Julian Gold, M.D., Beverly Hills
- Vice Chair:** Göran Eriksson, Culver City
- Secretary:** Oscar de la Torre, Santa Monica
- Treasurer:** City of Culver City

2021-22

- Chair:** Sepi Shyne, West Hollywood
- Vice Chair:** Robert Wunderlich, Beverly Hills

Secretary: Alex Fisch, Culver City
Treasurer: City of Beverly Hills

2020-21

Chair: Kevin McKeown, Santa Monica
Vice Chair: John Heilman/Lauren Meister, West Hollywood
Secretary: Robert Wunderlich, Beverly Hills
Treasurer: City of Beverly Hills

2019-20

Chair: Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City
Vice Chair: Kevin McKeown, Santa Monica
Secretary: John Heilman, West Hollywood
Treasurer: City of Beverly Hills

2018-19

Chair: John Mirisch, Beverly Hills
Vice Chair: Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City
Secretary: Kevin McKeown, Santa Monica
Treasurer: City of Beverly Hills

2017-18

Chair: Lauren Meister, West Hollywood
Vice Chair: John Mirisch, Beverly Hills
Secretary: Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City
Treasurer: City of Beverly Hills

2016-17

Chair: Kevin McKeown, Santa Monica
Vice Chair: Lauren Meister, West Hollywood
Secretary: John Mirisch, Beverly Hills
Treasurer: City of West Hollywood

2015-16

Chair: Jeffrey Cooper, Culver City
Vice Chair: Kevin McKeown, Santa Monica
Secretary: William Brien, M.D., Beverly Hills
Treasurer: City of West Hollywood



DATE: June 5, 2023

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board

FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report

WSCCOG Board Appointments

In 2002, the California State Legislature established the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) to monitor, assess, coordinate and advise the activities of state programs and oversee funding that affects the beneficial uses, restoration and enhancement of Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds. The cities of Beverly Hills, Culver City, Santa Monica, and West Hollywood are within the Ballona Creek watershed portion of the Santa Monica Bay watershed and are eligible to be represented on the SMBRC Governing Board by a mayor or city councilmember. The WSCCOG representatives are voting members of the SMBRC Governing Board. The Governing Board meets in-person on the third Thursday of the even-numbered months at 9:30 a.m. at the Del Rey Yacht Club located in Marina Del Rey. For more information, visit www.smbrc.ca.gov.

The term for the current WSCCOG primary representative to the SMBRC Governing Board Vice Mayor Yasmine-Imani McMorrin (City of Culver City) ends on August 31, 2023. The WSCCOG announces the call for candidates interested in serving a two-year term on the SMBRC Governing Board effective September 1, 2023. The representative will also have an opportunity to identify up to two alternate representatives. The WSCCOG staff will be accepting letters of interest until Friday, July 30, 2023, and the WSCCOG Board will take action to appoint the representative on August 10, 2023. Interested candidates are encouraged to submit the letter to WSCCOG Project Director Winnie Fong at winnie@estolanoadvisors.com.

WSCCOG Recent Activities

Below is a summary of WSCCOG activities between April 18, 2023 and June 5, 2023:

Administrative Activities

WSCCOG staff coordinated with cities' staff to file outstanding Form 700 Assuming and Leaving office statements. WSCCOG Executive Director and staff also conducted one-on-one briefings with new WSCCOG Boardmembers, including County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath and Council members Traci Park and Katy Yaroslavsky.

Transportation and Homelessness Working Groups

WSCCOG staff convened the Transportation and Homelessness Working Groups in April and May. Refer to [Attachment A](#) and [Attachment B](#) for the agenda items discussed in the meeting.

Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) 1.0

WSCCOG staff met with consultant ECONorthwest to provide feedback on the pro forma and funding gap analysis, as well as the final recommendations for a regional affordable housing funding program study under the REAP Subregional Partnership Program. WSCCOG staff continued to work on the regional approach to Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing and met one-on-one with cities' housing and homelessness staff to narrow down potential policies and programs to scale across the subregion through collaboration with multiple jurisdictions, peer-to-peer learning, case studies and research, and funding opportunities. WSCCOG staff is working with SCAG staff to extend this work through December 31, 2023.

Housing Updates

WSCCOG Proposed Scope of Work for the Regional Early Action Plan (REAP) 2.0 SCAG Subregional Partnership Program

The state REAP 2.0 grant supports accelerating housing production, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and aiding historically underserved communities and areas of concentrated poverty. SCAG has allocated a total of \$330,355 of REAP 2.0 funds to the WSCCOG based on the final 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation in the SCAG region. The WSCCOG staff coordinated with SCAG staff regarding the REAP 2.0 Subregional Partnership Program and requested an extension to submit the scope of work by June 30, 2023.

The WSCCOG staff proposed to the Board at the April 20th Board meeting that REAP 2.0 funds can be used to continue the work to establish a Regional Housing Trust, which the Board approved. WSCCOG staff proposes to allocate approximately 60 percent of the funds for the COG's Regional Housing Trust effort. The scope of work will include topics and tasks identified by the WSCCOG Boardmembers at the April 20th Board meeting. WSCCOG staff will use the 5 percent of allocated funds towards administrative activities (e.g., review project invoices, process contract amendments, and preparing project progress reports), as well as coordinating and facilitating conversations with the member jurisdictions and stakeholders on the Regional Housing Trust effort. The remaining 35 percent of the funds will be allocated towards on-call technical assistance to support member jurisdictions in implementing the housing elements.

SCAG Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Reform Draft Recommendations and Feedback Survey

Concurrent with the statewide Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) reform outreach conducted by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), SCAG will conduct its own outreach for collecting input on its draft RHNA reform recommendations. Draft recommendations (refer to [Attachment C](#)). Starting May 15, through Friday, June 30, SCAG is seeking input from jurisdictions, stakeholders, and the public on its draft recommendations to reform the RHNA process via a short online survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/RHNA-Reform.

In addition to the survey, SCAG will host two virtual public listening sessions on Thursday, June 22 from 1-3 p.m. and Tuesday, June 27 from 1-3 p.m. For more information and registration, click [here](#). Questions and comments can be submitted to housing@scag.ca.gov.

Transportation Updates

Measure M Multi-Subregional Program Planning Activities Contract Agreement

In FY 2017-18, Caltrans awarded SCAG a federal transportation planning grant with WSCCOG as the partner agency to prepare the Westside Mobility Study update. Metro also awarded WSCCOG with \$94,989 (0.5% of Measure M funds) to support the Multi-Year Subregional Program (MSP) project development process through June 30, 2023. SCAG and WSCCOG retained Fehr & Peers as the consultant to conduct both the Westside Mobility Study and the develop the MSP projects. In 2019, the WSCCOG and SCAG entered a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to combine the work for both the Caltrans project and the MSP project, which expires on June 30, 2023. WSCCOG completed its mobility study in 2020 and the MSP project list development in 2021, as well as annual MSP updates through June 30, 2023.

Since the SCAG MOU ends on June 30, 2023, the WSCCOG staff proposes to enter a separate contract agreement directly with Fehr & Peers to continue the annual MSP updates and planning activities for the Active Transportation/1st and Last Mile Connections Program. WSCCOG staff will work with the COG legal counsel to draft the agreement, which will outline a schedule to program the remaining MSP project development funds through FY 2025-26. Once the entire allocated funds are spent, WSCCOG will work with Metro to draft and execute a new funding agreement to access an additional 0.5% of MSP project development funds from Measure M to continue the MSP annual updates.

WSCCOG Transportation Working Group

Agenda for Tuesday, April 25, 2023

1. WSCCOG Updates

- a. MSP Annual Update
 - i. Background
 1. MSP/SEP 5-Year Cash Flows
 2. March Presentation from Fehr and Peers
 3. MSP can fund environmental analysis, design, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and construction for capital projects
 - ii. Timeline
 1. Draft update on May 9th
 2. Revised update on May 23rd
 3. Request to COG Board in June
 4. Request to Metro Board in October
 - iii. Updates from Each Jurisdiction
 1. Updates from February
- b. Potential Subregional Equity Program (SEP) Acceleration Request
 - i. Gateway Cities COG Example
 - ii. South Bay COG Example
 - iii. West Hollywood interested in accelerating SEP funds
- c. Automated Vehicle Policy and Implementation
 - i. Updates from Each Jurisdiction
- d. Future TWG Agenda Items

2. Funding Opportunities

- a. **Due Date Extended to May 5** - Metro Visionary Seed Fund
 - i. Notice of Funding Opportunity
 1. \$3 million total for up to six pilot projects
 2. No minimum award size
 3. Minimum 40% local cost share either in cash or in-kind
 4. 30 month timeline for project development, implementation, and evaluation
 5. Questions due April 21, 2023
 6. Application due May 5, 2023
 - ii. Interest from jurisdictions
- b. Caltrans Reconnecting Communities Highways to Boulevards (RC:H2B) Program - [\[Link\]](#)
 - i. Call for Projects - Late Spring or Early Summer 2023
 - ii. Draft Guidelines Available - [\[Link\]](#)
 - iii. Third Stakeholder Workshop Recap - [\[Link\]](#)
- c. SCAG Grant Opportunities Overview - [\[Link\]](#)

3. Metro Items

- a. **Feedback due Wednesday 4/26** - Active Transportation Strategic Plan (ATSP) Update

4. Recurring Items

- a. Westside/Central Service Council Meeting - Recap

- b. Sepulveda Transit Corridor
 - i. Metro receiving feedback via email at sepulvedatransit@metro.net

5. Upcoming Meetings

- a. WSCCOG MSP Update Discussion - May 9, 2023
 - i. Optional Zoom meeting for jurisdiction staff
- b. WSCCOG Transportation Working Group Meeting - May 23, 2023
 - i. Virtually through Zoom
- c. WSCCOG Board Meeting - June 8, 2023
 - i. 12-1:15 pm in West Hollywood

Agenda for Tuesday, May 23, 2023

1. WSCCOG Updates

- a. MSP Annual Update
- b. Potential SEP Acceleration Request
- c. Automated Vehicle Implementation
- d. Future TWG Agenda Items

2. Funding Opportunities

- a. SCAG Grant Opportunities Overview - [\[Link\]](#)

3. Recurring Items

- a. Westside/Central Service Council Meeting Recap
- b. Sepulveda Transit Corridor
- c. Crenshaw Northern Extension

4. Upcoming Meetings

- a. WSCCOG Board Meeting - June 8, 2023
 - i. 12-1:15 pm in West Hollywood
- b. WSCCOG Transportation Working Group Meeting - June 27, 2023
 - i. Virtually through Zoom

WSSCOG Homelessness Working Group

Agenda for Wednesday, April 26, 2023

1. **Presentation and Discussion (20 min)**
 - a. Hollywood 2.0 Presentation and Q&A with La Tina Jackson at DMH (Rescheduled from November 2022)
2. **WSSCOG Update (20 min)**
 - a. WSSCOG Board Decisions on 4/20
 - i. Local Solutions Funds
 - ii. Regional Housing Trust
 - iii. Westside Subregional Behavioral Health Center Feasibility Study
 - b. Innovation Funds
 - i. Invoice payment reminder
3. **County CEO-HI and LAHSA Updates (10 min)**
 - a. [Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program](#)
 - b. County's Homeless Emergency Response - [Encampment resolution mission](#)
4. **Funding Opportunity (5 min)**
 - a. 24-hr Safe Parking Program RFP <https://www.lahsa.org/documents?id=7106-24-hour-safe-parking-program-rfp-2023->
 - b. Project HomeKey Round 3 – Due July 28 <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/homekey/program-forms>
5. **Next Meeting**
 - a. WSSCOG Board Meeting (Thursday, June 8 @ 12pm)
 - b. WSSCOG Homelessness Working Group (Wednesday, May 24 @ 9am)

Agenda for Wednesday, May 24, 2023

1. **Presentation - [LA County Food Equity Roundtable](#) (15 min)**
 - a. The Los Angeles County Food Equity Roundtable, co-led by LA County and its LA-area philanthropic partners, is a coalition of leading cross-sector organizations dedicated to advancing food justice and addressing inequities in food systems for the most vulnerable in the region. We launched our [Strategic Plan](#) (pdf) in December 2022, and the LA County has officially passed a motion to formally accept the plan as the county roadmap towards food security.
2. **WSSCOG Updates (35 min)**
 - a. County Innovation Fund and Local Solutions Fund
 - b. Regional AFFH Framework (REAP Study)
3. **Standing Agenda Items (8 min)**
 - a. County Homeless Initiative
 - b. LAHSA – SPA 5 External Relations and Gov't Affairs staff

4. Informational Item (1 min)

- a. Medi-Cal Redetermination Street Medicine Provider Toolkit
- b. LAHSA Event: Latinos Experiencing Homelessness Summit on Friday, May 26

5. Next Meeting (1 min)

- a. WSCCOG Board – Thursday June 8 @ 12pm
 - 1. Initium Health Presentation –Regional Behavioral Health Centers national best practices
- b. WSCCOG Homelessness Working Group – Wednesday, June 28 @ 9am

RHNA Reform Draft Recommendations Matrix

In July and August of 2022, SCAG staff conducted a stakeholder engagement process to gather input and feedback on RHNA reform. The staff has reviewed the input and comments received during this process and have prepared draft recommendations. These draft recommendations will be reviewed and approved by SCAG's Community, Economic and Human Development (CEHD) Committee and Regional Council in late summer of 2023. Once the recommendations are approved, they will be used to inform a comment letter that SCAG will submit to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) in mid-September of 2023.

The matrix below summarizes the comments received and provides staff's response as well as proposed draft recommendations. Comments may be submitted to housing@scag.ca.gov. To ensure feedback is considered for draft recommendations to CEHD and Regional Council, please submit comments no later than Friday, June 30, 2023.

Regional Determination			
	Comment Summary	Staff Response	Recommendation
1	Decades of existing housing need cannot be addressed in one RHNA cycle and should be spread out over multiple cycles.	<p>The 6th cycle RHNA allocations were much higher than previous cycles and now considers overcrowded households and cost burdened households (and a target vacancy rate for a healthy housing market). SCAG had advocated the RHNA numbers be allocated among multiple cycles earlier in the 6th RHNA cycle process, but HCD was not supportive of this idea. SCAG staff recommends that existing need from the regional determination be extended across multiple planning cycles to ensure that the RHNA can be fully accommodated by jurisdictions.</p> <p>In addition to amending RHNA reform, SCAG staff recommends extending the housing element planning periods over multiple cycles to be consistent with the extension of the determination period for existing need.</p>	<i>Legislative change and additional exploration by SCAG outside of RHNA reform and include in comment letter.</i>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
2	<p>The regional determination process should be transparent and open to the public.</p>	<p>SCAG staff recommends that procedures be established for HCD to publicize its data sources and analyses prior to finalization of the regional determination to facilitate a transparent process with accessible information prior to finalization from HCD.</p>	<p><i>Legislative change and include in comment letter.</i></p>
3	<p>The regional determination should include additional assumptions and factors, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Populations in institutions • Market factors • Land available and capacity for development 	<p>The current determination process excludes populations within institutions, such as dormitories, prisons, and nursing homes because the units housing them are not considering housing units for DOF purposes, nor are they generally considered as units for housing element purposes. SCAG recommends continuing excluding them from the regional determination process but encourages jurisdictions to address these populations accordingly in their local housing elements.</p> <p>Land availability and capacity to accommodate housing need were not a factor in the State’s determination of regional housing need, nor did SCAG include land availability in its methodology for allocating RHNA assignments to each jurisdiction. SCAG currently has the authority to revisit its allocation methodology for the 7th cycle and can consider land availability and capacity if desired by the Regional Council. However, SCAG cannot limit its consideration of suitable housing sites or land suitable for urban development to existing zoning ordinances and land use restrictions and must consider the potential for increased residential development under alternative zoning ordinances and land use restrictions. While there may be some areas that are not suitable for residential development, it does not preclude a jurisdiction from</p>	<p><i>No change</i></p>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
		evaluating areas that are suitable for development and considering planning tools to accommodate housing need such as increased density, affordable housing overlays, and mixed-used zoning.	
4	The regional determination should have a strong jobs housing relationship.	One of the objectives of State housing law is to further the promotion of an improved intraregional relationship between jobs and housing. SCAG is committed to ensuring that the determination process by HCD considers all available data sources. SCAG agrees with this recommendation and will facilitate conversations with HCD to continue furthering this objective.	<i>SCAG and HCD administrative change and include in letter.</i>
5	Assumptions and data sources have errors	There was disagreement from COGs (such as SCAG) on assumptions used by HCD in the 6 th cycle RHNA determination. Additionally, a 2022 State audit concluded that HCD's process lacks sufficient reviews and support and recommended that the Department institute formal processes to review and document its considerations. SCAG staff agrees with this recommendation and also recommends that HCD convene a panel of experts as part of the determination process. The panel could be comprised of representatives from the Census, academia, and another COG and advise HCD on their assumptions, data, and analysis prior to the Department making its final determination.	<i>Legislative change and include in letter.</i>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
		This would support a fair and transparent process when determining regional housing need.	
6	A panel of experts composed of private individuals creates an opportunity to politicize the process.	SCAG staff recommends a panel comprising of representatives of public agencies and academia to minimize the politicization of the regional determination.	<i>Legislative change and include in letter</i>
7	The regional determination should be provided by HCD earlier than what is currently in statute.	Currently State law requires that HCD provide a regional determination to a COG at least 26 months before a housing element due date. For the 6th cycle SCAG staff requested HCD to provide it at an earlier date to have more time to coordinate the concurrent Sustainable Communities Strategy, prepare the RHNA methodology, increase local engagement, and have potentially additional time to hear RHNA appeals (see comment #21). However, HCD did not fulfill this request and provided the determination in August 2019, exactly 26 months prior to the October 2021 housing element due date. SCAG staff recommends an earlier date be codified to receive a regional determination.	<i>Legislative change</i>
Methodology			
8	The RHNA methodology should consider factors such as land unavailable for development or available sites.	SCAG cannot limit its consideration of suitable housing sites or land suitable for urban development to existing zoning ordinances and land use restrictions and must consider the potential for increased residential development under alternative zoning ordinances and land use restrictions. While there may be some areas that are not suitable for residential development, it does not preclude a jurisdiction from evaluating areas that are suitable for development and	<i>No change</i>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
		considering planning tools to accommodate housing need such as increased density, affordable housing overlays, and mixed-used zoning. However, SCAG staff recommends consideration of a variety of opportunities and constraints as part of the 7 th cycle methodology development, starting in 2026.	
9	The RHNA allocation should remain more in line with Connect SoCal growth estimates. Consistency between the two plans should be the primary objectives instead of an equally uniform distribution. SCAG should better illustrate the relationship between the two plans. The methodology should completely align with Connect SoCal goals and remove conflicting factors such as using a car to travel to jobs.	The RHNA allocation is a representation of existing and projected housing based on DOF projections, which is a single-objective population forecast. The RTP/SCS is long range vision plan that uses growth estimates consider employment growth or housing growth explicitly and is based on a requirement to meet any future conformity, GHG, and other policy target.	<i>No change</i>
10	The RHNA methodology should only consider data until the end of the RHNA planning cycle rather than the longer-term projections of the Connect SoCal plan.	The 6 th cycle methodology-based factors such as projected growth, transit access, and job access based on 2045 data from Connect SoCal rather than the end of the RHNA planning cycle (2029). The reason for this was to better align RHNA with the development pattern of Connect SoCal. The data available for interim years of Connect SoCal, rather than the horizon year (2045), generally go through less rigorous development and public outreach/comment processes. Furthermore, since it is anticipated that housing stock built during the next cycle of RHNA will be in use for several decades, it is meaningful to align it to transportation, job, and other factors associated with the plan’s horizon year. SCAG staff do not recommend changes to this methodology assumption for future RHNA cycles. However,	<i>To explored by SCAG in the 7th RHNA cycle and include in letter.</i>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
		this assumption, along with others, will be reviewed and determined as part of the 7 th RHNA cycle starting in 2026.	
11	The threshold of whether a jurisdiction was categorized as a disadvantaged community should be reconsidered.	The 6 th cycle methodology used adjusted formulas for jurisdictions designated as disadvantaged. A jurisdiction was considered disadvantaged if 50 percent or more of its population resided in low resource areas. SCAG staff are exploring other ways to include equity and furthering AFFH in the 7th cycle.	<i>To explored by SCAG in the 7th RHNA cycle and include in letter.</i>
12	The distribution of RHNA should ensure that higher income jurisdictions receive their fair share of regional need.	The existing RHNA methodology ensures that each jurisdiction must receive a fair share of their regional housing need. This includes a fair share of planning for enough housing for all income levels, and consideration of factors that indicate areas that have high and low concentration of access to opportunity. SCAG will continue to further these goals in future RHNA cycles.	<i>No change</i>
13	There should be a stronger relationship between jobs and housing. Areas that have a high concentration of jobs should receive a higher allocation. Jurisdictions that initiate job growth should accommodate housing growth. The income level of jobs should be a factor.	One of the five objectives of State housing law require that the methodology further an improved relationship between jobs and housing. Job growth and housing development should be closely linked at a regional level, and the RHNA methodology and allocation can help ensure that both are addressed regionally in a coordinated manner. The 6th cycle methodology considered job access as one of the factors for determining a jurisdiction's housing need. SCAG staff recommends that the methodology continue to consider the jobs housing relationship across the region through the exact approach will be decided by the 7th cycle RHNA process.	<i>To explored by SCAG in the 7th RHNA cycle and include in letter.</i>
14	The RHNA methodology should consider factors such as density, overcrowding, telework, and the presence of a	The 6 th cycle RHNA methodology considered a variety of factors as part of the development process. Factors such as density, overcrowding, and the presence of a university were	<i>To explored by SCAG in the 7th RHNA cycle and</i>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
	university. More allocation should be assigned to areas with HQTAs and transit.	considered but not ultimately included in the adopted methodology. Areas with population within an HQTAs were assigned housing need based on this factor. Remote work was not included as a specific consideration. SCAG staff recommends consideration of a variety of factors, including these, as part of the 7 th cycle methodology development, starting in 2026.	<i>included in comment letter.</i>
15	Assigning need based on HQTAs disincentivizes jurisdictions from incorporating transit infrastructure since they will get assigned more housing need.	Connect SoCal is supported by a combination of transportation and land use strategies that outline how the region can achieve California’s greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and federal Clean Air Act requirements. The plan also strives to achieve broader regional objectives, such as the preservation of natural lands, improvement of public health, increased roadway safety, and support for the region’s vital goods movement industries. Transit is a core component of the Connect SoCal Plan and because a degree of consistency is required between RHNA and Connect SoCal, there needs to be a consideration of transit in the RHNA methodology. SCAG staff will explore additional methods to consider transit as a factor in RHNA methodology.	<i>To explored by SCAG in the 7th RHNA cycle</i>
16	More time should be made available for jurisdictions to review the methodology.	SCAG is committed to maximizing public participation in the RHNA process, including the development of the methodology. An earlier regional determination from HCD than what is currently in statute would allow for a longer methodology development process. SCAG recommends that the regional determination be provided earlier so that the methodology development process can include more meaningful local engagement and maximizing public participation (see comment #7)	<i>Legislative change to add earlier regional determination from HCD</i>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
Appeals			
17	The appeal process should not allow for jurisdictions to appeal the allocation of other jurisdictions	State legislation allows other jurisdictions and HCD to appeal another jurisdiction's draft RHNA allocation. To allow for adequate due process, SCAG staff believes it is important to allow for a jurisdiction to appeal to each other's RHNA allocation number.	<i>No change</i>
18	The bases for appeal should not be expanded	State housing law allows three bases for appeal, which includes the application of the RHNA methodology, change of circumstance, and a specific list of land use factors. The specific list allows the opportunity for the COG to adopt other land use factors during the earlier methodology process. The 6 th cycle RHNA methodology did not include any other factors, but future RHNA methodologies could consider and adopt additional factors that would be included in the bases for appeal.	<i>No change</i>
19	More guidance on what should be in an appeal and what is likely a reasonable appeal request should be provided	For the 7th cycle, SCAG staff will explore preparing a guidebook to help appellants more easily understand how to file an appeal, what information should be included in an appeal, and three bases on which an appeal can be filed.	<i>To explored by SCAG in the 7th RHNA cycle.</i>
20	The appeals process should be meaningful and not be perfunctory	SCAG staff reviews every filed RHNA appeal diligently and values meaningful stakeholder feedback. SCAG is committed to maintaining transparency and fairness in reviewing the merits of an appeal and will continue this into future RHNA cycles.	<i>No change</i>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
21	The appeals process needs additional time.	Once SCAG distributes a draft RHNA allocation, the subsequent appeals process, including appeals filings and all public hearings, must conclude within 120 days. While a COG has the option to have an additional 30 days to hold public hearings for appeals, due to the processing of public comments and requirements of noticing public hearings, this option is infeasible to adopt a final RHNA allocation on time. SCAG recommends additional time be added to the appeals process and that the regional determination be provided by HCD sooner so a COG can extend its appeal time, as needed (see comment #7)	<i>SCAG and Legislative change</i>
Other			
22	The State should provide funding to jurisdictions to build affordable housing commensurate with RHNA allocation	Staff will inquire if the state has considered having RHNA allocation be one of the considerations for housing funding opportunities. Linking RHNA allocation to the amount of funding may help jurisdictions meet their RHNA targets.	<i>SCAG and HCD administrative changes</i>
23	Trade and transfer should be allowed. Jurisdictions with funding and no sites should be able to contribute to affordable housing in jurisdictions that have available land. Trade and transfer should not be allowed.	Until the 6 th RHNA cycle, trade and transfer of draft RHNA allocation units was a statutorily available option for all jurisdictions to exchange some of their draft RHNA allocation with another jurisdiction. However, no transfers took place during the 4 th and 5 th RHNA cycles. Housing production is the ultimate goal of RHNA and including an additional opportunity to expedite or fund production, particularly for affordable housing, would create flexibility in areas that lack funds and resources to do so. Reinstating a trade and transfer option would require a legislative change and would need to further state housing objectives, including affirmatively furthering fair housing (AFFH). In certain cases, such as a transfer of units from a high resource jurisdiction to a	<i>Legislative change</i>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
		lower resource jurisdiction, may run against AFFH principles. SCAG staff recommends that legislation to reinstate this option include limitations how and/or from whom the transfer of draft RHNA allocation units occur. Examples could include limiting a transfer to market rate units only or only allowing transfers from communities designated as disadvantaged.	
24	Subregional delegation that allows for two or more geographically contiguous jurisdictions to form a subregion to develop their own methodology is inconsistent with goals of RHNA	State law allows for two or more geographically contiguous jurisdictions to form a “subregion”. In such cases, SCAG would assign a share of regional housing need to the subregion. The subregion would be required to develop its own methodology, conduct its own appeal process, and have its final allocations collectively meet the determination given by SCAG. SCAG would review the subregion’s methodology provided to ensure it is consistent with SCAG’s regional allocation methodology and must also abide by State law. No jurisdictions elected to undertake subregional delegation for the 6 th cycle despite financial incentives offered by SCAG. To maintain this flexibility and allow jurisdictions to have a more tailored approach, staff recommend maintaining subregional allocation.	<i>No change</i>
25	More time is required between issuance of final RHNA allocation and statutory deadline for housing element adoption	SCAG staff supports providing jurisdictions more time between the issuance of RHNA allocation and the statutory deadline for housing element adoption. To maximize its preparation time, jurisdictions may also begin working on their housing element when they receive their draft allocation.	<i>SCAG change</i>

	<i>Comment Summary</i>	<i>Staff Response</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>
26	SCAG should recommend that an audit be performed on SCAG's 6 th cycle regional determination.	The State audit of HCD's regional determination process made several findings and provided recommendations for HCD to address them. The audit's parameters were to review the process for determination and not whether the data and final determinations were accurate. The audit was based on the review of the processes for three different COGs/areas but excluded SCAG from consideration due to an active lawsuit regarding SCAG's determination. SCAG staff believes that a separate audit for SCAG would produce similar conclusions and does not recommend another audit.	<i>No change</i>
27	Housing Element law does not fully take into account challenges to ultimately produce housing units, especially for affordable housing.	There are numerous challenges that are not addressed in State housing law that ultimately limit the production of affordable housing. Barriers to building, such as the cost of land, materials, and labor, are beyond the scope of the planning process. Housing production is the ultimate goal of housing law, but the law currently does not address these challenges that are faced throughout the SCAG region.	<i>Request that HCD review housing element law to address challenges to housing building and production.</i>



DATE: June 5, 2023

TO: Westside Cities Council of Governments Board

FROM: Westside Cities Council of Governments Staff

SUBJECT: Presentation on Regional Behavioral Healthcare Services Best Practices

Presentation

James Corbett, Principal of Initium Health, will present to the WSCCOG Board on national best practices of regional behavioral healthcare services. Initium Health is also leading the community engagement efforts for the City of Santa Monica's behavioral health initiative (refer to [Attachment A](#) for more details). Mr. Corbett provided two articles as suggested pre-reading in advance of the presentation and the following discussion (refer to [Attachment B](#) and [Attachment C](#)).

About Initium Health

Initium Health is a public benefit corporation (PBC) which has formally committed to a public benefit through the use of innovation to improve human health. A PBC is a relatively new corporate designation which allows benefit to be a charter purpose of an organization and differentiates it from a traditional for-profit organization.

Initium has a proven track record in behavioral health. Our team brings decades of experience working at the intersection of behavioral health, health systems, and the community. We understand the numerous entities involved in this ecosystem and have successfully coordinated efforts across stakeholders to address the unmet behavioral health needs of communities. Our experience working with both rural and urban communities and our healthcare acumen have helped us develop an innovative approach to building comprehensive behavioral health strategies based on national best practices.

Feasibility Studies

We support government agencies and health systems to analyze existing behavioral health services, identify gaps, and develop cost-effective and comprehensive solutions. Our team brings together physicians, public health professionals, healthcare executives, and construction experts, along with a cadre of expert project managers, researchers, and financial analysts. Our feasibility studies address clinical, operational, and financial needs along with site and facility requirements and design recommendations.

Community Engagement

Our community engagement process intentionally addresses the unique needs of diverse populations, including people experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities, and people of color. We built trust with each stakeholder and community by valuing their input, through active

participation, and by encouraging belief in a shared vision. This allows us to ensure that the services developed by our clients will be accessed by those who need them most. We partner with our clients and their communities to raise awareness, break down silos, and unite stakeholders to inspire meaningful change.

Presenter Bio

James Corbett is a seasoned healthcare executive bringing over a decade of c-level leadership experience. James has served as a Fellow at Harvard Medical School, Harvard's Safra Center for Ethics and the Nashville Healthcare Council. In addition, he served a 4-year term on the National Institute of Health's National Advisory Council for Nursing Research, having been honored to receive the appointment from former Health and Human Services Secretary, Kathleen Sebellius. He was recently appointed as an Expert Advisor to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). James' experience comes from serving in four health systems, providing strategic and operational leadership for behavioral health, population health, research operations, global health, advocacy, and ethics. He speaks internationally and has provided keynotes at Harvard Medical School, John Hopkins University, Ohio State University and numerous other universities. James earned his Bachelor of Science in International Relations from Syracuse University, his Juris Doctorate from St. John's University and a Master of Divinity from Duke University.

Attachments

- A. Rep. Lieu Secures \$1.5 Million in Federal Funding for Santa Monica Behavioral Health Initiatives
- B. Pre-Reading Article #1: Increased Demand, Workforce Shortages to Drive Even More Behavioral Health Joint Ventures in 2022
- C. Pre-Reading Article #2: Behavioral Health Care in the United States: How It Works and Where It Falls Short

Rep. Lieu Secures \$1.5 Million in Federal Funding for Santa Monica Behavioral Health Initiatives

Public benefit corporation Initium Health to lead public engagement in Santa Monica

January 6, 2023

By Sam Catanzaro

<https://smmirror.com/2023/01/rep-lieu-secures-1-5-million-in-federal-funding-for-santa-monica-behavioral-health-initiatives/>

Last week, President Joe Biden signed a \$1.7 trillion omnibus spending package that includes \$1.5 million to fund City of Santa Monica-led behavioral health initiatives.

The funding comes from the 2923 Consolidated Appropriations Act signed into law by President Biden on December 29. Following the announcement of the funds for Santa Monica, the City of Santa Monica says it has begun to engage the public benefit corporation Initium Health to lead public engagement and analyze different models of behavioral health care for the City. According to the City, Initium will begin by interviewing community leaders and experts, followed by public listening sessions to begin in the coming months. The firm will make recommendations to Council based on its findings by fall 2023.

“We are fortunate to have the continued support of Rep. Lieu in securing federal funding to address the behavioral health needs of our community,” said Mayor Gleam Davis. “This funding is critical given the national fentanyl crisis and our ongoing challenges with isolation coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic and homelessness. We look forward to beginning the community engagement process.”

The \$1.5 million earmarked for Santa Monica is part of a total of \$22.6 million in Community Project Funding that Congressman Ted Lieu successfully secured for 15 projects in his district.

“I am pleased to have secured \$22,601,025 in Community Project Funding for our community,” Rep. Lieu said. “These projects will help tackle some of the most pressing needs in our district including providing mental health and housing care for vulnerable people.”

Funding will also include \$1.5 million for the Pacific Palisades Pedestrian Trail, \$3 million for the PATH Permanent Supportive Housing Marina Del Rey, \$1 million for the Ready to Succeed, Santa Monica to support college-going foster youth, \$898,053 for the St. Joseph Center in for job skills training and supportive services to those experiencing homelessness and \$500,000 for the Venice Family Clinic for facilities and equipment. For a full list of projects visit <https://lieu.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-lieu-secures-22601025-local-projects-has-two-bills-signed-law>.

Increased Demand, Workforce Shortages to Drive Even More Behavioral Health Joint Ventures in 2022

By Kyle Coward | April 19, 2022

<https://bhbusiness.com/2022/04/19/increased-demand-workforce-shortages-to-drive-even-more-behavioral-health-joint-ventures-in-2022/>

Behavioral health mergers and acquisitions have generated much buzz in the last couple of years, as dealmaking has reached record levels. However, some other providers are choosing to scale up operations by going a different route — joint ventures (JVs).

Acadia Healthcare (Nasdaq: ACHC) and Universal Health Systems (NYSE: UHS) – two of the biggest names in the behavioral health space – have been leading the way over the last couple of years by forming partnerships with a number regional hospital providers.

Acadia has two JVs slated to open for business this year, along with four to five more scheduled to come online in 2023. And as recently as 2020, UHS had over 40 in its [pipeline](#).

As behavioral health providers look to ramp up their services amidst heightened demand for assistance, JV activity is showing no signs of slowing down.

“The last two to three years, we’ve seen a much more heavy concentration of large behavioral health care providers partnering, often with hospitals and health systems,” Paul Gomez, a Los Angeles-based attorney and shareholder with the law firm Polsinelli PC, told Behavioral Health Business.

“We’ve seen a lot more focus on strategy, executing on them, and developing and operating the joint venture,” he added.

Gomez said various factors have contributed to the wave of joint ventures, such as the growing demand for mental health assistance as well as industrywide workforce shortages. The pandemic, he believes, only compounded such factors.

“You had a lot of these factors already in place that would have caused joint ventures among behavioral health care providers to make a lot of sense,” he said. “Just like the broader health care arena, the pandemic accelerated it and made everything much more urgent.”

More than [a third of the country](#) are estimated to live in areas with provider shortages, and smaller providers might be at a greater disadvantage to keep up with the demand, especially for acute behavioral needs.

As some smaller providers align themselves with larger providers who have recruitment divisions and more resources to attract employees, Gomez asserts these types of arrangements can help close the deficit.

“A lot of times, the larger behavioral health care providers are better positioned and have better established networks, and so they can help to address those shortages,” he said.

For this reason, larger providers are most active in driving the formation of joint ventures compared to partnerships between two smaller-sized operators.

“It’s not surprising that you’ll see – at least for now – some of the larger players being the most active, simply because they have the most resources, dry powder and infrastructure to bring to bear,” he said.

The rise of behavioral health JVs

Behavioral health care has long been criticized as lagging behind medical care when it comes to access and affordability. In certain markets where smaller nonprofit providers might be struggling to provide behavioral health care, those providers might be attracted to these arrangements as a way to scale services.

They can give larger players an entrée into new markets with already established names, which Acadia Healthcare CEO Debbie Osteen has previously started regarding her company’s business philosophy.

“Acadia benefits because we gain market access to attractive geographies otherwise inaccessible through acquisition,” Osteen [remarked](#) in January during the 40th annual J.P. Morgan Health Care Conference.

Gomez also believes that the partnerships can result either in the improvement of existing facilities or the construction of new ones.

“It’s a combination of looking at the health system side where there is the most strain, and then looking at the larger behavioral health care providers that have greater expertise and resources to make a difference,” he said.

Industry figures like Steve Filton, who is the chief financial officer of UHS, echo such sentiments.

“More than 50% of the behavioral beds in the US are run by acute care hospitals,” Filton [said](#) in early March during the 42nd Annual Cowen Health Care Conference. “We have found that most of those acute care hospitals seem to acknowledge that they don’t do a very good job of running that service line.”

Gomez said that other factors can drive the formation of JVs as a way to provide more services, which include greater enforcement of mental health parity, the possible repeal of the IMD exclusion and continued relaxations on telehealth.

Gomez also believes that the industry move toward value-based care can be a catalyst for future behavioral JV activity, which would be another iron in the fire for providers to offer more services without having to refer patients to outside parties.

“People are increasingly realizing that we really have to invest in behavioral health care, because that is bound inextricably with the rest of the patient’s physical health care,” he said.

“The more proliferation you have of these models, the more that’s going to drive these kinds of joint ventures so that providers can bring a greater spectrum of services to their patients.”

The private equity world has been very busy in the last couple of years driving dealmaking in behavioral health care, which last year reached another [record high level](#). Gomez noted that PE has likewise been a major force behind JVs.

“Behavioral health care traditionally has been very fragmented, operated by very small providers, and it oftentimes has not had a very sophisticated management structure,” he said. “Investment by private equity can come in and help maximize the business side so that you help the clinical and treatment side to flourish.”

Making the JV work for both partners

To Gomez's knowledge, there is not a standard earnings or revenue split that JV partners typically adhere to. Perhaps the biggest financial consideration in the formation of a JV has to do with tax laws, as it pertains to taxed for-profit providers and non-taxed non-profits much differently.

"The non-profit, tax-exempt partner may have to require that the operations are conducted consistent with its charitable tax exempt purposes," he said. "The non-profit tax exempt partner may need to have certain reserve powers in order to help protect against any potential challenge to their tax-exempt status. Those kinds of considerations become important, and the non-profit partner and its for-profit partner will have to discuss that fairly early on."

Perhaps the biggest challenge a JV has to overcome is in each partner being comfortable enough to cede some level of operational control.

From his experience of having worked on JV formations, Gomez believes that the challenge is not an insurmountable one. He insists that both parties early on have to establish the groundwork on matters such as how revenue will be distributed, which partner will be responsible for securing payer contracts, as well as which leaders within the JV will be responsible for making those determinations.

"If you don't have a partner with a shared vision and a certain level of trust, the best written contract may not ultimately save that joint venture in the long run," Gomez said. "That's something that's always very important for parties to bear in mind."

For JVs to ultimately work, Gomez also believes it is necessary that the tone of cooperation set amongst leadership make its way to rank-and-file workers.

"If the joint venture partners are good at communicating with the personnel and the professionals who are going to be operating that facility, it can help mitigate that risk," he said.

Behavioral Health Care in the United States: How It Works and Where It Falls Short SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

<https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/explainer/2022/sep/behavioral-health-care-us-how-it-works-where-it-falls-short>

What is behavioral health?

Behavioral health refers generally to the promotion of mental well-being and the prevention and treatment of mental health and substance use concerns. An individual’s level of behavioral health can fall anywhere on the spectrum from illness to positive mental well-being, and it can vary over the course of a lifetime.

Behavioral health conditions arise from the [interaction between genetic and environmental factors](#), and clinicians diagnose them based on the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, the handbook used by health care professionals in the United States and much of the world. Examples of common problems include anxiety, depression, substance use disorder, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia.

Behavioral health conditions are highly prevalent at all ages in the United States. According to the [2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#), in the past year:

- 21 percent of U.S. adults had a mental health condition such as depression, anxiety, or schizophrenia.
- 17 percent of youth had a major depressive episode.
- 11 percent of adults and 3 percent of youth had alcohol use disorder.
- 7 percent of adults and 5 percent of youth had an illicit-drug-use disorder.
- Close to 6 percent experienced “serious interference with major life activities,” also referred to as serious mental illness.

Behavioral health is deeply connected to physical health outcomes, as well as to social and economic well-being. People with behavioral health conditions are at [greater risk of developing chronic diseases](#) such as heart disease or diabetes and [more likely to have unstable employment, insecure housing, or involvement with the criminal justice system](#).

What does behavioral health care look like in the United States?

Historically, mental health and substance use treatment and services in the U.S. were developed locally, based on type and level of need in a community as well as the availability of resources. Local responses were unconnected to one another as well as separated from the general health care system.

Today there is greater integration, though fragmentation in services and programs remains a problem. Behavioral health care is also more standardized, but some local communities still maintain unique programs.

Core behavioral health services typically include a combination of:

- screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment, or [SBIRT](#), for substance use disorders
- psychotherapy
- prescribed medications and devices
- partial or complete inpatient stays or residential treatment
- case management and care coordination services
- outreach and engagement services for people disconnected from care
- skills development and assistance with employment, education, and housing
- peer support groups, one-on-one peer support services, and other social supports
- education, engagement, and services for family members or others important to recovery
- mobile crisis teams and other crisis response services.

The continuum of behavioral health care services involves a wide variety of specialty providers, including psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, counselors, social workers, and marriage and family therapists. As behavioral health becomes better integrated with other health care, primary care providers are also becoming part of the workforce — sometimes out of necessity, when other providers are unavailable. Other important behavioral health providers are case managers, occupational therapists, peer support specialists, recovery coaches, child development specialists, and community health workers. Behavioral health services can be delivered in clinical settings as well as in schools and other settings. In addition, community-based organizations are a source of nonclinical supports, sometimes provided by individuals who have had behavioral health conditions themselves.

Is access to behavioral health providers a big problem?

Poor access to behavioral health services is a serious obstacle to treatment. In some areas of the U.S., services are simply not available or affordable to the people who need them. People also may be unaware of services that are available. Discrimination is a problem as well.

In 2020, less than half of adults and youth with mental health conditions and less than 10 percent with substance use disorders [got treatment over the course of the year](#). As in other areas of health care, there are [striking racial disparities in access](#) to behavioral health care. While access to services has improved steadily for white people over the past decade, there has often been less improvement in access for people of color, further widening racial disparities.

Provider shortages are a major reason that access to treatment is limited, particularly in rural areas. It's estimated that the U.S. needs an [additional 7,400 mental health providers](#) to meet current demand. Substance use treatment is in especially short supply: wait times for certain services [can be weeks or months](#), especially [for children on Medicaid](#). People in urgent need of help with behavioral health issues sometimes spend hours, even days, [waiting in the emergency department](#).

How is behavioral health care paid for?

In 2016, spending in the U.S. on behavioral health care [was almost \\$180 billion](#). More than half of all mental health spending and nearly three-quarters of substance use treatment funding come from public payers such as Medicare and Medicaid. Behavioral health spending accounted for nearly 6 percent of all health care spending, an amount that includes only direct spending and not the substantial spillover on other health care costs — for example, those associated with [comorbidities exacerbated](#) by mental health or substance use problems.

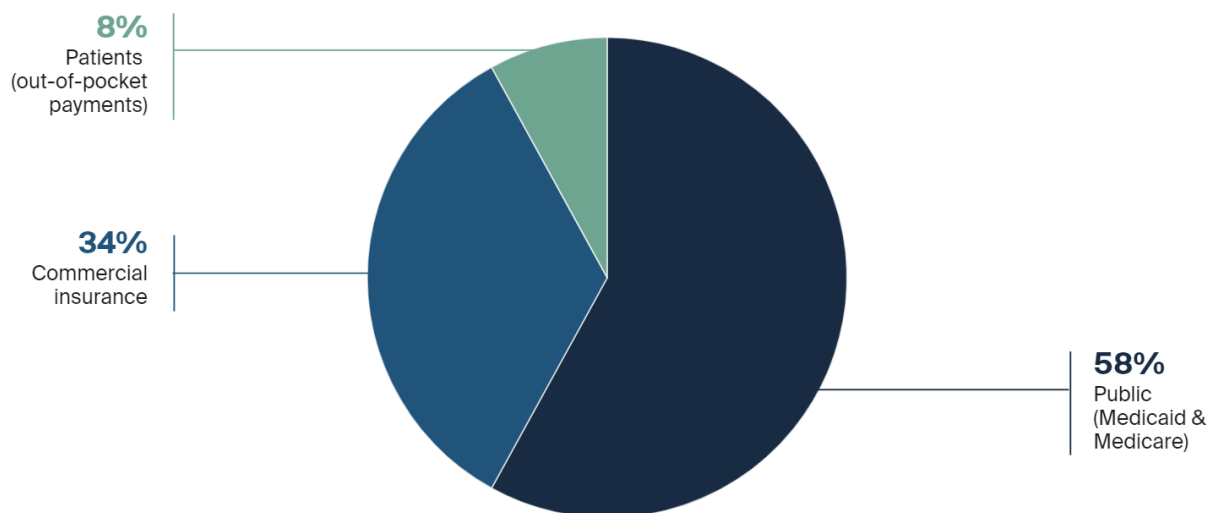
Private insurance tends to pay for behavioral health services in units of care within categories, such as outpatient care, medications and devices, and residential or inpatient treatment. This reimbursement method can exclude community-based supports that are funded by grants or Medicaid programs. Moreover, health plan reimbursement for covered services is limited.

Medicaid is the largest public payer of behavioral health care, with the bulk of spending on care for children, youth, and birthing individuals during the perinatal period. States have used the flexibility of Medicaid to pay for innovative services such as comprehensive team-based care for people who are unhoused or in supported employment and housing programs, which build key skills and connect people with resources. However, Medicaid's low reimbursement rates often [limit the number of participating providers](#).

The federal government and states also fund behavioral health care innovations through grants. At the federal level, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), with a [\\$6.4 billion discretionary budget](#) in 2022, is a major grantmaker. It supports a variety of activities that train the workforce, develop best practices, and fill gaps in current systems of care. The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy also administers grant programs in addition to providing policy support.

Other federal, state, and local agencies also play a role in funding care that can impact behavioral health, such as maternal and child health services. They also fund behavioral health care in rural areas, in schools, and in jails and prisons.

Who pays for behavioral health services?



Data: Adapted from Joseph L. Dieleman et al., “U.S. Health Care Spending by Payer and Health Condition, 1996–2016,” *JAMA* 323, no. 9 (Mar. 3, 2020): 863–84.

Source: Nathaniel Counts, “Behavioral Health Care in the United States: How It Works and Where It Falls Short” (explainer), Commonwealth Fund, Sept. 2022. <https://doi.org/10.26099/txpy-va34>

What can be done to help more people get quality behavioral health care?

Leadership is needed at the federal, state, and local levels, as well as within the private sector, to ensure access to effective behavioral health services across the continuum of need. Any new policy efforts will need to [address racial equity](#) in any changes to how behavioral health care is organized, financed, delivered, and regulated. In this way, we can ensure that more Americans are able to get the care they need, and when they need it.



TO: WESTSIDE CITIES COG BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 FR: JEFF KIERNAN, LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES
 RE: CAL CITIES UPDATE FOR 6/8/2023 MEETING (as prepared May 31)

An electronic version with live links can be accessed by scanning this QR code.



UPCOMING CAL CITIES AND LA COUNTY DIVISION EVENTS

[August 3 from 6 - 8:30 PM: Los Angeles County Division's Installation Ceremony & Dinner \(Hotel Maya, Long Beach\)](#). Rolling Hills Council Member Bea Dieringer will be sworn in as the President of the Los Angeles County Division along with the rest of the executive committee of the Division's Board of Directors.

[September 20-22: Annual Conference and Expo \(Sacramento\)](#) – Registration now open! Register before July 26 for a special early bird rate. If you know you will be attending, please don't wait as the hotels closest to the convention center will sell out quickly.

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Below is a list of bills that Cal Cities is watching and working (note that this report was created before the June 2 deadline for all bills to cross over to the second house). After June 2, legislators will be busy crafting the main State Budget bill, which must be passed by June 15, but budget trailer bills – those bills which implement state spending – have no such deadline.

The LAO and others have expressed concern that the slowing of the economy and a possible recession could further expand the expected budget deficit which is currently estimated at ~\$31.5 billion.

The Governor's 2023-24 May Revision upholds funding for homelessness programs committed in last year's budget. However, it does not include any new, ongoing funding for cities to increase the supply of affordable housing and reduce homelessness. Cal Cities is calling on lawmakers to find a permanent home in the budget for \$3 billion in ongoing funding to prevent and reduce homelessness and boost affordable housing. Call your Assembly Member and Senator TODAY and urge them to support \$3 billion in ongoing funding to cities for homelessness and housing! Details on Cal Cities effort to seek appropriate funding to housing and homelessness can be found [HERE](#).

Division Board Creates Subcommittee to Respond to LA County Board of Supervisors Motion to Depopulate and Decarcerate County Jails. The new working group will draft a set of principles and recommendations as a response to Supervisor Solis's intent to gather input from all stakeholders to address jail overcrowding and obligations to meet federal consent decrees.

Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations

Oppose [SB 251](#) (Newman) Political Reform Act of 1974: elected officers: conflicts of interest, as amended 3/8/23. Prohibits an elected officer from employment by any other elected officer with the same constituency, except if the elected officer first began their

employment by the other elected officer with the same constituency on or before December 31, 2023. The bill would not apply to statewide elected officers.

Location: 2-year bill. Failed in Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments, reconsideration granted.

Support if Amended [SB 411 \(Portantino\)](#) Open meetings: teleconferences: neighborhood councils, as amended 4/24/23. Currently limits teleconference capability to Neighborhood Councils in the City of Los Angeles and should be amended back to its introduced language allowing appointed bodies to teleconference meetings without having to notice and make publicly accessible each teleconference location.

Location: Assembly Local Government

Support if Amended [SB 537 \(Becker\)](#) Open Meetings: multijurisdictional, cross-county agencies: teleconferences, as amended 4/24/23. Currently limits members of multijurisdictional bodies to participate remotely only if the meeting location is more than 40 miles (one-way) from their home, among other limitations. The bill should be amended back to its original language to allow appointed bodies of a multijurisdictional agency to teleconference meetings without having to notice and make publicly accessible each teleconference location.

Location: Assembly Desk

Support [AB 557 \(Hart\)](#) Open Meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

Eliminates the January 1, 2024, sunset on the provisions of the Brown Act that provided additional flexibility for local agencies looking to meet remotely during an emergency while still maintaining public access and transparency under AB 361 (R. Rivas, 2021). The bill would also extend the renewal period for resolutions declaring the use of AB 361 to 45 days (up from 30 days). By doing so AB 557 would provide accommodation for those agencies regularly meeting on a fixed date every month.

Location: Senate Gov & Finance, hearing scheduled for June 7

Support [AB 817 \(Pacheco\)](#) Local government: open meetings, as amended 3/16/23.

Provides a narrow exemption under the Ralph M. Brown Act for non-decision-making legislative bodies currently governed by Act, such as advisory bodies and commissions, to participate in two-way virtual teleconferencing without posting physical location of members.

Location: 2-year bill

Support [AB 1379 \(Papan\)](#) Open Meetings: local agencies: teleconference, as amended 3/23/23. Requires a legislative body electing to use teleconferencing to post agendas at a singular designated physical meeting location rather than at all teleconference locations. Allows quorum to be established by remote participation, at the designated physical location, or at both the designated physical meeting location and remotely. Also requires the legislative body to have at least 2 meetings per year in which the legislative body's members are in person at a singular designated physical meeting location.

Location: 2-year bill

Oppose [AB 1484 \(Zbur\)](#) Temporary public employees, as amended 5/18/23.

Requires inclusion of temporary employees in the same bargaining unit as permanent employees and that the wages, hours, plus terms of condition of employment for both

temporary and permanent employees must be bargained together in a single memorandum of understanding.

Location: Assembly third reading

Housing

Oppose [SB 423 \(Wiener\)](#) Land use: streamlined housing approvals: multifamily housing developments, as amended 5/18/23. Expands [SB 35](#) (Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017) provisions and eliminates the January 1, 2026 sunset date, permanently requiring cities to ministerially approve certain housing projects without public input or environmental review.

Location: Senate third reading

Public Safety

Support [AB 33 \(Bains\)](#) Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force, as amended 5/18/23. Establishes the Fentanyl Addiction and Overdose Prevention Task Force, consisting of law enforcement, public health officials, and healthcare providers to coordinate an effective response to the fentanyl crisis. The task force will focus on a number of different strategies, including increasing access to overdose-reversing drugs, improving substance use disorder treatment and recovery support, and crafting strategies to reduce the availability of illicit fentanyl.

Location: Senate Rules

Support [AB 40 \(Rodriguez\)](#) Emergency medical services as amended 5/18/23. Requires procedures and standards to improve ambulance patient offload time (APOT).

Location: Senate Rules

Support [AB 367 \(Maienschein\)](#) Controlled Substances: Enhancements, as amended 3/22/23. Applies the "great bodily injury" enhancement to any person who sells, furnishes, administers, or gives away fentanyl or an analog of fentanyl when the person to whom the fentanyl was sold, furnished, administered or given suffers a significant or substantial physical injury from using the substance.

Location: 2-year bill. Assembly Public Safety

Oppose [AB 436 \(Alvarez\)](#) Vehicles. Repeals the authority given to local authorities to prohibit cruising. This bill would also remove a provision prohibiting a common modification made to cars used in cruising to have the vehicles ride low to the ground roadway.

Location: Senate Transportation.

Support [AB 474 \(Rodriguez\)](#) State Threat Assessment Center: transnational criminal organizations, as introduced. Requires the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to prioritize cooperation with state and local efforts to illuminate, disrupt, degrade, and dismantle criminal networks trafficking opioid drugs and to support state and local interagency task forces to combat illegal opioid trafficking, including preparing and disseminating intelligence products for public safety entities.

Location: Senate Rules

Support [AB 701 \(Villapudua\)](#) Controlled substances: fentanyl, as introduced. Increases the penalty and fine for trafficking controlled substances containing heroin, cocaine base, and cocaine to fentanyl.

Location: Senate Rules

Oppose [AB 742 \(Jackson\)](#) Law enforcement: police canines, as amended 5/18/23. Prohibits the use of police canines to: arrest or apprehend a person; crowd control; bite; or train a police canine inconsistent with these prohibitions.

Location: Assembly Third Reading

Support [AB 955 \(Petrie-Norris\)](#) Controlled Substances, as amended 3/15/23 Creates a new crime for selling fentanyl on a social media platform.

Location: 2-year bill. Assembly Rules

Oppose [AB 1034 \(Wilson\)](#) Law enforcement: facial recognition and other biometric surveillance, as amended 5/1/23. Prohibits a law enforcement agency or law enforcement officer from installing, activating, or using any biometric surveillance system in connection with an officer camera or data collected by an officer camera and would authorize a person to bring an action for equitable or declaratory relief against a law enforcement agency or officer who violates that prohibition.

Location: Senate Public Safety

Support [AB 1708 \(Muratsuchi\)](#) Theft, as amended 3/12/23. With voter approval, would require a person convicted of petty theft or shoplifting, if the person has two or more prior convictions for specified retail theft-related offenses, to be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for up to one year. Additionally, this measure would offer pre-plea diversion opportunities.

Location: 2-year bill. Assembly Public Safety, reconsideration granted.

Support [SB 44 \(Umberg\)](#) Controlled Substances, as amended 4/13/23. Requires a court to provide a written advisory to a person convicted of selling fentanyl notifying the person of the danger of selling or administering illicit drugs and counterfeit pills and of the potential future criminal liability if another person dies as a result of that person's actions.

Location: 2-year bill

Support [SB 602 \(Archuleta\)](#) Trespass, as amended 3/20/23. extends the effective duration of Letters of Agency from 30 days to 12 months and the operative timeframe of trespass authorization letters from 12 months to 3 years for the purpose of removing graffiti and mitigating other public nuisances on private property visible from public rights of way.

Location: Assembly Public Safety

Transportation, Communications and Public Works

Oppose [AB 1637 \(Irwin\)](#) Local government: internet websites and email addresses. As amended 5/18/23. Requires cities and counties to secure and utilize their website through a new .gov or ca.gov domain no later than January 1, 2027. It would also require all employee email addresses to reflect the updated domain within the same time frame.

Location: Assembly Third Reading

Ballot Measures

Oppose The Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act Initiative No. 21-0042A1. Limits voters' input, adopts new and stricter rules for raising taxes and fees, and makes it more difficult to hold state and local law violators accountable.